



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act e-Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Ce document est tiré du registre électronique, tenu aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

BY-LAW No. 78-362

BY-LAW read a first, second and third
time and passed this 10th
day of October 1978

F. H. Hollenbeck Clerk

CERTIFIED COPY

CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

BY-LAW NO. 78-362

A By-law to designate the Municipal Building on Church Street of architectural value and of historic interest.

WHEREAS The Ontario Heritage Act, 1974, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historic or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of St. Catharines has caused to be served upon the owner of the lands and premises known as No. 48 Church Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks;

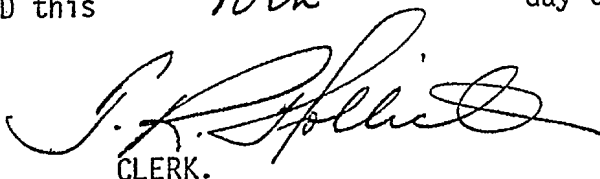
AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out as Schedule "B" hereto;

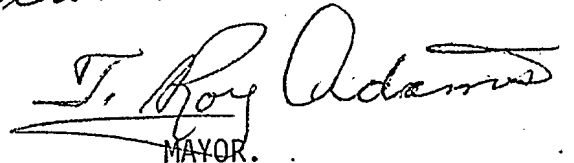
AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the said proposed designation has been served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. CATHARINES enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of architectural and historic value or interest the real property, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto, known as No. 48 Church Street.
2. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this By-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of St. Catharines.

PASSED this 10th day of October 1978.


CLERK.


MAYOR.

SCHEDULE "A"

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the City of St. Catharines, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara formerly in the County of Lincoln, and being composed of Lot No. 691 according to the Plan of the City of St. Catharines filed in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of the County of Lincoln as Corporation Plan No. 2.

I CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE A
TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL
DOCUMENT OF WHICH IT PURPORTS TO BE A
COPY.

Dated this 11th day of October 1978

Deputy *R. L. [Signature]*
CLERK OF THE CORPORATION OF
THE CITY OF ST. CATHARINES



SIGNIFICANCE

Two years after St. Catharines became the County seat, Town Council - in agreement with the County Council - decided to relinquish their offices in the the Town Hall. Conditions had become crowded with both groups meeting in the same building.

In 1864 the Town Council rented the James Rae Benson residence on James Street, the site of our present Municipal Building. The property was purchased in 1878 for \$22,000 with an additional \$9,000 being spent on alterations.

By 1936 the old Benson home was far from adequate so work began on the erection of our present Municipal Building. The structure, designed by local architect - Robert I. Macbeth, was officially opened August 9, 1937. The total cost for the building, exclusive of furnishings and landscaping, was \$142,066.21.

DESCRIPTION

This two-storey Queenston limestone building has a ground-level basement and a partial sub-basement. The roof is flat with a raised pediment above the doorway and a parapet extending around the remainder of the building.

The doorways are located in a projecting frontispiece recessed behind massive pilasters extending to the second floor ceiling. The three pairs of brass doors are fully glazed. Each door is surmounted by a four-pane transom with mullions. Above these are storey-high glass windows which light the main stairway.

The windows are placed symmetrically to the right and left of the doorways and are identical on each floor. Flanking the doorways are two narrow windows on the projecting frontispiece. Four more bays are set into each side of the frontispiece. All windows have ten fixed and two hinged panes in a metal frame and are set in recessed panels.

Decorative panels extend around the walls just below the roof line. Above the doorway is a carved panel bearing the following inscription:

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

The other facades are of similar materials and bear the same type of window. On the south (rear) and west sides, however, the basement walls are fully exposed and appear to be the main floor. Entrances are provided on each of these facades.

The interior is worthy of note for its marble stairways and terrazzo floors, hallways, and laboratories. The Council Chamber is furnished in walnut.