

THE CORPORATION
OF THE
TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE

BY-LAW NO. 4492-11

(58 Johnson Street)
(Roll No. 2627 010 003 09700 0000)

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS THE ECKERSLEY-MCEWEN HOUSE, 58 JOHNSON STREET, IN THE TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO, AS BEING OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake has caused to be served on the owner of the lands and premises known as the Eckersley-McEwen House at 58 Johnson Street, in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake in the Province of Ontario and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, 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;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule 'B' hereto;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the clerk of the municipality.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest the real property known as the Eckersley-McEwen House at 58 Johnson Street in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake in the Province of Ontario, more particularly described in Schedule 'A' hereto.
2. The municipal solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule 'A' hereto.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause copy of this By-law to be served on the owners of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this By-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED ON THIS 29TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2011



LORD MAYOR DAVE EKE



TOWN CLERK HOLLY DOWD

**SCHEDULE "B" TO
BY-LAW 4492-11
58 JOHNSON STREET**

Part Lot 107, TP Plan 86 Niagara as in RO570100; Niagara-on-the-Lake

PIN #46399-0086 (LT)

SCHEDULE 'B'

Description of Property

The Eckersley-McEwen House is a two storey 3-bay frame building with a clapboard exterior. The house is located on a square lot on the southwest corner of Johnson and Regent Streets.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The Eckersley-McEwen House's cultural heritage value consists of the fact that it is one of the larger impressive houses of Neo-classical and Regency design constructed during the 1830's when Niagara-on-the-Lake prospered as a major port and centre of a significant shipbuilding industry. The lot on which the house sits was granted by the Crown to George Young in 1794. The house was probably constructed c.1830 by contractor Ed McMullen and was refurbished in the 1870's by ship's carpenter Robert Fizette. This house and its neighbours, the Post House, Barker Hall and the Varey House on the 4 corners of Johnson and Regent Streets make an impressive early 19th century architectural statement and contribute to the uniquely British colonial streetscape that is a defining characteristic of Old Town.

The house is situated on a relatively square flat lot and is located on northeast portion of the property immediately adjacent to both Johnson and Regent Streets.

The house has a 3-bay façade and a hip roof with a clapboard exterior. Its location close to the road is an indication of an early date. The building is set on a roughly coursed stone base. There are two internal brick chimneys with brick corbelling. These indicate the location of the 4 fireplaces in the house. Although overall the house is of plain design, it is distinguished by the centrally located doorway which has a fine Neo-classical doorcase with a restrained and delicate elliptical fanlight, paneled reveals, a fluted arch and pilasters, sidelights and a 6 panel door. All of the windows in the house are two over two late Victorian or early 20th century replacements. Window mouldings are plain and simply designed with a thin drip mould above and narrow wooden sills. The rear frame addition was extensively remodeled in the 1960's.

The c.1830 portion of the house has a centre hall plan that is largely intact. There are 4 original fireplaces with simple classical mouldings. In one of the rooms to the left of the entrance there are interesting moulded panels beneath the windows. Much of the trim and baseboards are original to the house as are the wide pine floors. The staircase has a fine handrail, a simple balustrade and a rather clumsy looking newel at the bottom. However, some original tapered newels remain on the upper floor. The ceilings are high and the rooms are of a generous size

The Eckersley-McEwen House's cultural heritage value also includes its association with George Young, the first owner of the property, who was one of the first members of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and one of the founders of the Niagara Library, and John Eckersley who served as collector of customs in Halifax before coming to Niagara.

Description of Key Heritage Attributes

Key exterior and interior attributes that reflect the value of the Eckersley-McEwen property as one of the fine Neo-classical/Regency houses built in Old Town in the include:

- The entire exterior of the original c.1830 portion of house including stone foundation, clapboard and corner boards and shutters.
- The centre hall plan
- The entrance doorway with fluted arch, paneled reveals, 6 panel door and elliptical fanlight
- The 2 brick chimneys.
- All fireplaces and fireplace mantels.
- Original wide pine floors.
- The staircase, newel posts and balustrade
- Existing original door and window trim and baseboards
- Panel moulding beneath the windows in the room to the left of the entrance.