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Bylaw 14 of 2008

Corporation of the Town of St. Marys

*Being a bylaw to designate the property known municipally as
135 Queen Street East as being of architectural value or interest.*

WHEREAS Section 29 [4] of the Ontario Heritage Act authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact bylaws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys has caused to be served upon the owners of the aforesaid real property and on the Ontario Heritage Trust notice of intention to so designate this property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in local newspapers having general circulation in the municipality; and

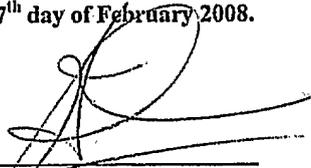
WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Chief Administrative Officer of the municipality;

THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of St. Marys ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. There is designated as being of architectural value or interest the real property known as 135 Queen Street East, more particularly described in Schedule A attached hereto.
2. The municipal solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this bylaw to be registered against the property described in Schedule A attached hereto in the proper land registry office.
3. The Chief Administrative Officer is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this bylaw to be served on the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of the passing of this bylaw to be published in local newspapers having general circulation in the municipality.

Read a first and second time this 27th day of February 2008.

Read a third and final time and passed this 27th day of February 2008.



Jamie Hahn, Mayor



Bruce Grant, CAO/Clerk



STATEMENTS TO IDENTIFY AND DESCRIBE A PROPERTY FOR DESIGNATION

135 Queen Street East

Heritage St. Marys, September 2007



Andrews Jeweller, 1885, J. Leary, Photographer

Designation Statements

Description of Property

Andrews Jeweller Building, 135 Queen St. East (East Part Lot 5, North Side, Queen Street): This building is a two storey brick and stone commercial block, constructed in 1884. Its first owner and its original purpose are both identified permanently on the signband just below the eave of the steep mansard roof of the facade. In 2007, it is still a jewelry store, operated by Anstett Ltd.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

This building with its clock tower has been a landmark on Queen Street in St. Marys since it was constructed for William Andrews, a local jeweler, in 1884. It was designed by a St. Marys architect, William Williams, in the Second Empire style. Its façade is richly ornamented with features in the Italianate style.

While the building was owned by four succeeding generations of the Andrews family (1884-2004,) the Town of St. Marys supported the maintenance of the clock – often referred to as the Town Clock. The building has almost miraculously retained all of its important original exterior and interior features. As an ensemble, it is unique in St. Marys and a rarity in the entire province. Quite simply, it is one of St. Marys' most important buildings, alongside our Town Hall and the Opera House.

Description of Heritage Attributes

We can be sure of the exactness of the surviving architectural features because of both a detailed description published at the time of construction and a rich subsequent photographic record. Archival records also include the architect's original sketch for the design of the façade and a stereographic photograph of that portion of Queen Street, taken by Ingersoll photographer E. H. Hugill, in August 1884, showing the building under construction.

An article appeared in the St. Marys Argus, October 30, 1884 providing a complete description of the new building. This is an excerpt; a full transcription of the article is included as an appendix to this document.

The edifice is built of St. Marys' stone for foundation, side and rear walls, whilst the front is built of pressed brick and Ohio stone dressings, richly worked. The roof is Mansard with a magnificent clock and bell tower rising from the centre and covered with slate. The clock... will have an illuminated dial of four feet six inches in diameter and will strike the hours. It is now being constructed at the works of the noted Seth Thomas Clock Manufacturing Co., Thomastown, Conn. and will cost over \$1000... The store is fitted up in a princely style with large plate glass windows, circular ends... The floor is of geometrical tiles, imported expressly from England. The walnut fittings with show cases, counters and mirrors are among the finest yet put up in Western Ontario.

The same source records an unusually complete list of the specialized contractors who worked on the building or supplied components – many of them local: John Grant, brick and stone work; Matheson & Hurd of London, dressed Ohio stone; Alexander Falconer, carpentry and joinery; Fred Patterson, plastering; John Willard, painting and glazing; James Chalmers Jr., tinsmith and iron work, both

plain and ornamental; James Bryne, Toronto, gas fitting; Millichamp & Co., Toronto, the showcases, mirrors and store fittings.

There is a magnificent tall wall clock mounted by the windows on the east wall that has been an important feature of the rich interior ornamentation for as long as can be remembered.

William Andrews may well have chosen William Williams as architect because he admired the store to the east at 155 Queen Street that Williams had designed in 1883 for a local druggist, Sidney Fraleigh (currently Hubbard Pharmacy.) Like Andrews' Jeweller, Fraleigh's drugstore originally had elaborate walnut store cabinetry (removed in a 1950s renovation) and a floor with Minton tiles (still extant.) A year after the Andrews building, Williams designed another structure in the Second Empire style – a mansion, also in red brick, for Henry Lincoln Rice and his wife Charlotte Carter at 236 Jones Street East. A number of other St. Marys' buildings designed by Williams from 1880 to 1890 clearly establish him as the principal practitioner during this period and also as a designer of provincial importance.

The Andrews building is unique as a single structure; what is just as important is its contribution to the streetscape. Both in its scale and in its fenestration, it echoes the repeating patterns, one of the principal legacies of the rows of Victorian and Edwardian storefronts. This feature is highlighted as the Andrews building has been used over and over again as an example of the architecture of the period: in an Ontario Heritage Foundation 1978 poster entitled **Our Main Street Heritage: Take a Closer Look**; in **Ontario Towns**, Greenhill, Macpherson and Richardson, 1974; in **Going to Town**, Ashenburg, 1996; as the cover photograph of **Edifice Magazine**, Issue No. Five, 2005.

This designation includes all exterior features described in this report and in the original, complete newspaper description of the building of October 30, 1884. Also included, and of equal importance, in this designation are all of the original interior features.

Published documentation:

Early St. Marys, L. W. Wilson and L. R. Pfaff, St. Marys-on-the-Thames Historical Society, St. Marys, 1981. Entry 31.

Edifice Magazine, Issue No. Five, 2005. "A History in Mortar: St. Marys, Ontario," Nena Wagner.

Going to Town, Katherine Ashenburg. Macfarlane, Walter & Ross, Toronto, 1996.

Ontario Towns, Ralph Greenhill, Ken Macpherson and Douglas Richardson, Oberon Press, Toronto, 1974.

St. Marys Argus. "Mr. W. Andrews' New Jewellery Store," October 30, 1884, page 3.

St. Marys Journal Argus. "The Story of the Town Clock," November 3, 1965, page 7.

St. Marys Journal Argus. "L-shaped homes popular in 19th century," Larry Pfaff. December 27, 2006. (Includes photograph of William Andrews and family on the veranda of their home, 1882.)

Trade and Canadian Jeweler. ca 1918. "A Veteran Ontario Jeweler." Includes contemporary photographs.

Additional documentation: William Williams, Architectural sketch of a design for façade of building, 1884. Preliminary drawing, not exactly as eventually built but incorporating many of the elements eventually used.