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Niagara

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CITY OF WELLAND
ONTARIO
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
411 EAST MAIN ST.
L3B 3X4

Effective October 4, 1993
We have a new area code
905

Nancy Smith

92 - 60

February 16, 1994

Dear Sirs:

RE: Proposed Designation Under
Part IV of the
Ontario Heritage Act
Main St. Bridge

RECEIVED
THE OFFICE

FEB 24 1994

PLANNING

In accordance with the requirements of Section 29(3) of the Ontario Heritage Act, enclosed herewith please find Notice of Intention to Designate the above-referenced structure under Part IV of the legislation.

For your reference, I have attached a copy of the background report prepared for the Welland Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee and City Council.

Yours very truly,

Donna Vettori
Acting Deputy Clerk

DV:cv

Encls.

c.c. -- G. Chipman, Chairman
L.A.C.A.C.
-- D. Thorpe
Development Planner

The Ontario Heritage Foundation
7th Floor
77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

(CREST)

In the matter of the Ontario Heritage Act,
R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18

And in the matter of the structure
and property known municipally as the
Main Street Bridge

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Corporation of the City of Welland intends to designate the structure and property known as the Main Street Bridge as a structure of architectural and historical interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18

Reasons for the Proposed Designation:

Bridge 13, known as the Main Street Bridge, was built in 1927-1930 during the construction of the Fourth Welland Canal (1913-1933). This bridge was one of the three largest vertical lift bridges on the canal with a roadway width of 30 feet, girder width of 34.5 feet and a length of 231 feet 5 5/8 inches. It was also the most expensive, costing \$986,363.

The Main Street Bridge's design is unique in that its towers are set at an angle to both the waterway and the connecting roadways. The bridge is significantly skew in terms of its angle to the waterway, being set at an angle of 22 degrees, 24 minutes and 30 seconds off the normal 90 degree angle. No other canal bridges were more than 12 degrees off the square.

The superstructure is composed of two towers with main columns in box form and a central lifting span. The machinery house in the centre of the lifting span has two storeys and once contained the lifting apparatus.

The main contract for the superstructure was awarded to the Dominion Bridge Company of Lachine, Quebec. This company is still in business. A local firm, Maguire, Cameron and Phin, were hired as sub-contractors for all of the concrete work. This company remained in business in Welland until the 1970's.

The bridge is one of only two structures in Welland to have been built almost entirely by members of the First Nation. All of the structural high steel was done by the Mohawks.

From its beginnings, the Main Street Bridge affected the lives of Welland's inhabitants. It was the only link between the east and west portions of downtown Welland. Its height and central location makes the bridge a dominant element in the downtown core. It has always been the most recognizable landmark identified with the City as a whole.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation may be filed with the Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Welland not later than the 22nd day of March, 1994.

Dated at the City of Welland this 19th day of February, 1994.

CRAIG A. STIRTZINGER,
City Clerk,
City Hall, 411 East Main Street,
Welland, Ontario. L3B 3X4