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*Northumberland*



## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG

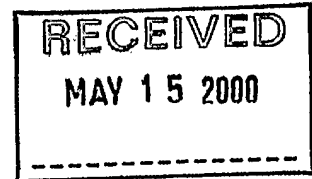
VICTORIA HALL  
55 KING STREET WEST  
COBOURG, ONTARIO  
K9A 2M2

Telephone (905) 372-4301  
FAX (905) 372-1533

File No. **R01 LACD**

May 12, 2000

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



Dear Sir:

Re: Ontario Heritage Designation, 18 Chapel Street, Cobourg ✓

Enclosed please find a registered copy of the by-law, including the Statement of Reasons for your property known as "The Old Library", 18 Chapel Street, Cobourg. ✓

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. Lawless".

Carol Lawless,  
Administrative Assistant.

ICL/

*8/22/00*  
*RE* ✓

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG

BY-LAW NUMBER 33-00

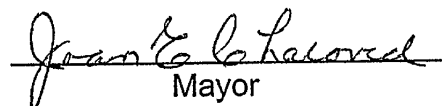
A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE LANDS AND PREMISES KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS "*THE OLD LIBRARY*", 18 CHAPEL STREET, IN THE TOWN OF COBOURG, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, Section 29 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural and/or historical value or interest;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the Town of Cobourg enacts as follows:

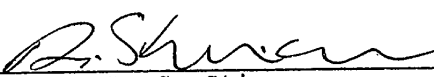
1. THAT there is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest the real property known as "*The Old Library*", 18 Chapel Street more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto.
2. THAT a copy of this by-law together with the reasons for the designation be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the land registry office.
3. THAT a copy of this by-law be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and that notice of the passing of this by-law be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality.

READ a first, second and third time and finally passed in Open Council this 25th day of April, 2000.

  
Mayor

  
Acting Municipal Clerk

This is a certified true copy of By-law Number 33-00 passed by the Cobourg Municipal Council at a Regular Council meeting held 25th day of April, 2000.

  
R. G. Stinson  
Municipal Clerk

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG

BY-LAW NUMBER 33-00

SCHEDULE "A"

THOSE CERTAIN PARCELS OR TRACTS OF LAND AND PREMISES, SITUATE LYING AND BEING in the Town of Cobourg, in the County of Northumberland and Province of Ontario, being composed of Part of Lot 7, Block E, Caddy Plan, Town of Cobourg, County of Northumberland (formerly Part of Lot 16, Concession "A", Township of Hamilton) now designated as Parts 1, 2, 3 & 4, Plan 39R-7952.

Subject to a right-of-way over Part 1, Plan 39R-7952.

Subject to an easement over Parts 1 and 2 on Plan 39R-7952 as set out in Instrument No. 256785.

# THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG

BY-LAW NUMBER 33-00

## STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR THE DESIGNATION

It is surprising that the Old Library was not among the first buildings designated in Cobourg, as it had landmark status long before designation came into being. It was designated to be one of several important ecclesiastical buildings that gave height to nineteenth-century Cobourg and kept the impression of Sunday lasting throughout the week. Its first function was as a Methodist Sunday School and assembly hall. It belonged to a family of imposing Methodist buildings that included Victoria College and the present Trinity United Church and helped assert Cobourg's importance in the larger world of Ontario Methodism - a religious movement that reached powerfully into secular society, government and education. (Everyone knows the name of the Cobourg Methodist Egerton Ryerson, who devoted three decades to creating Ontario's system of public education.)

The building continued to play a central role in community life in later years when it became the Cobourg Public Library, and a claim for its historical importance cannot fail to notice its contribution to local literary life and literacy. The Old Library gave meaning to generations of Cobourg children who knew it as a place where kindly women read to them, and functioned as a meeting place for community groups such as the "Social Planning Council", which met there to hear speakers

The Old Library, circa 1880's, was unmistakably given to look like a church with recessed brick panels creating a column effect, a steep gable roof and long semi-circular headed windows on the front and side facades.

The recent restoration has not diminished its claim to designation, but in fact has enhanced it. The restoration work has been rightly celebrated as a model of elegant and sensitive restoration and an inspired reconceiving of function. Internally, the old library spaces have been converted into five condominiums and a financial office. Externally, the facade has had a disfiguring addition removed and careful reconstruction of the original entrance has been carried out. Period integrity has been restored to the appearance of the building and thus to the street scape, while its use has been thoroughly updated for the needs of modern Cobourg.

LACAC has already expressed its enthusiasm for the restored building in nominations for a Cobourg Heritage Award and a President's Award from the Ontario Historical Society. It is almost anti-climatic to point out that it is worthy of designation.