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& 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 **10 PLATOFF STREET, THE MALCOLMSON-DELIE HOUSE** (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 **10 PLATOFF STREET, THE MALCOLMSON-DELIE HOUSE** as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The Malcolmson-Delie House's cultural heritage value consists of the fact that it is one of the earlier houses constructed in the "New Survey" deeded to James Crooks in the 1820's and one of a number of simple workers houses found throughout the Town. The house is situated on a diminutive lot. Its location close to the street, its frame construction and simple vernacular style contribute to the streetscape on the south side of Platoff Street, which contains a number of small historic frame structures, such as the Dover-Daly House, its neighbour to the east, which is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The house has a simple asymmetrical 3 bay façade with windows on either side of a plain door with no sidelights or transom. The upper windows are situated close to the building eaves with little or no wall space above. The windows, which are not contemporary with the building, are currently being replaced by 6 over 6 windows and trim more appropriate to the age and style of the house. Early clapboard is being repaired and replaced where necessary. A flat roofed rear addition may actually be the earliest part of the house.

The interior of the house has been altered extensively. New wall partitions and a new kitchen and staircase have changed the internal layout of the building. No original doors or trim remain. There is original wide plank pine flooring on the second floor, however. It has been restored and restrained.

Currently the house is undergoing a sensitive restoration. Windows, clapboard, doors and trim are being replaced and restored in order to more closely reflect the mid nineteenth century date and style of this small worker's house.

The Malcolmson-Delie House's cultural heritage value also includes its association with a number of interesting and prominent personalities who owned the property and had close associations with shipbuilding and the Niagara Harbour & Dock Company. These include the Honourable James Crooks who was deeded the land in the "New Survey" as compensation for his land at Fort Mississauga; Thomas Sewell, a book binder and publisher of the radical newspaper, the *Niagara Reporter*; Peter Baikie, a shipwright employed by the Niagara Harbour and Dock Company who may have begun construction of the house; James Malcolmson, a mariner who is generally credited with building 10 Platoff Street and his father Stewart, a shipwright; James Hartley, a bugle major in the No.1 Company of the Royal Canadian Infantry Regiment and a Fenian Raid veteran and Walter Meneilly, an engineer.

Perhaps one of the most illustrious tenants of the property was F.H. Granger. Born in Surrey, England, Granger emigrated to New York City and studied at the American Institute of Art (1845-47) where he exhibited pen and ink sketches and water colour landscapes. He moved to Toronto in 1849, where he worked as a scenic artist at the Royal Lyceum Theatre. He moved to Niagara c.1854 where he painted many water colours of the area. The Niagara Historical Society owns 10 of his paintings as well as a pen and ink sketch of the Butler cemetery.

### **Description of Key Heritage Attributes**

Key exterior, interior and streetscape attributes that reflect the value of the Malcolmson-Delie house property as a fine example of vernacular worker's house include:

- The location of the house close to the street.
- The asymmetrical design of the front façade.
- The entire exterior of the house including the restored windows, front door and clapboard.
- The original wide pine floor boards on the second floor

Dated at the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2008.



Holly Dowd,

Clerk