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**CITY of
STRATFORD**

Corporate Services

City Hall, P.O. Box 818
Stratford, Ontario N5A 6W1
(519) 271-0250
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CONSERVATION REVIEW
BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT
SECTION 29, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18

And in the matter of the lands and premises
at the following municipal address in the
City of Stratford in the Province of Ontario

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: The Corporation of the City of Stratford
P.O. Box 818
STRATFORD ON N5A 6W1

Discovery Centre Board of Management
c/o Marklevitz Architect
516 Huron Street
STRATFORD ON N5A 5T7

AND TO: ✓ Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide Street East
TORONTO ON M5C 1J3

Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation
Heritage & Libraries Branch
400 University Avenue, 4th Floor
TORONTO ON M7A 2R9

TAKE NOTICE that Council of the Corporation of the City of Stratford intends to designate the property at the following municipal address as a property of architectural and historical value or interest under Section 29, of the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18*:

The Discovery Centre at the Normal School, 270 Water Street, Stratford
Reasons for Designation

During a period spanning the late 1800s and early 1900s, the Government of Ontario undertook the construction of several normal schools whose creation was to provide regularized training practices in the education of teachers. Constructed in 1907-1908, the Stratford Normal School (later renamed Stratford Teachers' College) is a structure of considerable architectural and social historic importance, both to the City of Stratford and to the broader Ontario province. The building is one of only four other schools built in Ontario during this period.

Located within the grounds of Queen's Park, the School occupies a prominent position in the southwest corner of the park. The school, designed by Provincial Architect Francis Heakes, integrates with the landscape of the park due to consultations with Montreal landscape architect, Frederick G. Todd. As such, protection of the landscape setting is equally as important as the building.

The School is an example of an institutional building in the Italian Renaissance style. The three-storey building (plus raised basement) consists of a rectangular plan with a central bay projection and a copper clad dome that dominates the main elevation. Changes have been to the pediment located over the central window immediately below the dome. The original design was arch-topped and not a sloped gable. Future renovations to this area should consider returning it to its original configuration. Remaining elevations contain a regular window pattern with double hung wood windows in two panes (some with four divided lights). Windows are complete with precast sills and lintels. There is a continuous brick parapet on all sides adorned with minimal metal detailing. Three significant areas of architectural character on the exterior have been identified and comprise: 1) the front south façade including the copper dome, masonry column and precast detailing; 2) the front entrance portico including the wood and precast trim; and, 3) the round top stained-glass window on the south staircase.

Specific exterior components of the school that are to be designated are the following: the building plan (or footprint); original brickwork; central bay windows; stone window voussoirs with decorative keystones; entranceway and stone portico; iron railing; brick pilasters; stone capitals and columns; copper dome; and stained glass windows. Where ever possible, original windows and window openings should be retained.

A number of specific interior components of the school are also significant. It is strongly encouraged that, wherever possible, the following are to be preserved and/or restored: pressed tin ceilings; two main interior staircases; oak and fir trim. Of special note are the auditorium and library that should be carefully considered during any re-design of the school.

If any person wishes to object to the proposed designation, a Notice of Objection, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, must be served on the Clerk of the City of Stratford NO LATER THAN 4:30 p.m. on January 7, 2002. The *Ontario Heritage Act* provides that where a notice of objection has been served on the Clerk, the Council shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

DATED at the City of Stratford
this 8th day of December, 2001.


Joan L. Thomson – City Clerk