

CITY OF ST. THOMAS

BY-LAW NO. 26 - 2014

A by-law to designate the Dingman House, 91 Metcalfe Street, in the City of St. Thomas, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended, the Council of a municipality may by by-law designate a property including buildings and structures thereon to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS notice of intention to designate the property known as the Dingman House, 91 Metcalfe Street, St. Thomas, Ontario, has been duly published and served, and no notice of objection has been received to such designation;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. There is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest the property known as 91 Metcalfe Street in the City of St. Thomas, all of which is described in Schedule "A" attached hereto, for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto.
2. The CAO/Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered upon the title to the property described in the aforementioned Schedule "A" in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The CAO/Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in the St. Thomas Times-Journal.
4. This by-law comes into force on the day it is finally passed.

READ a First and Second time this 10th day of February, 2014.

READ a Third time and Finally passed this 10th day of February, 2014.

Original signed by "Wendell Graves"
CAO/Clerk

Original signed by "Heather Jackson"
Mayor

Schedule "A"

Parcel 5-1, Section 190, LT 5 East side of Metcalfe Street, Plan 190, City of St. Thomas, County of Elgin as in 35230-0108 (LT)

February 3, 2014

HERITAGE DESIGNATION OF 91 METCALFE STREET, ST. THOMAS

PROPERTY: DINGMAN HOUSE

MUNICIPAL ADDRESS: 91 METCALFE STREET

Analysis for reasons for designation as provided by the Municipal Heritage Committee:

Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under The *Ontario Heritage Act* as it relates to the Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value of Interest. Under this regulation, a property may be designated under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* if it meets one or more of three criteria.

In applying these criteria to the facts relating to the property it is possible to draw the following conclusions:

- 1) The property has design value or physical value because it,
 - i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method,
 - ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or
 - iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement

91 METCALFE STREET is a prominent property located within the Courthouse District of the city. It is described as a two storey brick neo-classic Greek Revival house with a three-bay front. The double-hung central door has a shallow curved fan light. The windows are shuttered. The large brackets at the eaves are Italianate and support a hip-roof. The two-storey Greek-revival porch facing West is supported by Ionic columns which also support a balcony over the door. The porch juts out over the central bay. A second, north-facing, single-storey semi-circular porch is accessed from the main floor via double-hung doors.

- 2) The property has historical value or associative value because it,
 - i. has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community,
 - ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture, or
 - iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.

Built in 1871 it was owned initially by Ann Elizabeth Arkell and then transferred through a succession of members of the Griffin and Dingman families, all of them prominent to the development of the City of St. Thomas. In particular, L.H. Dingman, who in 1902 became owner and publisher of the St. Thomas Times. With the amalgamation of the two dailies in 1918, Mr. Dingman became president and treasurer of The Times-Journal of St. Thomas, Limited. For many years George Dingman was also the managing editor of the Times-Journal. His daughter Margaret Margetts took up residence in 1981 and lived there until her passing in 2013. The house remains under the ownership of the descendants of the Dingman family to this day (2013).

- 3) The property has contextual value because it,
- i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area,
 - ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings, or
 - iii. is a landmark.

91 METCALFE STREET is a substantial house, built on a large lot bounded on the East side by a tributary of Mill Creek. It forms part of a collection of other well built, substantial houses in the Courthouse District of the city, most of which were built or inhabited by prominent families involved in the early development of St. Thomas. There are currently seven other municipally designated properties in the district, including the Elgin County Courthouse and its Registry Office.