



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act e-Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **[www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.

---

Ce document est tiré du registre électronique. tenu aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **[www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.



April 23, 2015

[REDACTED]  
3000 Portage Road  
Niagara Falls, ON L2J 2J5

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: Church Residence  
3000 Portage Road**

Please find attached a copy of the updated Designating By-law that was registered on title to the above noted property.

The updated By-law replaces the original designating by-law and will continue to act as a guide for any future restoration work as it sets out the important features of the property in the Heritage Attributes section of the by-law.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Yours truly,

Peggy Boyle  
Assistant Planner

PB:mb  
Attach.

S:\HISTORY\INV\Portage3000.dp\Designating Bylaw Ltr.docx

*Working Together to Serve Our Community*

Planning, Building, &  
Development  
Ext 4334 Fax 905-356-2354  
pboyle@niagarafalls.ca



**NOTICE OF  
AMENDING BY-LAW NO. 2014-117**

**PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF  
THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT R.S.O. 1990, SECTION 30.1,**

**AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS**

**Church Residence  
3000 Portage Road**

**TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls passed a by-law amending Designating By-law 78-68 on the 9th day of September, 2014.**

**PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE AMENDMENT**

The amendment to the designating by-law has updated the legal description contained in Schedule A and the Reasons for Designation contained in Schedule B.

**EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENT**

The 1978 by-law described the heritage attributes of the property in general terms. Schedule B, Reasons for Designation has been revised to describe the associative and architectural value of the property including the setting and also updated to reflect a more detailed description of the property and the heritage attributes contained within.

Dated at the City of Niagara Falls this 9th day of September, 2014.

---

Alex Herlovitch  
Director of Planning, Building & Development  
City of Niagara Falls  
4310 Queen Street, P.O. Box 1023  
Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6X5

I, the undersigned, Deputy Clerk of The Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls, hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct copy of .....  
By-law No. 2014-117  
Given under my hand and the seal of the said Corporation this 18th day of September, 2014.

**CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS**

**By-law No. 2014 - 117**

A by-law to amend By-law No. 78-68, being a by-law to designate 3000 Portage Road known as the Church Residence, to be of cultural heritage value and interest.

**WHEREAS** By-law No. 78-68 designated the Church Residence located at 3000 Portage Road to be of cultural heritage value and interest;

**AND WHEREAS** pursuant to Section 30.1 (2) (a), the council of a municipality may by by-law amend a by-law designating property under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* to clarify or correct the statement explaining the property's cultural heritage value or interest or the description of the property's heritage attributes;

**AND WHEREAS** the requirement for Council to consult with its Municipal Heritage Committee pursuant to Section 30.1 (5) has been fulfilled;

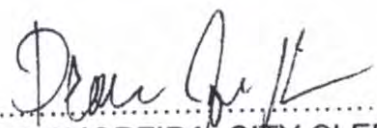
**AND WHEREAS** The Corporation of the City of Niagara Falls has caused to be served on the owner a Notice of the proposed Amendment;

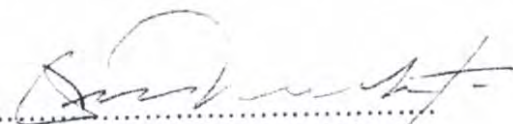
**AND WHEREAS** no objections have been filed with the Clerk of the Municipality.

**THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NIAGARA FALLS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That By-law 78-68 be amended by deleting Schedule "A" thereto and substituting Schedule "A" attached hereto.
2. That By-law 78-68 be amended by deleting Schedule "B" thereto and substituting Schedule "B" attached hereto.
3. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry Office.
4. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the property and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust.

Passed this ninth day of September, 2014.

  
DEAN IORFIDA, CITY CLERK

  
JAMES M. DIODATI, MAYOR

First Reading  
Second Reading  
Third Reading

September 9, 2014  
September 9, 2014  
September 9, 2014

## **SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW No. 2014-117**

All AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the City of Niagara Falls, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara and being composed of Lot 1 according to registered Plan No. 159 for the former Township of Stamford.

## **SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW No. 2014-117**

### **Description of Property – Church Residence, 3000 Portage Road**

A two storey house located on the northwest corner of Portage Road and Church's Lane, is a counterbalance to the designated Whirlpool House located across the street along the historic Portage Road.

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

In May 1799, Robert Hamilton received a Crown patent for 200 acres of land in the former Township of Stamford. In 1809, the property was purchased by Andrew Rorback, a Loyalist from New Jersey, constructing the house circa 1810. The following is a brief history of Rorback, as found in George Seibel's book, *The Niagara Portage Road, 200 Years, 1790-1990*. As adjutant of the second Regiment of the Lincoln Militia in 1813-1814, he was involved in militant action during the War of 1812-1814, and later commanded the regiment as Lieutenant Colonel in the late 1830's. Rorback is best known for building the Whirlpool Inn, previously known as Rorback's Tavern, which was a popular resting place for travellers along the historic Portage Road. In addition to acting as a gathering place for social events and meetings, the tavern would have witnessed many types of travellers through the area at a time when Stamford Village was entering a quick period of development, as Portage Road was becoming a vital transportation link for the Niagara Region. The house is located across from the Whirlpool House.

Munson Church, after whom the house is now named (along with Church's Lane), bought the house in 1857 from Rorback's widow Matilda, and made significant exterior renovations.

The Church Residence is a two storey structure, situated on a stone foundation with a stucco exterior, and featuring an asymmetrical three bay façade. The house's rectangular structure, medium-pitch gable roof and balanced front façade are reminiscent of the Loyalist style, popular in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the structure features a central gable facing the west (front) façade with a balustraded porch beneath the second storey. A projected bay window and simple decorative details are characteristic of the Italianate architectural style, suggesting that these features were added sometime in the 1860's or 1870's. Later additions to the house were a square flat balcony at the rear, a large outset brick chimney, and a garage.

The front entrance is centered on the west (front) façade and features a plain wood door case, two pilasters, a simple entablature and shutters. To the left of the entryway is a projected bay window featuring wood moulding around the openings and shutters. The bay contains two 10 light windows and a central 15-light window. A simple entablature is incorporated into the feature, with a small pediment above the window. Simple ornamental details are carved into this feature. A cornice runs directly above the bay opening. An asphalt shingle roof is found on the bay window.

The window sash is primarily 6 over 6, with wooden trim, plain sills and louvered shutters. Like the bay window, these openings feature a small pediment with detailed wood carving. Four of these windows are on the north elevation and south elevations. In the central gable peak is a blind rectangular window opening with the same trim and casement as found on the other windows.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key exterior features that embody the heritage value and are important to the preservation of 3000 Portage Road include the following heritage attributes:

- Loyalist style, two storey dwelling with asymmetrical three bay façade
- Medium pitch gable roof
- Balanced front façade
- Stucco exterior situated on a stone foundation
- Balustraded porch on front (west) elevation
- Later additions include projected bay window on front façade; balcony and large outset chimney on rear façade;
- Small pediment above each window
- Louvered shutters