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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18  
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LANDS AND PREMISES LOCATED WITHIN  
THE CITY OF PORT COLBORNE IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO



**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

TO: Ontario Heritage Foundation  
10 Adelaide Street  
Toronto, ONT  
M5C 1J3

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne intends to designate the property, including lands and buildings, at the following municipal address as a property of historical and architectural value of interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18.

**1271 Sherk Road**  
**South half of the north half of Lot 12, 2<sup>nd</sup> Concession of the Township of Humberstone, save and except Part 1 on Reference Plan 59R-673, being the remainder of the lands in instrument No. 92293, City of Port Colborne, Regional Municipality of Niagara.**  
**"Sherkwood"**

**REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION**

This property in the former Township of Humberstone, was the first lot in Humberstone to be granted by the Crown to an United Empire Loyalist. Corporal Frederick Rowe was a soldier in Butler's Rangers and he received this lot for his loyalty to the Crown of England during the American Revolution. The patent for this land was registered on May 17, 1802. Frederick Rowe conveyed the property to David Sherk on April 21, 1806. The Sherk's were one of the first pioneer families to settle in Humberstone from Pennsylvania.

The Sherk brothers operated one of the first saw mills in the Township at this property. Emerson and Warren Sherk, were the sons of Charles Sherk and they operated the saw mill until it shut down in the mid 1920's. It was Emerson and Warren who diversified the family business by erecting a chopping and grist mill at this location. Emerson Sherk further diversified by building a cider mill, just north of the other mills. People came from many miles to have their apples pressed into cider.

The dwelling is an excellent example of 19<sup>th</sup> century farm house building styles and techniques. It was built in the mid 1870's and displays features of the Regency, Gothic and Italianate styles of architecture. Exterior features include Regency detailing in the large first floor windows and wraparound porch; Gothic styling in the deep eaves and scrollwork on porch posts; vertical and horizontal clapboard siding; a Vernacular "Ontario Gothic Cottage" addition; large multi pane, sash type windows with Italianate hooded surrounds; end chimneys and a fieldstone foundation.

This building also possesses the inner hallmarks of a Mennonite homestead. They include floor to ceiling kitchen cabinetry with exceptional crown moulding along the westerly wall of the kitchen, wainscoting on the lower floor kitchen, a large wall width, floor to ceiling built-in cupboard in the rear hallway, peg rails in the upper floor bedrooms, wide plank floor boards throughout, rounded threshold boards at all doorways, and original interior plank doors throughout the dwelling.

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** any person may, within thirty days of after the date of publication of this notice, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the City of Port Colborne notice of his or her objection to the proposed designation together with a statement setting out the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If such Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the Corporation of the City of Port Colborne shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

Dated at the City of Port Colborne this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2003.

Janet Beckett  
City Clerk

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6/25/03