THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DUNDAS

BY-LAW NO. 4578-00

A BY-LAW OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DUNDAS, BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF DUNDAS TO BE OF HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL VALUE OR INTEREST.

(HISTORICAL DESIGNATION - THE ARMOURY, 4 MARKET ST. S.)

WHEREAS this Council is empowered under Subsection 6 of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. 0.18, as amended, to enact by-laws to designate property, including exteriors of buildings, as described in Schedule "A" attached hereto to be of historic or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS this Council has caused to be served upon the owners of the property known municipally as 4 Market Street South in the Town of Dundas and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation notice of intention to so designate the said property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in this Municipality;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation of the said property has been served on the Clerk of this municipality within the time prescribed by the said statute;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DUNDAS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. There is hereby designated as being of historic and architectural value or interest, the exterior of the property known municipally as 4 Market Street South in the Town of Dundas, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto.

2. The Town Solicitor is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the Land Registry Office for the Registry Division of Wentworth.

3. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this By-law to be served upon the owners of the property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause a notice of this By-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Dundas.

READ a First, Second and Third time and PASSED this Sixth day of November, 2000.

MAYOR - John Addison

CLERK - Susan Steele

SCHEDULE 'A'

Description of Lands

4 Market Street South

Lot not numbered, Block 24, Plan 1443, in the Town of Dundas, in the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth being all of PIN 17483-0190 (LT).

SCHEDULE 'B'

Reasons for Designation

Historical Background and Significance

The site was originally called St. Andrew's Square and served as the Town marketplace. In 1868, the square was chosen for a new drill shed and after many complications the final structure was erected in 1874. In 1901 offices and quarters were built on the east side of the drill shed and the wooden drill shed was faced with brick. In 1934 a fire destroyed the 1874 drill hall and the armoury suffered extensive water damage. The Ministry of National Defense gave permission to rebuild and restore and a budget of $45,000.00 was set. E. P. Muntz Co. of Dundas won the tender. This was an important project at this time in the Depression and as many men as possible were employed to do mostly hand labour as evidenced in the hand hewn beams in the drill hall roof. The Ministry prepared the plans with the request from the officers for a vaulted beam ceiling. The new building opened on August 7th, 1935.

The Armoury was home to the 77th Wentworth Regiment (1872), the 129th C.E.F. Battalion (1915), Wentworth Regiment (1920-37), 102nd Field Battery Battalion, Dundas Sea Cadets and the 735th Squadron of the Air Cadets. In 1973 the Ministry sold the building to the Town and with the financial help of the Lions Club became the Lions Memorial Community Centre.

The site has a long history of public use in Dundas, first as a market and then as a home to the local militia and the scene of many Town events. The last few decades have seen its public role expand to embrace all ages and activities.

Architectural Description and Significance

The Armoury is a three bay rectangular brick building of two storeys with an attached three story tower on the northeast corner. The foundation course is of rough faced cut stone laid in an irregular pattern and capped with buttress shaped stone. The façade is decorated with a string course of cut stone; the roof is flat with a metal clad wood parapet, cornice and wood frieze. The chimney is of red brick, decorated with cut stone and capped with yellow brick.

The main door is a segmental arch trimmed with radiating brick voussoirs. Above the door ARMOURY is engraved on a stone slab. The first floor windows are two over two with a flat arch of slightly radiating brick voussoirs, plain brick sides and a cut stone lugsill. The second storey has paired double hung windows with flat arch vertical brick voussoirs and a continuous stone sill. The brick tower is round and has a stone string course at the first and second storey level, with a conical roof capped by a ball-shaped finial. The windows of the first storey are one over one with plain surrounds and a cut stone lintel and stone lugsills.

The drill hall is attached to the rear of the armoury and has five bays delineated by brick piers. The wood vaulted roof of the drill hall is of particular significance. It is a low arched, vaulted structure made of short wooden "latticed" trusses held in place and stabilized by steel "turnbuckles" or rods. This form of roof construction was used on some government buildings due to the wood shortage and cost factors during the Depression. It also demonstrated a new engineering solution to the challenge of spanning a large space without the use of internal supports. There is apparently only one other surviving example of such roof construction on a building in Ottawa.

The armoury building is a good example of a smaller, but still impressive military or government commissioned structure. Echoing some of the features of Hamilton's James Street Armoury, it shows the influence of the Richardson Romanesque style, so popular in public buildings of the last part of the 19th century.

Features to be Designated

The following features of the Armoury at 4 Market Street South, are subject to this designation: the east and north faces of the 1901 block and tower; and the interior roof support system of the 1935 drill hall.