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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:** 185 Prospect Street (Doctor Playter House) is located on the west side of Prospect Street in the Town of Newmarket. The two-storey Neoclassical building was constructed between 1870 and 1873.

**Legal Description:** PT LT 1 E/S PROSPECT ST PL 22 NEWMARKET AS IN R696153; 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

**185 Prospect Street is a representative example of a residence built in a Neoclassical architectural style.** The two-storey, three-bay, buff brick building follows a rectangular plan with a symmetrically balanced box-like façade and hip roof with wide overhanging eaves and rhythmically placed paired and carved wood brackets which are representative of Neoclassical architecture. The rhythmically and symmetrically placed large rectangular windows openings showcase the classically inspired flat arch brick voussoirs which are key characteristics associated with Neoclassical fenestration. The formal and centrally placed entrance features a rectangular door opening with flat arch brick voussoirs and side lights which is protected by a classically inspired rounded arch portico with decorative architrave supported by paired wood columns which are representative of Neoclassical design. The one-storey porch on the side elevation carries through the Neoclassical finishes expressed in the detailing on the architrave and square wood columns.

#### Historical and Associative Value

**185 Prospect Street is directly associated with the historic Village of Newmarket and Dr. Edward Playter, a local physician, author, and public health reformer.** 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. Simultaneously, Prospect Street, located on the east side of the Holland River and part of a community known as Garbutt Hill, developed during the mid-19th century. Garbutt Hill was the site of several important businesses such as the Stickwood Brickyard, the pump factory, Thomas Gardiner's foundry, later occupied by the Newmarket Dairy, and the York County Hospital. By 1865,

extending the road to Garbutt Hill (Prospect Street) was opened the same year. The development of the commercial core and surrounding residential streetscapes, including the community of Garbutt Hill, 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 for the construction of 185 Prospect Street was from Stickwood's brickyard which produced both red and buff/yellow coloured bricks during this time period. Local historians indicate that almost all of the brick buildings built in Newmarket between 1860 until 1910 were likely constructed with bricks that originated at the Stickwood brickyard. The use of locally made bricks reflect the concentrated development and prosperity of the historic core.

185 Prospect Street was constructed between 1870 and 1873 for physician Dr. Edward Playter. Dr. Playter was descended from a prominent UEL family and received his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Toronto before starting his medical practice in York Township, where he also served as the county coroner. In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Playter was the editor and author of a public health journal, the owner of the local Newmarket newspaper from 1873 until 1875, and a strong proponent for government intervention in public health. After moving to Toronto at some point after 1873, he served as the first medical health officer in the province for the Parkdale neighbourhood and was influential in the establishment of the first provincial board of health, formed in 1882.

#### Contextual Value

**185 Prospect Street is important in supporting the 19th century character of the historic Village of Newmarket.** Several residential side streets, including Prospect Street, 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. 185 Prospect Street exhibits setback, massing, style, decorative details consistent with the historic village character.

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 [umahmood@newmarket.ca](mailto:umahmood@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