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In the Matter of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O. 18

And in the Matter of the Lands and Premises

Known Municipally as 120 Wellington Street, Bowmanville
in The Municipality of Clarington

Notice of Intention to Designate

Take Notice that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Clarington intends to designate the building located at 120 Wellington Street, Bowmanville, in the Municipality of Clarington, as a property of architectural and historical value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18.

Reasons for Proposed Designation

Description of Property

120 Wellington Street, Bowmanville is known as Central Public School, and has occupied the site at the northeast corner of Wellington and Elgin Streets since its opening in December 1889. Its school yard extends north to Horsey Street, and the building itself offers a striking terminating vista at the north end of Silver Street.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Central School at 120 Wellington Street was built in 1889 on a large parcel of land in the centre of Bowmanville. The School is an imposing two-storey red-brick structure with an Ashlar cut granite foundation built in the Richardson Romanesque style designed by A.A. Post of Whitby. Its Richardsonian influences, which were popular between 1880 and 1900, result in a simplified application of the style with its classically symmetrical façade clad in red brick laid in running course. The building does not appear to have the heaviness generally associated with Romanesque architecture. The original structure featured a square tower and cupola 80 feet high, within was a 400 pound Meneally bell from the Bell foundry in Troy, New York. The central section of the symmetrical front façade projects forward, terminating in a triangular gable. The gable itself exhibits details indicative of the Richardson Romanesque style, including intricate patterned brickwork within and above blind arches over the second storey windows, pressed terra cotta spirals and decorative banding and corbelling. The building also features cross gables, narrow pilasters with capitals, dentils, wide arches, and variation in the grouping of windows.

The interior of the building was originally organized into ten classrooms off of two corridors, which exhibit an arcade effect typical of the Romanesque style. A play area was included in the basement of the school to be used during rainy or stormy weather. Wainscoting in the interior classrooms and corridors is white pine and beaded, finished in oil, and varnished. The original Smead-Dowd heating system was a progressive system of its time and considered to be the best and most economical manner of heating schools.

The Central Public School building that exists today replaced an earlier school on the site. The former building, built in 1855, served as the Union School and Town Hall. The Union School took over the entire building when the present Town Hall at King and Temperance Streets was built. When the Union School burned in 1887 the public sought a centrally located district school that integrated the best aspects of the elementary school program of the time. The high school portion of the former Union School was relocated to the school that formerly occupied 105 Queen Street.

The building has undergone modifications over its 130 year history. In 1926 an addition was constructed on the east side of the school. The original slate roof was removed in favour of asphalt

shingles around 1955, which have since been replaced by a metal roof. In 1976, the upper portion of the bell tower, including the bell itself, was removed. The bell now occupies a spot on the front lawn. More recently, certain finials have been removed, windows were replaced in 2013, the playground was redone in 2015, and the main entrance was remodeled in 2016.

Historical and Contextual

In its 130 years of service, Central Public School has reinforced its sense of local comfort, security and public access through its built form (William Humber, Preface, Central Public School, 1889-1989). Central Public School is an institution in Bowmanville, and the building is representative of a period of educational reform in Ontario.

Thousands of students have received their elementary school education at Central Public School. Over the years, there have been a number of graduates who have made notable contributions to local and national history. Dr. Ross Tilley and Hubert Hooper were honoured by the British Empire for their actions during World War Two. Dr. Ross Tilley was recognized for his innovative treatment of burned airmen during World War Two, and went on to become one of Canada's most successful plastic surgeons. George James and his nephew John became known for their editing and operation of the local Canadian Statesman newspaper. Nina Neads was one of the first successful business women in Bowmanville with her proficiency and entrepreneurship in the insurance industry. Brent Hughes enjoyed a successful career in the National Hockey League, and World Hockey Association, and Elford Cox became a renowned sculptor whose work has been exhibited at the Art Gallery of Ontario, and Vancouver Art Gallery.

The school yard at 120 Wellington Street has hosted a circus, carnivals, and local softball games, and still functions as the staging area for Bowmanville's annual Santa Claus Parade in November. The Central Public School Band has been a Parade staple.

Central Public School, along with its surrounds, illustrates the substantial importance the community placed on education and public access dating back to the late 19th century, and is reminiscent of the community's past and civic events and celebrations.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key heritage attributes that exemplify the heritage value of the Central Public School (120 Wellington Street) as an excellent example of Richardson Romanesque architecture include:

Exterior:

- Overall massing of the building and two-storey facades
- Red brick construction, including the intricately patterned brickwork
- Granite stone foundation
- Hipped roof with its cross gables and finials
- The symmetrical front façade with its projecting central bay and triangular gable
- Placement of the chimney
- Placement and variation of the grouping of the windows, including the brick lintels
- Intricate patterned brickwork within and above blind arches over the second storey windows
- Doorways topped with semi-circular arches
- Pressed terra cotta spirals in the gable, and decorative banding and corbelling above the second storey windows
- Narrow pilasters with capitals, dentils, wide arches

- Meneally bell (and its placement on the property)
- "AD 1889" date stone and "Public School" lettering on front façade
- Corner stone marking the School's centennial (1889-1989)

Interior:

- The arcade effect along the corridors, typical of the Romanesque style
- White pine beaded wainscoting in the classrooms

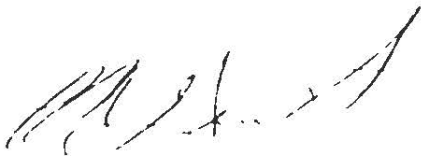
Other character defining elements include:

- The location of the building on the property, and in the centre of old Bowmanville, and its physical and visual relationship to the streetscape

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available from the Municipality of Clarington.

Any person may, within thirty (30) days of the publication of this notice, send by Registered Mail or deliver to the Municipal Clerk of the Municipality of Clarington, notice of his or her objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If such a notice of objection is received, the Council of the Municipality of Clarington shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

Dated at the Municipality of Clarington this 3rd day of October, 2019



C. Anne Greentree, BA, CMO
Municipal Clerk
40 Temperance Street
Bowmanville, ON L1C 3A6