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*received April 26/94*

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18 AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS THE BURTIS-LARMON HOUSE, NORTH PART OF LOT 13, CONCESSION 2, FORMER TOWNSHIP OF NORTH NORWICH IN THE TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION  
77 BLOOR STREET WEST,  
TORONTO, ONTARIO  
M7A 2R9

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Norwich intends to designate the property including lands and buildings, known municipally as the Burtis-Larmon House, North Part of Lot 13, Concession 2, Former Township of North Norwich, as a property of architectural and/or historical value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18

A. LOCATION: THE BURTIS-LARMON HOUSE, North Part of Lot 13, Concession 2, former Township of North Norwich

REASON FOR DESIGNATION:

Samuel Stillwell Burtis, a descendant of Pietro Alberti who was credited as the first Italian immigrant in North America (1634), was born in the New York State in 1816 and emigrated to the Norwich area in the early 1840's.

The house is square Italianate in design covered with horizontal lapped wooden siding. It has a truncated hip-roof crowned with ornamental iron railing or cresting. The overhang of the roof features boxed cornices supported by paired ornamental brackets.

The windows have a pediment crested surround head-trim, double sash, with single panes, completed with original shutters.

The front and west sides have central doors protected by porches. The five panel solid wooden doors are hung in simple unornamented frames. The porches have truncated hip-roofs with ornamental iron cresting matching the main roof. Supporting the porch roof are four chamfered posts with square capitals, and an arched entablature of fret-work treillage and paired brackets, which are similar to those of the main roof. The design of the treillage compliments the pattern of the iron-work.

The south end of the building is a recent projection built in complimentary style, replacing the former summer kitchen which now serves as a separate garage.

The original cement horse-block is still beside the driveway at the west side of the house, where it facilitated the descent from carriages in horse and buggy days.

The interior of the house is symmetrical in design with a central enclosed stair. Much of the woodwork has the original graining. Originally, the two front rooms were decorated with a marble design on the plaster, similar to the marbleizing done in Dundurn Castle by artist Robert Whale.

This graceful house, is an excellent example of square well-balanced Italianate design. Its details have been carried out with care and artistic skill. It was built by Samuel Burtis after he had reached age fifty, and its location and style suggest that of a gentleman farmer, with a position in the community, a Justice of the Peace. The Italianate styling is also of interest considering Mr. Burtis' ancestry.

The elegant design of this architecturally significant home has been carefully preserved, making it worthy of designation as one of the Township of Norwich's heritage buildings.

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NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, may be served on the Clerk of the Township of Norwich before the 20th day of May, 1994.

DATED AT OTTERVILLE THIS 20TH DAY OF APRIL, 1994.

ROBERT C. WATKINS,  
CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR