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Corporate Services Department
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May 7, 2009

Owen Sound

RECEIVED

MAY 11 2009

City of Owen Sound
c/o City Clerk
808 2nd Avenue East
OWEN SOUND ON N4K 2H4

Dear City Clerk:

Re: Heritage Designation – Carnegie Wing of the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library, 824 1st Avenue West, Owen Sound

City Council at its meeting held on November 5, 2007, adopted the minutes of the Community Planning and Heritage Advisory Committee meeting held on October 4, 2007 which contained the following motion:

"THAT the Committee recommend City Council give Notice of Intention to Designate the Carnegie Wing of the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* in accordance with the report by Stephen Robinson Consultants."

Please accept this letter and attachment as your Notice of Intention to Designate the Carnegie Wing at the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library located at 824 1st Avenue West as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, may be filed with the Clerk of The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound before June 7, 2009.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Sandra Parks, Heritage Coordinator at 519-376-1440.

Yours truly,

Marion I. Koepke, C.M.O.
City Clerk
/mk

c: J. Armstrong, Chief Librarian
S. Parks, Heritage Coordinator
Ontario Heritage Trust

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound intends to designate the property, including lands and buildings, at the following municipal address as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990.

Description of the Property

– Carnegie Public Library Wing, 824 1st Avenue West

The Carnegie Wing of the Owen Sound & North Grey Union Public Library is located on the northwest corner of 1st Avenue West and 8th Street West, across from Queen's Park and the Sydenham River, in the City of Owen Sound.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Completed in 1914 with a grant from American industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, the Carnegie Public Library Wing has design or physical value as a good example of library design in its day, on the exterior and interior. This single-storey building, with a raised basement and Neo-Classical features, was very much in keeping with the design principles encouraged by the Carnegie program's philosophy. For example, the original front steps flanked by globe lights gave the impression of rising up to a higher level of enlightened knowledge. The Carnegie Wing is among very few public buildings in Owen Sound which has gone to great lengths to preserve its decorative interior plasterwork.

The property has historical or associative value as a "Carnegie Library" due to its association with the Andrew Carnegie Foundation, which granted the Town of Owen Sound \$26,000 to build this Library. The Carnegie Wing is an excellent example of the design of Owen Sound's premiere architects of the day, Forster & Clark. On the interior, the arched ceiling decoration was created by Toronto plasterer J.P. Hynes.

The property has contextual value because of its importance in defining the area, and is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings as an Owen Sound landmark, part of the civic complex which also includes the Tom Thomson Art Gallery, Queen's Park, the Cenotaph and Jervis Bay Park.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key exterior attributes that embody the design or physical value of the Carnegie Public Library Wing include its:

- unencumbered view of the front (east), side (south) and rear (west) façades of what was originally a building designed "in-the-round"
 - elevated single-storey main floor exterior with tall window openings with original sash divisions
 - brown/red brick exterior walls laid in a common bond pattern with a (downward) angled mortar joint
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- monumental brick pilasters with carved limestone trim and bases
- a projecting frontispiece with a carved stone namestone
- three-part clerestory window which originally lit the front door hall interior
- broken pediment door hood in limestone over original front door
- deeply carved limestone cornice and base course
- projecting, square entrance bay on south facade
- projecting, square bay on west facade

Key interior attributes that embody the design or physical value of the Carnegie Public Library Wing include its:

- low, barrel vaulted ceiling with raised plaster mouldings and two forms of raised plaster medallions
- large, bowl-like light fixtures in main ceiling emulating the original fixtures
- main floor area as an open plan with no partitions
- brick fireplace with oak mantle and tapered, plaster chimney breast on north interior wall
- interior stairwell in west wall leading to basement
- south entrance vestibule with oak doors, oak trimwork and interior partition wall containing patterned glass window panes
- basement support columns with carved stone capitals

Key attributes that express the contextual value of the Carnegie Public Library Wing include its:

- relationship to the civic complex at 1st Avenue West

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available from the Community Services Department, Planning Division.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, may be filed with the Clerk of the City of Owen Sound before June 7, 2009.

Dated at the City of Owen Sound this the 8th day of May, 2009.

Marion I. Koepke, City Clerk
The Corporation of the City of Owen Sound
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