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ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION
AUG 29 2005
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Department of Planning
& Development Services
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The Town of Niagara-On-The-Lake

1593 FOUR MILE CREEK ROAD
P.O. BOX 100
VIRGIL, ONTARIO
LOS 1T0

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS **40 PLATOFF STREET, THE NIAGARA PUBLIC SCHOOL** (Part Block 39, Plan 86), IN THE TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: THE ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST, 10 ADELAIDE STREET EAST,
TORONTO, ONTARIO, M5C 1J3

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake intends to designate the property, including the lands and building known municipally as **40 PLATOFF STREET, THE NIAGARA PUBLIC SCHOOL**, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

Reasons for the Proposed Designation

The Niagara Public School is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value or interest.

Along with the Niagara High School to the south on Castlereagh Street and the washroom and Junior school building on Davy Street, the Niagara Public School represents a significant intact historical record of the origin and development of public educational institutions in the Town of Niagara from their inception in 1856, when James Crooks ensured that the land would be used for educational purposes and endowed four scholarships for that purpose, until the construction of Parliament Oak School at the end of the Second World War. During that period, the Public School and the High School were associated with a number of important citizens of Niagara including James Crooks, who sold the land to the Town, John Thornton, master mason who constructed the building and Janet Carnochan who taught there and was instrumental in recording and preserving Niagara's history.

Architecturally the building is a refined and sophisticated example of Neo-classical institutional construction built by master mason John Thornton. His abilities as a mason are evident in the decorative brickwork, including the crenellated window surrounds, quoins, string course and massive stone lintels and sills.



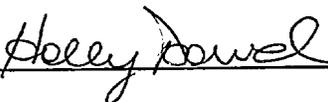
The building constitutes an unusual design for a small scale public school building of the 19th century. The entryway, with its grand semicircular fanlight filled with delicate tracery, stone arch and decorative brickwork is a striking entrance feature that is rarely found in small-scale public education buildings of this period. Most of these buildings were oriented with entrances at the gable ends and many were constructed in the Gothic Revival style that reflected religious and institutional architecture of the period. In contrast, the Niagara Public School reflects the Neo-classical building tradition of Old Town Niagara with its symmetrical building façade, generous window openings, semicircular fanlight and restrained details.

This designation applies to the lands and more particularly to the entire exterior of the dwelling including the decorative brickwork, stone lintels and sills and fanlight.

The full particulars of the Reasons-for-Designation are available in the Clerk's office, 1593 Four Mile Creek Road, during regular office hours.

Any person may, not later than the 26th day of September 2005, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake notice of their 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 Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake the 27th day of August, 2005.



Holly Dowd, Clerk