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Nancy Smith
Lester

Aug 23/93

NOTICE OF PASSING OF BY-LAW

To: Ontario Heritage Foundation
77 Bloor Street
TORONTO, Ontario
M7A 2R9

RECEIVED AUG 30 1993

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Petrolia has passed By-Law Number 68-1993 to designate the following property as being of architectural and historical value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337:

- a) Address of property
4172-4174 Petrolia Street
PETROLIA, Ontario
N0N 1R0

The designation involves the land and buildings.

Reasons for the Designation:

Historical Reasons:

The above address was part of the entire block of buildings constructed for Andre Elliott, a court clerk. Along with two other local businessmen, J.M. Williams and W.E. Sanborn, they formed the Black Creek Plank Road Company in 1861. Crude oil has to be transported from Oil Springs (then known as Black Creek or Victoria) to the rail head at Wyoming over an eleven mile stretch of mud called the canal. Every rail filled the canal (a ditch 18 inches below grade and five feet wide.) Above it ran the Black Creek Road, a muddy forest trail that 73 years later would become Highway #21. This road was impassable after the mildest rain. In dry weather the mud crystallized to a tangle of ruts so unyielding that stages and wagons were wrenched apart. Obviously the survival of the oil industry required an all-weather road from Black Creek to the Wyoming rail head. By late 1862 The Black Creek Plank Road Company gravelled the road three miles south of Wyoming with the balance planked by early 1863.

years ✓

Architectural Reasons:

The building is two stories and of red brick construction. Its main feature is an ornate three-sided bay window on the second floor. The building has Italianate windows flank the bay window. the centre window of each of these groups has stained glass over two clear lights. Metal cladding covers the entire facade to imitate wood ornamentation, mouldings, cornices and window sills. The cornices are mounted atop columns of brick with stone sections. The recessed centre doorway is flanked with brick columns that also have stone sections. Heavy metal clad brackets adorn these columns and form the support for the bay window. Stone sills stretch across and under each of the window groups on the second floor.