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CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

BY-LAW No. 78-353

A BY-LAW to designate the Property  
at No. 51 Mountain Street of archi-  
tectural value and of historic interest.

BY-LAW read a first, second and third  
time and passed this 10<sup>th</sup>  
day of October 19 78

 Clerk

# CERTIFIED COPY

CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

BY-LAW NO. 78-353

A By-law to designate the Property at No. 51 Mountain 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. 51 Mountain 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. 51 Mountain 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.

*J.R. Pollock*  
CLERK.

*T. Roy Adams*  
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 and Province of Ontario, being formerly in the Town of Merritton in the County of Lincoln, and being composed of Part of Lot 863, Corporation Plan No. 6 for the former Town of Merritton, and now designated as Part 2 according to Reference Plan deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of Niagara North as No. 30R-716, TOGETHER WITH a right-of-way over Part of said Lot 863 designated as Part 3 according to the said Reference Plan No. 30R-716.

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 19 78



Deputy Richard Robb  
CLERK OF THE CORPORATION OF  
THE CITY OF ST. CATHARINES

SIGNIFICANCE

The land on which this building is located was originally a Crown Grant to George Ball in 1796. In 1804 he transferred the land to his brother Jacob Ball who in turn willed it to his son Jacob J. Ball 1823. Jacob J. Ball stated in his will - executed in 1828 and proved in 1842 - that the ownership of the land and house was to be transferred to his oldest son Jacob Crysler Ball. However, it was with the stipulation that his wife Catharine be maintained and provided with the north half of the stone house and given joint use of both kitchens.

The property was sold to the Public Works Department in 1843 and then part of the land came into the possession of the Welland Canal Loan Company. During the period when the Welland Canal Loan Company owned the property it was said to have been used as the home of the Lockmaster in overseeing the work of 17 Locktenders.

DESCRIPTION

The original stone portion of this house has a two storey, five bay aspect facing the driveway approach to the east, with a one storey 'L' at the rear northwest corner. This latter portion has an on-grade access to the old basement kitchen areas due to the ground sloping away to the rear. There have been a number of rather unsympathetic additions to the rear southwest corner; however, the most prominent views of the house still show its original character.

The main facade is of splitface ashlar coursing with cut stone quoins. The sidewalls are of a more random coursing; all are chiefly of local stone. The central door is surmounted by a semi-circular cut stone arch with a decorative keystone. The main door, which itself is not original, is set in a panelled recess and has a semi-circular fanlight over. A small panel in the fanlight bears some initials and the date "1828". This and the character of the stone arch over, seem to indicate that it may have been a later alteration to the house built prior to 1823.

All windows have solid stone sills; some have solid stone lintels while others have a flat arch of the same local stone. The windows are double hung with six lights in each sash.

Most of the exterior wood trim appears to be original. The gable roof has a boxed cornice with a plain frieze. The gable ends are similar except that they have returns but no frieze. The later wood frame additions and porches are presently covered in painted wood siding.

The main house has many original interior features including six fireplaces all with stone hearths and all of slightly differing designs, and the remains of a domed brick bake oven in the basement kitchen.