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**Notice is Hereby Given** that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Newmarket intends to designate as a property of cultural heritage value and interest the following property in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18:

**Property Description:** 484-488 Water Street (St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church) is located on the south side of Water Street, where Water Street intersects with Eagle Street and D'Arcy Street at the foot of Main Street, in the Town of Newmarket. The subject property includes a Gothic Revival Presbyterian Church constructed between 1874 and early 1875.

**Legal Description:** PART BLOCK I, PLAN 85, PART BLOCK A, PLAN 75, NEWMARKET

**Publication Date:** Nov 1, 2024

**Last Date for Objection:** Dec 1, 2024

Any notice of objection to this Notice of Intention to Designate, setting out the reason for objection and all relevant facts, must be served upon the Town Clerk within 30 days of the first publication of this notice.

### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

#### Physical/ Design Value

**484-488 Water Street contains a representative example of a place of worship built in 1875 in the Gothic Revival architectural style.**

The 1874 portion of the building contains a large one-storey buff brick building following a rectangular plan with a tall, and highly visible, fieldstone foundation with wide mortar joints, and a prominent two-storey belltower. The building exhibits several Gothic Revival elements found in places of worship including a large steeply pitched front gable roof with overhanging eaves adorned with decorative rafters, brick buttressing, and lancet style window openings topped with decorative brick voussoirs arches housing stain-glass windows and finished with stone lug sills which are rhythmically positioned on the side elevation. The façade includes three tall, narrow lancet window openings that house stain glass windows and have decorative dichromatic brick voussoirs and overarching brick work and add to the ornate nature of the building. An ornate oculus windows and secondary entrances with lancet openings are found on the rear and side elevation also showcase the dichromatic brickwork found throughout the building. The asymmetrically positioned belltower has a rectangular base which tapers into the steeple which includes an octagonal section (belfry) which leads to a section of lancet style openings (lantern) currently boarded up, topped by a large metal spire. The belltower provides two highly ornamented entrances with surrounded by brick corbelling and dichromatic brick surrounds and house large wood doors with metal hinges which are representative of Gothic Revival design in places of worship.

#### Historical and Associative Value

**484-488 Water Street is associated with the historic Village of Newmarket, the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and local architect John T. Stokes.** The lots lines, layout, and built form of the historic village of Newmarket was well established in the mid-19th century and evident in a well-established commercial core found along Main Street and the large presence of residences located along several side streets. The development of the commercial core, social and civic spaces, and surrounding residential streetscapes in the mid-19th century played a significant role in the social and economic development and growth of the Village of Newmarket. It is likely that the brick used in the construction of the church was from the Stickwood Brickyard, which produced both red and yellow/buff coloured bricks during this time period. Local historians indicate that almost all of the brick buildings built in Newmarket between 1860 and 1910 were

likely constructed with bricks that originated at the Stickwood Brickyard.

484-488 Water Street was built between 1874 and 1875 as the third Presbyterian church in Newmarket, and the second iteration of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church specifically. The first St. Andrew's was a smaller structure located on Timothy Street, and the second Presbyterian Church was located on what is now Prospect Street. In 1874, another Presbyterian Congregation, the Free Church Congregation, approached the members of St. Andrew's Church in order to unite their two churches. As a larger church was required to host the newly combined congregations, land was purchased from William McMaster at the intersection of Water Street, Eagle Street, and D'Arcy Street in 1874. The construction of the church began in 1874 and completed with dedication taking place on February 28, 1875. The church was constructed of buff brick with a tower and spire that rose 55 feet above the street, and an interior that was designed to fit 400 people. The building was constructed by Newmarket firm Dyer and Mitchell and was designed by architect John T. Stokes.

**484-488 Water Street reflects the work of local architect and civil engineer John T. Stokes.** John T. Stokes designs included residential buildings, places of worship and public institutions. He worked predominately in the Gothic Revival style as reflected in his own Sharon residence (18817 Leslie Street), the caretaker's residence at the Newmarket Cemetery (112 Main Street North), and numerous public commissions such as the Christian Baptist Church (135 Main Street South) and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (the subject property). Other commissions included the first and second North York Registry Offices in Newmarket, and public schools in Ringwood, Bolton, and Newmarket, among others. In addition to his architectural works John Stokes played a significant role in civic matters Stokes served as Sharon's postmaster, Inspector of Public Schools, and later as the Clerk-Treasurer of the Township of East Gwillimbury. He was appointed as the Superintendent of Public Roads for York County in 1874. John Stokes, along with Sir Casimir Gzowski, was one of the founding members of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, which was established in 1887. John T. Stokes died of pneumonia on November 30, 1891, and is buried in the Newmarket Cemetery, whose caretaker's residence he designed.

#### Contextual Value

**484-488 Water Street is important in defining and supporting the 19th century character of the historic Village of Newmarket.**

Several residential side streets, including Eagle and Water Streets, were established in the village core, near the commercial Main Street. Located off or parallel to Main Street, the buildings along the side streets are comprised of predominantly one to two-and-a-half storey residences, primarily brick construction most using bricks from Stickwood's brickyard, with modest setbacks and include a range of architectural styles from that time period. 484-488 Water Street, as a place of worship represents the range of buildings and uses in the historic village and exhibits setback, massing, style, decorative details consistent with a place of worship and supports the historic character of the area.

**484-488 Water Street building's visibility, height, community significance, corner location, large footprint, highly ornated construction and legibility as a place of worship make it a landmark in the area.**

Additional information, including a full description of the rationale for designation is available upon request from Umar Mahmood, Planner, Committee of Adjustment and Cultural Heritage, Planning Services at (905) 895-5193, extension 2458, or at [um Mahmood@newmarket.ca](mailto:um Mahmood@newmarket.ca) during regular business hours.

Dated at the Town of Newmarket this 1<sup>st</sup> day of Nov, 2024

Town Clerk | Town of Newmarket

P.O. Box 328, 395 Mulock Drive, Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7