



An agency of the Government of Ontario



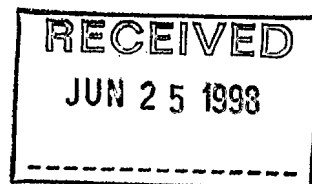
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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT,
R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER 0.18
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS
TORRANCE PUBLIC SCHOOL
IN THE CITY OF GUELPH,
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE



TO: Ontario Heritage Foundation
The Ontario Heritage Centre
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3

AND: Upper Grand District School Board
500 Victoria Road North
Guelph, Ontario
N1E 6K2

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Corporation of the City of Guelph intends to designate portions of Torrance Public School as a structure of architectural and historical value and interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Designed by prominent local architect W. Frye Colwill, this distinctive building was constructed in 1910 as the St. James Ward School. Built in the Beaux Arts style, of pressed red brick and trimmed with ornamental cast concrete, the school features a strong frontispiece accentuated by three large pilasters topped by a classical pediment. The grand side entrances are accented by their own columns which bear Ionic capitals and the whole structure is topped off by a shallow dome. At the time of its construction, the building was considered one of the finest public buildings in Guelph because of its distinctive style and street presence.

St. James Ward School was W. Frye Colwill's last major commission. He was involved in the design and construction of numerous local buildings but is best known for the elegant Beaux Arts Carnegie Library which graced Nelson Crescent until its demolition in 1964. St. James Ward School and the 1905 Carnegie Library design are both excellent examples of Colwill's aesthetically stylish and original work which distinguished him from the general trend toward restrained Edwardian Classical designs in the bulk of early Twentieth Century Guelph buildings.

St. James Ward School was later renamed Torrance Public School to honour Rev. Dr. Robert Torrance who was Wellington County School Inspector and the Inspector of Public Schools in Guelph and served as Secretary of the Board of Education for over 30 years. Rev. Torrance was the first and only minister of the United Presbyterian Congregation in Guelph from 1846 to his retirement in 1882, after which the congregation was dissolved and its members joined other local Guelph churches.

Torrance Public School is recognized as an important landmark in the central part of the City of Guelph by virtue of its age, its distinct style, its historic associations and its contribution to the character of Waterloo Avenue. The designation pertains to the exterior of the original 1910 school only.

Any person may, before the 27th day of July, 1998, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the City of Guelph, notice of objection to this proposed designation, together with a statement of reasons for the objection and all relevant factors. If a notice of objection is received, the Council of the City of Guelph shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

DATED at Guelph, Ontario, this 16th day of June, 1998.

Lois Giles
City Clerk
City Hall
59 Carden Street
Guelph, Ontario
N1H 3A1