The Corporation of the City of Hamilton

BY-LAW NO. 84- 249

To Designate:

THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT MUNICIPAL NO. 68 KING STREET EAST

As Property of:

HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL VALUE AND INTEREST

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Hamilton did give notice of its intention to designate the property mentioned in section 1 of this by-law in accordance with subsection 29(3) of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection was served on the City Clerk as required by subsection 29(5) of the said Act;

AND WHEREAS it is desired to designate the property mentioned in section 1 of this by-law in accordance with clause 29(1)(a) of the said Act.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

1. The property located at Municipal No. 68 King Street East and more particularly described in schedule "A" hereto annexed, is hereby designated as property of historic and architectural value and interest.

2. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this by-law, together with reasons for the designation set out in Schedule "B", to be registered against the property affected in the proper registry office.

3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed,

(i) to cause a copy of this by-law, together with reasons for the designation to be served on the owner and The Ontario Heritage Foundation by personal service or by registered mail;

(ii) to publish a notice of this by-law in a newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality of the City of Hamilton, for three consecutive weeks.

PASSED this 27th day of November A.D. 1984.

City Clerk

Mayor

(1984) 12 R.P.R.C. 10, July 31

SCHEDULE "A"

To

By-law No. 84-249

THE VICTORIA HALL BUILDING

68 King Street East,
Hamilton, Ontario

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises, situate, lying and being in the City of Hamilton, in The Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, in the Province of Ontario and being composed of part of Lot 10 according to George Hamilton's Survey (unregistered) in the block bounded by King, John, Hughson and Main Streets and designated as PART 2 on a reference plan received and deposited in the Land Registry Office for the Registry Division of Wentworth as Plan 62R-7339.

SCHEDULE "B"

To

By-law No. 84-249

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

THE VICTORIA HALL BUILDING

68 King Street East,
Hamilton, Ontario

68 King Street East, known originally as Victoria Hall, was designed and built in 1887-88 by architect William Stewart for Alexander Bruce, a local barrister employed many years by the Canada Life Assurance Company.

The property is listed on the City's Inventory of Architecturally and Historically Significant Buildings and is located in the Gore Park district, considered to be one of the most important streetscapes in the city.

Victoria Hall has the distinction of being the only known example in the downtown of an applied metal facade, dating from the 1880's. The building counts among the last of the robustly decorative, High Victorian commercial blocks that once were prominent on the Gore. The elaborate metal decoration, designed to imitate highly ornate stone carving, kept pace with splendidly baroque masonrywork of the Post Office, erected next door just the year before, (demolished 1930's). Originally, the building had an ornamental parapet across the front that read "1887 Victoria Hall".

Located on the south side of King Street East between Hughson and John Streets, 68 King Street East belongs to a row of seven pre-modern structures which together form a sizable heritage nucleus that exerts a considerable impact on the Gore streetscape.

During its long history, Victoria Hall has housed a number of businesses, including Heintzman Pianos, the Scott Paint Store and Foster's Fashion Shop.

Of particular significance is the North front facade which includes roof, walls and foundation.