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CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF NEWMARKET

BYLAW NUMBER 1987-72

A BYLAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 134 MAIN STREET SOUTH, NEWMARKET AS BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL VALUE OR INTEREST

WHEREAS Section 29 of The Ontario Heritage Act 1980 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact bylaws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historic value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Newmarket has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as The Registry Office, North York at 134 Main Street South, Newmarket, 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 general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks; and

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town of Newmarket as follows:

1. There is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest the real property known as 134 Main Street South, Newmarket, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto.
2. The reasons for designation of the Registry Office, North York at 134 Main Street South, Newmarket, are described in Schedule "B" hereto.
3. The municipal solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this bylaw to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper land registry office.
4. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this bylaw to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this bylaw to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.

PASSED this 4th day of May, 1987.

"R.J. Twinney"

R. J. Twinney, Mayor

"Margaret Bowser"

Margaret Bowser, Clerk

SCHEDULE "A" - Registry Office, North York
134 Main Street, South

All and singular that certain parcel of land and premises situate lying and being in the Town of Newmarket, in the Regional Municipality of York (formerly in the County of York) and being composed of all of Lot 39, according to Plan Number 81 and the South Part of Lot 12, according to Plan Number 222 as specified in a survey prepared by Brown, Cavell and Topham dated June 24, 1942, both Plans being registered and the survey deposited in the Registry Office for the Registry Division of York Region;

Save and except thereout and therefrom that portion of the easterly four feet of Lot 39, Plan 81 and the easterly four feet of Lot 12, Plan 222, which parcel of land was conveyed to the Town of Newmarket.

Schedule "B" - Registry Office, North York
134 Main Street South

Reasons for Proposed Designation

The property known as the Registry Office, North York at 134 Main Street South is worthy of designation for historical and architectural reasons. The Registry Office, the second to be built in Newmarket, is a finely-detailed example of a unique building type. It was constructed in 1884 by Messrs. Page and Harris, Contractors, to the designs of John T. Stokes, an architect of regional importance who served as Engineer for the County of York and, afterward, the City of Toronto. The single-storey structure, a repository for land title records and registers of births, deaths and marriages, was designed to be completely fire proof. It features two-foot thick brick walls resting on a stone foundation, with a brick and mortar ceiling, slate roof and iron doors, window bars and window sills. Built in the formal Classic Revival style, the design features a front gable plan with an implied pediment across the facade, stone drip labels and keystones over doors and windows, classical detailing through decorative brickwork, a projecting entrance and two paired chimneys in the gable peak.

extra

THE REGISTRY OFFICE

Location: 134 Main Street South
Plan 81, Lot 39; Plan 222, Part Lot 12

Present Owner: Region of York

Original Owner: County of York

Present Use: Departmental Offices, Region of York

Original Use: Registry Office

Dates and Records of Construction:

October 9, 1883 The Corporation of the County of York purchased two building lots from Clarissa Ogilvie for \$1800.00.¹

March 4, 1884 A special committee instructed John T. Stokes, County engineer, to prepare plans and estimates for the construction of the new North York Registry Office.²

May 16, 1884 The Newmarket Era reported that construction of the new building was to begin the next week.

Historical Sketch:

The property represents a small portion of the 190 acres of land (Lot 94, Concession 1, Whitchurch Township) received by Henry Crone through a crown grant in 1804. Timothy Millard acquired the land in 1812 and, by the 1840s, the Millard family had the site divided into building lots which were absorbed under registered plans later in the 19th century.

In 1882 the old Registry Office, constructed in 1863 on the corner of Main and Lot (Millard) Streets to the designs of architect John T. Stokes, was condemned.³ The structure, described as "the best piece of work north of Toronto"⁴ when built, stood until the 1950s when it was replaced by a new fire hall. In October of 1883 the Corporation of the County of York purchased two building lots (later registered under different plans) on Main Street directly north of the first office from Clarissa Ogilvie for \$1800.00. The site had previously been developed by William Wallis;⁵ in May, 1884, Hutchcroft and Micks received the contract to remove the old buildings.⁶

On March 4, 1884 a special committee composed of the current County Warden, E. J. Davis, and two former Wardens, Erastus Jackson and William Rowen, directed Stokes, now County engineer, to prepare plans and estimates for the Registry Office. In April, 1884, the contract was put out to tender with instructions that the building would stand twenty feet from the street.⁷ In May, 1884, the contract was awarded to Page and Harris for \$5250.00, the amount being \$1000.00 to \$2000.00 less than expected.⁸