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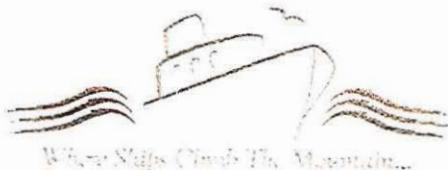


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September 8, 2010



Mr. Richard Moorhouse,
Executive Director,
Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3



Dear Mr. Moorhouse:

Re: Notice of Intention to Designate
Ontario Heritage Act
The O'Brien House
38 South Street South
City of Thorold, Ontario

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of a Notice of Intention to Designate the above noted property in accordance with Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18. This notice will be published in Niagara News on September 15, 2010.

You have been notified as required under the provisions of Section 29(3) of the Act.

I trust this is in order.

Yours truly,

Adele Arbour, MCIP, RPP
Director of Planning & Building Services

AA/em
Attach.

cc: Heritage Thorold LACAC
Susan Daniels, City Clerk

City of Thorold

P.O. Box 1044, 3540 Schmon Parkway, Thorold, Ontario L2V 4A7

www.thorold.com

Tel: 905-227-6613

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18 AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATION IN THE CITY OF THOROLD, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Thorold intends to designate The O'Brien House located at 38 South Street South, on the east side of South Street South at the intersection of Cross Street, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 2005 Chapter O.18, Section 29.

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION:

The O'Brien House
38 South Street South
Plan M10 Lot 38
Port Robinson, Ontario

The O'Brien House is located at 38 South Street South, on the east side at the intersection of Cross Street and South Street South.

Cultural Heritage Value

This property offers a unique insight into the waxing and waning of fortunes of residents of Port Robinson, which enjoyed considerable economic prosperity when it was the southern terminus of the 1st and 2nd Welland Canal as it linked to the Welland River (Chippewa Creek) in the mid nineteenth century. It is one of the only properties in Thorold to have retained such decorative ornamentation (gingerbread).

Architectural Value

This attractive house is a 1-1/2 storey timber framed building with Victorian Farmhouse floor plan, popular in the mid 19th century Ontario, while embracing a certain amount of creative license in its ornamentation through recourse with Picturesque and Gothic Revival aesthetics. Noteworthy details include the off-centre front door, sawn verge-board (gingerbread) tracery along the front gable end facade, the generous two-sided pagoda style roofed verandah, overhanging eaves and horizontal clapboard siding. The house occupies its original site. The layout of the house is typical of a small dwelling style commonly found in Niagara in the mid 19th century. The gabled roof is steep pitched with verge board ornamentation on the front gable end. Most of the windows contain original or heritage class panes. The verandah reveals a fondness for wraparound verandahs from early 1840's on.

Historical Value

Robert Elliot owned the lot on which this house sits, for 6 years before selling it in 1868 to John Nelson O'Brien, an Engineer. With a remarkable 600% increase in purchase price makes it probable that the property had been expanded and that O'Brien had built a house. In 1887 the property was sold to the Grisdales and belonged to them for 17 years. There have been several other owners.

The history of the property and house, its owners and residents, is closely tied to the economic development of Port Robinson brought about by the development of the Welland Canal and associated industrial, commercial and infrastructural interests. Within the context of other mid nineteenth century structures in the village, the property also serves as a useful benchmark in the evolution and stylistic range of the Victorian Farmhouse idiom - and especially its attempts to emulate the so-called Ontario Cottage style. Through the history of this house we are granted an unparalleled insight into a range of lives of working and middle class Ontarians.

Further information respecting the proposed designation is available in the Planning and Building Services Department during regular office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, 227-6613, 3540 Schmon Parkway, Thorold.

Any person may object to the proposed designation within thirty (30) days after the date of the publication of the Notice of Intention by serving on the Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Thorold a notice of objection setting out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. The last day for filing objections will be **Friday, October 15, 2010**. All objections received within the aforementioned time period will be referred to the Heritage Conservation Review Board for a hearing and report.

DATED at the City of Thorold this 15th day of September, 2010

Susan Daniels, City Clerk
Corporation of the City of Thorold
P.O. Box 1044, 3540 Schmon Parkway
Thorold, Ontario L2V 4A7