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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE PURSUANT TO THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Waterloo intends to designate the hereinafter mentioned property for its cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to Section 29, Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, as amended:

Municipal Addresses and Legal Descriptions:

1. 12 Bridgeport Road East, Waterloo, ON (all units)

WATERLOO STANDARD CONDOMINIUM PLAN NO. 447 AND ITS APPURTENANT INTEREST. THE DESCRIPTION OF THE CONDOMINIUM PROPERTY IS : LOT 14 AND PT LOTS 13 & 15, WEST SIDE OF QUEEN STREET, PLAN 491, PTS 2,3,4 AND 5 ON 58R-15883. SUBJECT TO AND TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS AS IN SCHEDULE A OF WR317355; CITY OF WATERLOO – PIN: 23447-0001 (LT) (LRO#58)

(the “Property”)

Description of the Property

The two-and-a-half-storey buff brick building at 12 Bridgeport Road East was constructed in 1903 and is known for its association with the Valentine and Martin Shoe Factory. It is situated at the northwest corner of Bridgeport Road East and Regina Street North.

The Property is located in the Commercial Core Cultural Heritage Landscape (CHL) which is bound by William Street and Young Street and extends to the east side of Regina Street North. The origins of Waterloo’s commercial core date to the settlement of Waterloo itself. In 1806, Mennonite farmer Abraham Erb settled at what became the crossroads of Erb Street and King Street and constructed a flour mill and saw mill. King Street quickly became an early transportation route.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The Property at 12 Bridgeport Road East is situated on the northwest corner of Bridgeport Road East and Regina Street North. Constructed in 1903 as a shoe factory, the two-and-a-half storey factory building was home to Valentine and Martin Limited between 1908 and 1942. In that year, the building was vacated because of the company’s acquisition by Kitchener-based Greb Shoe Company.



The buff brick building has a raised fieldstone basement and is oriented on an east/west axis. It meets Criterion 1 of O. Reg. 9/06 because its U-shape form is rare as an extant, early 20th century industrial building in Waterloo. Its “U” shaped footprint opens eastwards, onto Regina Street North. The east elevations feature two bays, with the basement level containing two flat-headed window openings and, at the first and second storeys, regularly spaced segmentally arched window openings. North and south elevations comprise nine recessed bays, the easternmost six containing single flat headed basement openings, surmounted by single segmentally arched openings. The western three bays contain pairs of openings on all levels, with similar detailing to the eastern portions of the building.

The Property meets Criterion 4 of O. Reg. 9/06 because it has significant historical associations with Valentine and Martin Limited, a shoe manufacturing company that operated out of the building from 1908 to 1942. By 1927, the company was one of Waterloo County’s leading industries in terms of output and one of the leading shoe making industries in the province. In 1938 the business was acquired by Kitchener-based Greb Shoe Company, but this portion of the business continued operating under the name of Valentine and Martin Limited until 1951.

In particular, the Property is associated with James Valentine whose affiliation with the shoe manufacturing on the Property began in 1904. With partner Jacob Bachert Martin, Valentine and Martin Limited was established on the site in 1908. Aside from his involvement with Valentine and Martin, James Valentine held directorships with the Merchant’s Casualty Company of Waterloo, the Chartered Trust Company of Toronto, and the Ontario Equitable Life and Accident Company. He was also a member of the Waterloo Manufacturers’ Association and the Waterloo Club.

The Property also meets Criterion 7 and Criterion 8 of O. Reg. 9/06 because it is one of a few remaining former industrial buildings in Uptown Waterloo, particularly along Regina Street North. The building also has contextual value because it is physically and historically linked to the commercial character of this area which, in the late 19th to mid-20th century was heavily industrialized.

Description of Heritage Attributes of the Property

Each attribute contributes to the design, historical, and contextual value of the Property – Criteria 1, 4, 7 and 8 of O. Reg. 9/06:

- Buff brick building on a fieldstone foundation;
- U-shaped plan oriented on an east/west axis to maximize light from a southern exposure;
- Two bay wide building wings;
- Recessed brick bays; and
- Flat arched basement windows with segmentally arched first and second storey windows.



Further Information

A copy of this Notice of Intention to Designate may be found on the City of Waterloo's Heritage Notices webpage (pursuant to By-law No. 2024-055):

www.waterloo.ca/heritage-notices

The complete cultural heritage value report and evaluation of this Property may be obtained through the Heritage Designation Research & Evaluation Report, Appendix 'B', dated January 21, 2025, on Engage Waterloo: www.engagewr.ca/waterloo-heritage-register-review under the 'Documents' section.

Further information and inquiries about the intention to designate may be directed to **Dominik Simpson, Senior Policy Planner** by phone **519-747-8546** or by email at **dominik.simpson@waterloo.ca**.

Notice of Objection

Notice of objection to the intention to designate the Property may be served on the City Clerk of The Corporation of the City of Waterloo within 30 days after this Notice has been published on the City's Heritage Notices webpage (www.waterloo.ca/heritage-notices). Any notice of objection shall indicate the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. The last day for filing an objection is **Friday, March 28, 2025**.

DATED at Waterloo this 26th day of February, 2025.

Julie Finley-Swaren, City Clerk
clerkinfo@waterloo.ca
City of Waterloo
100 Regina Street South
Waterloo, Ontario N2J 4A8