

An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act e-Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca.**

Ce document est tiré du registre électronique. tenu aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario,* accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca.**

MAR 2 7 1997

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18 AND 25 BERKELEY STREET AND 265 AND 271 FRONT STREET EAST CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF PASSING OF BY-LAW

To: BRL Realty Limited 5905 Campus Road Mississauga, Ontario L4V 1P9 Attn: Eric A. Bresler General Counsel

چ

Ontario Heritage Foundation 10 Adelaide Street East Toronto, Ontario M5C 1J3

Take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Toronto has passed By-law No. 1997-0091 to designate 25 Berkeley Street and 265 and 271 Front Street East as being of historical value or interest.

Dated at Toronto this 24th day of March, 1997.

Sydney K. Baxter

City Clerk

No. 1997-0091. A BY-LAW

To designate the property at 25 Berkeley Street and 265 and 271 Front Street East (First Parliament Site) as being of historical value or interest.

(Passed February 24, 1997.)

WHEREAS by Clause 6 of Neighbourhoods Committee Report No. 4, adopted by Council at its meeting held on February 24, 1997, authority was granted to designate the property at 25 Berkeley Street and 265 and 271 Front Street East (First Parliament Site) as being of historical value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Act authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historical or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the City of Toronto has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as No. 25 Berkeley Street and Nos. 265 and 271 Front Street East (First Parliament Site) and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation Notice of Intention to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B" to this by-law;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Toronto enacts as follows:

1. The property at 25 Berkeley Street and 265 and 271 Front Street East (First Parliament Site), more particularly described and shown on Schedule "A" to this by-law, is being designated as being of historical value or interest.

2. The City Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedules "A" and "C" to this by-law in the proper Land Registry Office.

3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the property at 25 Berkeley Street and 265 and 271 Front Street East (First Parliament Site) and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Toronto as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

BARBARA HALL, Mayor.

.

SYDNEY K. BAXTER City Clerk.

Council Chamber, Toronto, February 24, 1997. (L.S.)

SCHEDULE "A"

In the City of Toronto, in the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto and Province of Ontario, being composed of all of the Old County Gaol Lot as shown on the Town of York Plan registered in the Land Registry Office for the Metropolitan Toronto Registry Division (No. 64).

SAVING AND EXCEPTING, thereout and therefrom PARTS 7 and 9 on Expropriation Plan 338 registered as Instrument 57250ES and;

SAVING AND EXCEPTING, thereout and therefrom the southerly 8.53 metres throughout.

The hereinbefore described land being delineated by heavy outline on Plan SYE2828 dated February 18, 1997 as set out in Schedule "C".

SCHEDULE "B"

In 1793, Lt. Gov. John Simcoe built a garrison, laid out a town, and created a new capital for Upper Canada on Toronto Bay. That town has grown to become today's Toronto.

An integral part of the new capital was a new legislature. The site of the First Parliament Buildings of Upper Canada is well known to historians and also something of a misnomer. Parliament did meet in Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake) while it was the capital of Upper Canada. In York, Simcoe set aside a Government Reserve between the Don River and Parliament Street and commissioned the new legislature. Construction was completed in 1797.

Two west-facing brick buildings were connected by a covered walkway. The south wing was finished first and served as the Court of King's Bench.

During the Battle of York in 1813, invading American troops burned and destroyed the Parliament buildings. Two new brick two-storey buildings were built in 1818 immediately adjoining the earlier site. The Legislative Chambers were in the south building; the north building housed offices. On December 20, 1824, the second set of Parliament buildings was destroyed by fire. Parliament reopened in new buildings on Front Street West between John and Simcoe streets in 1829. Queen's Park opened in 1893.

The First Parliament site was abandoned after the 1824 fire and not formally reoccupied until 1840 when the city's Third Gaol was constructed on the grounds. John Howard's plans called for a central octagonal tower from which three regularly spaced wings would radiate outward. Only two wings, projecting northwestward and southward, were ever built. The limestone structure housed prisoners until 1860. The building was then used by commercial firms but was demolished by 1890 to make room for the expanding Consumers Gas coal gasification complex. Natural gas supplanted coal gasification and the plant was closed in the 1950's.

A Short Statement of Reasons for Designation, intended for publication in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, is attached.

Short Statement of Reasons for Designation:

25 Berkeley Street, 265 Front Street East and 271 Front Street East

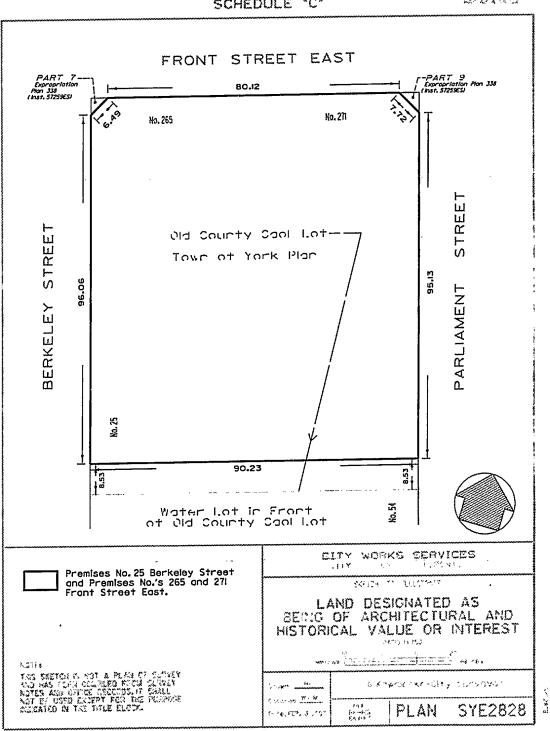
The properties at 25 Berkeley Street, 265 Front Street East, and 271 Front Street East, collectively known as the First Parliament Site, are recommended for designation for historical reasons.

After moving the capital of Upper Canada from Newark to York (Toronto) in 1793, Lt. Gov. Simcoe commissioned the construction of a new legislature on land south of Front Street, between Berkeley and Parliament streets. It consisted of two brick buildings joined by a covered walkway. The buildings opened in 1797. The buildings were destroyed during the American invasion of 1813, rebuilt, and inadvertently burned again in 1824. Parliament moved to a new location on Front Street West in 1829.

The legislative buildings were instrumental in helping to establish York as the new capital of Upper Canada.

CITY OF TORONTO BY-LAW No. 1997-0091

.



SCHEDULE "C"

MAY APPA SKYCK