



NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

10 Mountain Street

TAKE NOTICE that Grimsby Town Council, on March 31, 2025, resolved to issue a Notice of Intention to Designate LT 166 & PT LT 167, Corporation Plan 4, as in RO25237; SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT OVER PT 2, 30R-6477 ; GRIMSBY as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The Reason for the Notice of Intention to Designate is to recognize the physical, associative, and contextual value that **10 Mountain Street** contributes towards the Town of Grimsby's inclusive heritage.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The structure at 10 Mountain Street is a unique example of Anglo-Gothic ecclesiastical architecture unique within Grimsby. The main hall of the church, its steeple, and the walls around the northern and secondary entrance are constructed with a local type of stone called "Grimsby Sandstone", quarried by congregant volunteers. The Grimsby Sandstone used in building the 1957 addition was also buried on site in anticipation of future work. The steeple, crenelated and square in Norman fashion, is paired with gothic style lancet windows and buttresses, creating a mix of architectural styles reminiscent of many English and Scottish parish churches.

The structure at 10 Mountain Street displays a high-degree of craftsmanship. The Anglo Gothic structure is comprised of structural masonry walls built by the Firm Gordon & Newton. The stone is laid in a bonding pattern reminiscent of flagstone with raised mortar joints, featuring buttresses and a crenulated tower. The masonry units are made of Grimsby sandstone, that has a distinct red colour with contrasting grey stone used to accent the windowsills and stone caps along the crenulation of the tower. The ecclesiastical structure also features stained glass windows throughout. These windows would have been created by skilled artisans.

The Shafer Brothers constructed the original 1928 portion of the church, excluding the Grimsby Sandstone masonry. The significant wooden elements on the building built by the Shafer's include the wooden rafter tails, and lancet windows & door frames. The brothers were known for their high-end interior and exterior millwork, and unique designs.

The structure at 10 Mountain Street is part of the history of Grimsby's presbyterian community and represents the community's historic successes and challenges. Built as a new home for the St. John's congregation after the act of union that created Trinity United Church, the structure represents the collective effort of those 92 congregants who chose to retain their distinct Presbyterian identity. The church was built with stone quarried by the congregants themselves, with the mortgage held by 15 members of the congregation. The structure serves as a demonstration of their commitment to their faith, and members of a long-standing Presbyterian church community that have persisted in Grimsby since 1832. The congregation's original church on Main Street West was believed to have been one of the earliest brick churches constructed in Ontario, having been built in 1837.

10 Mountain Street has the potential to yield information that contributes to the understanding of the town of Grimsby as well as its Presbyterian community. The subject property also has the

potential to provide more information about the firm, Gordon & Newton, who completed the exterior masonry work on the original 1928 section of the structure, as well as the work of the Shafer Brothers Contracting company who were responsible for the construction of many notable buildings within the Town of Grimsby.

The church structure reflects the work of the Shafer Brothers, who were locally prominent builders of high-end structures. The Shafer Brothers constructed the original 1928 portion of the church. Harvey and Gordon Shafer, two sons of Conrad and Emma Shafer started their building/contracting business in 1922, following in the path of their father who was a master carpenter for the Marsh & Son's Planing Mill. The Shafer brothers quickly became known by their motto "Builders of Fine Homes", and their homes exhibited high-quality workmanship and very fine moldings and built-ins.

The Shafer Brothers ran an incredibly successful business, gaining contracts for homes and commercial structures throughout Grimsby including many structures on our Main Street corridors. The Brothers' architectural contributions include churches, schools, and factories.

The structure at 10 Mountain represents more than a century of continuing church occupation along Mountain Street. The structure functions as a relic of the 19th and early 20th century development of the Mountain Street and Main Street West area. The structure contributes significantly to the character of the historic Mountain Street corridor. The church is a strong tangible link to the long-standing strength of the St. John's Presbyterian Church community and their efforts towards the construction of their place of worship. The community physically quarried and transported the stone for the structure and future additions from the nearby escarpment. The structure is historically linked to St. John's Presbyterian Church community and is a visual representation of their commitment to their faith and the commitment to the longevity of their congregations future. The structure's use as a religious building represents nearly a century of religious practice along Mountain Street by the Grimsby's Presbyterian community.

The church can be identified along Mountain Street and Christie Street for a significant distance and can be seen from Beamer Point. Its crenelated steeple and distinctive stonework make it easily recognizable amongst Grimsby's urban landscape. The building has been a fixture on Mountain Street since 1928. The building has remained largely unchanged from the original design, acting as a reference point within photo documentation and discovery within the evolving downtown core.

HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES TO BE DESIGNATED

The Heritage Attributes to be designated at **10 Mountain Street** include:

- Intersecting gable rooflines
- Rectangular steeple made of Grimsby sandstone with crenelations, circular ventilators, and banded course of contrasting stone
- Grimsby sandstone masonry walls and buttresses
- Exposed rafter tails
- Paired lancet windows with coloured, leaded glass
- Original main entrance including double-leaf wooden door and lancet transom with coloured, leaded glass
- Secondary northern entrance with matched double-leaf door and lancet transom

- Setback from Mountain Street

OBJECTIONS

Any objection to this designation must be filed no later than 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention in a newspaper. Objections should be directed to Victoria Steele, Town Clerk, Town Clerk, 160 Livingston Avenue, Grimsby ON, L3M 0J5.

MORE INFORMATION

Any inquiries may be directed to Bianca Verrecchia, Intermediate Heritage Planner at 905-945-9634 ext. 2122 or by email bverrecchia@grimsby.ca

Last date to file Notice of Objection: June 21st, 2025