



Category: Neighborhood Conservation
The Park Place Historic District
Niagara Falls Historic
Preservation Commission/
Park Place Neighborhood Residents

recommended for historic designation as a result of a 2005 historic survey conducted

tion conveyed in the various meetings, and not a single comment against designation was raised at the Council hearing or in news articles about the issue.

Preservation Buffalo Niagara is pleased to honor the carefully planned and executed two-year process that resulted in local designation of the first historic neighborhood district in downtown Niagara Falls as a model for empowering and involving neighbors in the conversations leading to historic designation.

The Park Place/4th Street neighborhood, located between City Hall on Main Street and the Niagara Gorge to the west, was one of three districts

in the city.

At the first meeting called by the Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Commission to discuss designation, Park Place neighbors pushed for their neighborhood to be considered first, and took the initiative, holding their own informational meeting, attending subsequent monthly Commission meetings, and speaking on behalf of designation before the City Council.

Over the months, dissenting minds were changed through knowledge of the benefits to be gained by designa-

In the year since designation, homeowners have consulted with the Commission about work they wished to do in order to protect the historic character of the neighborhood. In turn, the Commission has gone out of its way to accommodate the economic realities of historic preservation faced by homeowners in the new district.

It is hoped that this model will be used again to designate additional historic districts in the City of Niagara Falls, as well as in other communities.