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Town of Ajax

*Ontario's First ISO 9001
Quality Community*

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May 20, 1999

Ontario Heritage Foundation
Attn: Pamela Craig
77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

Dear Ms. Craig:

Re: Designation By-law 46-99, 78 Church Street South, Ajax (St. Francis de Sales Roman Catholic Church)

Please find enclosed a copy of Town of Ajax By-law 46-99 which has designated 78 Church Street South, Ajax, as being of local architectural and historical value and interest.

An objection letter had been received by the Town which caused a delay in this By-law. This objection was withdrawn before a Conservation Review Board Hearing was scheduled which has allowed Council to proceed with the By-law.

The Town has instructed its Solicitor to register this By-law on the title of the subject property.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

M. de Rond
Clerk

/os

cc Councillor L. J. Dickson
Archdiocese Catholic Pastoral Centre, Attn: Wm. H. Broadhurst
D. Forget, Secretary, Heritage Ajax
St. Francis de Sales Church
Dennis Gazarek
Friends of St. Francis de Sales
Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Attn: Philip Carter
Ontario Conservation Review Board

RECEIVED

MAY 26 1999

CONSERVATION REVIEW
BOARD

28/9/99
RA

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AJAX

BY-LAW NUMBER 46-99

A By-law to designate the property known municipally as 78 Church Street South, Ajax, as being of Architectural and Historical value or interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act (R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18), as amended, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of Architectural or Historical value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ajax has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as 78 Church Street South and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation a Notice of Intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality;

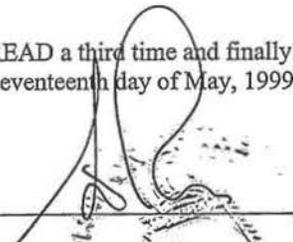
AND WHEREAS the Council has considered the recommendations of Heritage Ajax with respect to this matter;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Ajax enacts as follows:

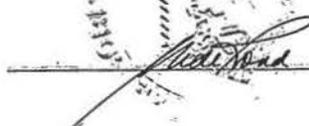
1. There is designated as being of Architectural and Historical value or interest the real property known as 78 Church Street South, more particularly described as Part Lot 15, Con. 1, Plan 11, Lot 6, Town of Ajax (former Village of Pickering), Region of Durham, Province of Ontario. The reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto.
2. The Municipal Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the property land registry office.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause Notice of the Passing of this By-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality.

READ a first time and second time this
Seventeenth day of May, 1999.

READ a third time and finally passed this
Seventeenth day of May, 1999.



Mayor



Clerk

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NUMBER 46-99

REASON FOR DESIGNATION

1. St Francis de Sales is an excellent example of High Victorian Gothic Church Architecture built c. 1869 - 1871. The church is representative of Picturesque Eclectism of Architectural Design in the 1870's and 1880's. The building is constructed of red clay brick with buff accents and having a foundation of cut field stone. A solid brick chimney highlights the south elevation of the church. The double flue construction is encased by polychromatic brick with unique design in the lower section and is supported on a cut field stone foundation.
2. The distinctive church spire is octagonal in shape and covered with the original polychromatic slate. At the base of the spire, which is square, there are four dormers, which rise from the sides of the church tower. The spire is topped by a large metal cross, which is echoed by smaller crosses at the peaks of each of the tower's dormer windows.
3. The Gothic arched stained glass windows of the church are irreplaceable. They bear the names of some of the early founding families who donated them: Harrigan, O'Connor, Reddin, Smith and Walsh.
4. The steeply pitched roof is marked on both sides by three rose-coloured trefoil window dormers, which are very rare in a church. At the peak of each of these dormer windows is the original decorative filigree ironwork.
5. The structure embodies the work of a very important architect, Henry Langley (1826-1906) who practiced in Toronto from 1862, with partner Thomas Gundry. In 1869 and 1870, when St Francis de Sales was built, it appears that Henry Langley practiced under his own name. After 1873 Henry Langley set up practice with his brother Edward and his nephew Edmund Burke in the firm Langley, Langley and Burke. In his many years in practice Henry Langley was responsible for the design of over 70 churches in Ontario. Some of his most noteworthy churches are still highly regarded by architectural historians. For example: Metropolitan Church; the spire, east and west porches and pinnacles of St. James Cathedral; College St. Baptist Church; the spire of St. Michael's Cathedral; and the Necropolis. Henry Langley was a founding member, in 1890, of the Ontario Association of Architects. Elizabeth Langley Davidson, a greater granddaughter of Henry Langley, is a practicing architect in Toronto. We have received a letter from her conveying the importance of having this building designated for both its Architectural and Historical significance.
6. St. Francis de Sales Church is a key landmark in Pickering Village. It gives meaning to the name of the street upon which it is situated. It remains an important symbol of the Irish, who arrived in great numbers due to the potato famine and the industrialization of Great Britain. Canada received over 100,000 Irish immigrants during the 1850's and 60's, many of them skilled workers and craftsmen. The Irish were one of the earliest groups to settle in Pickering Township. St. Francis exemplifies the highly-skilled labour, which they provided to build it. The parish congregation still numbers among its members, descendants of the original founding families.