

**THE CORPORATION  
OF THE  
TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE  
BY-LAW NO. 2024-030**

(14795 Niagara River Parkway, Roll No. 262702002302700)

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY KNOWN MUNICIPALY AS, **GLENCAIRN HALL, 14795 NIAGARA RIVER PARKWAY (PART LOT 9, PLAN 30R-7836, PART 2)**, 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 **GLENCAIRN HALL, 14795 NIAGARA RIVER PARKWAY**, 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 **GLENCAIRN HALL, 14795 NIAGARA RIVER PARKWAY** 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 Trust 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 30th DAY OF APRIL, 2024.**

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**LORD MAYOR GARY ZALEPA**

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**TOWN CLERK GRANT BIVOL**

**SCHEDULE 'A'**

Legal Address: Part Lot 9, Plan 30R-7836, Part 2

PIN: 463780061

Civic Address: 14794 Niagara River Parkway

## **SCHEDULE 'B'**

### **GLENCAIRN HALL, 14795 NIAGARA RIVER PARKWAY**

#### **Description of Property**

The subject property is located on 14795 Niagara River Parkway and is called the Glencairn Hall. It is located near the Queenston urban area on the Niagara River Parkway. The residence has a substantial setback from Niagara River Parkway and is partially visible from the road. The Glencairn Hall is located on a large estate lot. The estate faces the Niagara River on the east and formally designed gardens on the west. The access to the residence is through a service road off of Niagara River Parkway. The estate is enclosed in a stone boundary wall.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The property known as the Glencairn Hall has cultural heritage value or interest for its design and physical values, its historical and associative values and its contextual values.

14795 Niagara River Parkway is a representative example of the Greek Revival style. The two-storey residential building features a square plan with a wing addition on the south elevation. Other elements representative of the Greek Revival Style includes, the high-pitched truncated hip roof, overhanging eaves with moulded frieze details, rectangular window openings with wooden trim and apron details, the Doric and Ionic columns located on the east elevation, the pair of roman arch window openings above the entryway, red brick chimneys and the stringcourse that runs through all the elevations. The residence also features a typical Greek Revival doorway that features a semi-elliptical arched opening with decorative classical cornice and an entablature on the top, it also contains side lights with wooden panels underneath, the door and sidelights are vertically separated through fluted wooden pilasters.

Glencairn Hall displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic value as seen in the doorway and column details of the house. The doorway features a semi-elliptical arched opening with decorative classical cornice and an entablature on the top. It also contains side lights with wooden panels underneath. The wooden pilasters that vertically separate door and sidelights are also fluted. The intricate details on the capitals of the Ionic and Doric columns display a high degree of craftsmanship.

The large estate lot has historical and associative value as being the residence of the Hamilton family and being constructed by John Hamilton. John Hamilton was the youngest son of Robert Hamilton. The Hamilton family had an important presence in the Niagara Region as well as the City of Hamilton. John Hamilton was a businessman from Queenston, he was a member of the legislative council, the senate and the Chairman of the board of trustees of Queen's college. Glencairn Hall is also associated with being the residence of John D. Larkin. Larkin was a prominent businessman from Buffalo and was also the owner of the Larkin Soap Company. Larkin was a close friend and associate of the modernist architect Frank Lloyd Wright who visited Glencairn. Larkin also owned multiple farms along the Niagara River Parkway on which he constructed a number of cement workers houses and barns.

The subject property has the potential to yield information that contributes to the understanding of the Greek Revival style resurgence in Canada. Research into the house has yielded information that the integrity of the Greek Revival house is exceptional which may contribute to a better understanding of the structures and architecture of the early to mid-1800s. The estate is also among the few surviving examples of such style of architecture.

Glencairn Hall was designed by the architect John Latshaw. John was born in America but moved to Canada in 1829. Soon after he was commissioned by Alex Hamilton to design Willowbank at 14487 Niagara River Parkway in 1834. Similar to Glencairn, Willowbank is also designed in Greek Revival style. In 1845-46, he designed the Ruthven Park in Cayuga in similar classical revival style and scale. John Latshaw was one of the first designers to introduce the Greek Revival style in Ontario.

Glencairn Hall lies on the Niagara River Parkway and is important in maintaining the character of the area. It is part of the 'Scenic Route' of Niagara River Parkway. The area majorly comprises of large estate lots and farmhouses with substantial setbacks from the road. The estate lots have winding driveways and landscaped lawns with mature trees.

The subject property is also historically linked to its surroundings. Towards the south of the subject property is a Part IV designated property on the municipal heritage register. It contains a number of buildings that were once part of the Glencairn property including a small stone structure that was used as a schoolhouse, and a large cement carriage house. The schoolhouse is a simple square building of approximately 21 feet by 30 feet in size with a window facing the river and a window and entrance door in the north elevation. The property at 14785 Niagara River Parkway also contains the remnants of Vrooman's Battery which is a National Historic Site.

14795 Niagara River Parkway is also considered a historical landmark because of its location and vicinity to Vrooman's Battery. Glencairn Hall was placed on a promontory facing the Niagara River in the centre of the original 8-acre estate. The placement of the structure on the tip of the slope was intentional so that it could be visible from the road, the river as well as from across the river. It takes full advantage of its picturesque landscape setting.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

Key exterior and structural attributes include:

- Two storeys Greek revival style residence
- The original square plan portion of the residence
- White clapboard siding
- Doric and Ionic columns on east elevation
- Decorative entablature on the east elevation
- High pitched truncated hip roof with balustrade roof trim
- Overhanging eaves with moulded frieze
- Four red brick chimneys
- Rectangular window openings
- Pair of Roman arched windows on west elevation with ionic capital details
- Wooden trim surrounds, and wooden sills on window openings
- Stone foundation
- Wooden stringcourse
- Main entryway on west elevation with semi-elliptical arched opening, decorative cornice, entablature, sidelights and fluted wooden pilasters.
- Location along the Niagara River Parkway
- The winding driveway lined with matured trees
- Substantial setback from the road
- Location on a promontory facing the Niagara River
- Historical connection to Vrooman's Battery