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November 6, 2023

Colony Real Estate Development Ltd.  
741 Taunton Road East  
Oshawa, ON L1H 7K5

**RECEIVED**  
2023/11/07  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

File: 12-04

Also sent via email to: [michael.fry@dgbiddle.com](mailto:michael.fry@dgbiddle.com)**Re: Notice of Intention to Designate  
149 Harmony Road South (the former Harmony Public School)**

Pursuant to Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18, please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Oshawa intends to designate the following property as a property of cultural heritage value or interest:

149 Harmony Road South, described as PART LOTS 16, 19 SHEET 4B PLAN 357, LOT 18 SHEET 4B PLAN 357, EAST WHITBY

**1. Location and Description of Property:**

The property municipally known as 149 Harmony Road South, site of the former Harmony Public School, is located on the east side of Harmony Road South. The property is surrounded by flat topography and features a two-storey, red brick school structure with classical influences, built in 1924.

**2. Legal Description:**

The property at 149 Harmony Road South to be designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18 is legally described as:

PART LOTS 16, 19 SHEET 4B PLAN 357, LOT 18 SHEET 4B PLAN 357, EAST WHITBY.

**3. Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:**

149 Harmony Road South has design value as a representative example of an educational building constructed in a refined Beaux-Arts architectural style. The two-storey red brick building with its flat roof, classical portico, rectangular envelope and parapet, is representative of typical Beaux-Arts design applied to public buildings. The subject building exhibits classical decorative elements such as dentils, brick quoin detailing, moulded cornice and frieze, portico with decorative pediment supported by wood columns with Corinthian capitals, and a large double door topped with an arched transom. The overall symmetry across all elevations, and the façade's centered and decorative frontispiece, are all additional features associated with the style.



149 Harmony Road South is directly associated with the Farewell family and their influence on the role of education in the village of Harmony. The Farewells were United Empire Loyalists and were one of the earliest settler families in the area, arriving in 1801. The Farewell family founded the Village of Harmony which was initially known as "Farewell Corners". Many members of the Farewell family, including the patriarch and Village of Harmony founder A.M. Farewell, are buried in the Farewell Memorial Cemetery located ½ km north along Harmony Road South. Abraham Farewell, son of the family's patriarch A.M. Farewell, served as one of the first teachers at the Harmony community school built in 1812 and the extant building at 149 Harmony Road South sits on land donated by A.M. Farewell to the village for a school in 1851.

149 Harmony Road South has associative value as the primary educational institution which has served the needs of the Harmony community for 161 years.

149 Harmony Road South is historically linked to its surroundings as one of last vestiges of the Village of Harmony, which has largely disappeared into the City of Oshawa.

149 Harmony Road South's relatively large size and prominent location along Harmony Road South, coupled with its classical architectural influence and enduring use as an educational institution for over 160 years, is memorable and easily discernible for the public and is considered a landmark.

On the basis of the cultural heritage value or interest outlined above, the property at 149 Harmony Road South meets the criteria for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 569/22 subsection 1(2), specifically criteria 1, 4, 8, and 9.

#### **4. Heritage Attributes:**

The following list of heritage attributes reflects the values described in the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

- Two-storey Beaux-Arts building;
- Flat roof;
- Brick parapet with date stone marker which reads "Harmony Public School, East Whitby NO.1 1924";
- Moulded cornice and frieze with dentils;
- Brick cladding including Flemish and Running bond with brick quoining;
- Symmetrical façade;
- Centered frontispiece with portico exhibiting Classical influences including fluted wood columns with "Corinthian" style capitals, entablature supporting a gabled pediment decorated with dentils and recessed rectangular doorway with arched transom and smooth stone detailing;
- Rectangular window openings with flat arch with four over four and eight over eight windows;
- Location within the City of Oshawa, formerly the village of Harmony; and,
- Orientation, setback, and visibility from Harmony Street South.

The full particulars for the subject property, including heritage attributes to be protected, are available for inspection in Planning Services, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall, 50 Centre Street South, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. If you would like to obtain further details, please contact Harrison Whilsmith, Planner A, at (905) 436-3311 ex. 2697 or by email at [hwhilsmith@oshawa.ca](mailto:hwhilsmith@oshawa.ca).

Any person may, on or before the 6th day of December, 2023, send by registered mail or deliver to the City Clerk, Notice of Objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of their reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. If a Notice of Objection is received, the Council of the City of Oshawa will consider the objection on or before the 5th day of March, 2024.

If you require further information or clarification, please contact me at the address shown or by telephone at (905) 436-3311, extension 2697 or by email to [hwhilsmith@oshawa.ca](mailto:hwhilsmith@oshawa.ca).



Harrison Whilsmith, Planner A  
Policy

HW/

- c. Ontario Heritage Trust  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

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