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City of



Simcoe

Orillia

mynde

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P.O. BOX 340
ORILLIA, ONTARIO
L3V 6J1

TELEPHONE
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CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

March 4, 1996.

VIA REGISTERED MAIL

The Ontario Heritage Foundation
77 Bloor Street
TORONTO, Ontario
L3V 1Y2

Dear Sirs:

Re: City of Orillia Designating By-laws:

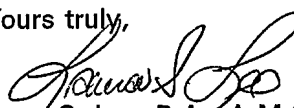
1996-11	- Tisdale House, 63 Neywash Street
1996-12	- Barney-Bell House, 57 Jarvis Street
1996-24	- Sir Sam Steele Building, 30 Peter Street South

Please find enclosed the following:

1. Copy of By-law Number 1996-11, being a By-law to designate the Tisdale House, 63 Neywash Street, Orillia as being of architectural and historical value or interest, together with a copy of the Reasons for Designation.
2. Copy of By-law Number 1996-12, being a By-law to designate the Barney-Bell House, 57 Jarvis Street, Orillia as being of architectural and historical value or interest, together with a copy of the Reasons for Designation.
3. Copy of By-law Number 1996-24, being a By-law to designate the Sir Sam Steele Building at 30 Peter Street South as being of architectural and historical value or interest, together with a copy of the Reasons for Designation.

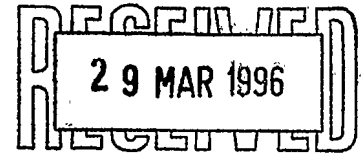
These documents are served on you pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, chapter O.18, section 29(6).

Yours truly,


Laura S. Lee, B.A., A.M.C.T.
Deputy City Clerk.

LSL:rd
Encls.

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RECEIVED
IN THE OFFICE

APR 3 1996

CULTURAL PROGRAMS
HERITAGE UNIT



BY-LAW NUMBER 1996-24 OF THE CITY OF ORILLIA

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE SIR SAM STEELE MEMORIAL BUILDING - 30 PETER STREET SOUTH AS BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL VALUE OR INTEREST

WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18, 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 historic value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Orillia has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as 30 Peter Street South and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, 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 once for each of three consecutive weeks;

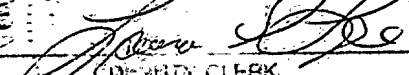
AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the municipality.

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ORILLIA HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

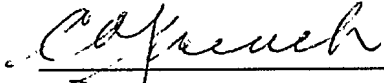
1. THAT 30 Peter Street South, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto, be and it is hereby designated as being of architectural and historic value or interest.
2. THE Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the Registry Office for the division of Simcoe.
3. THE Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.

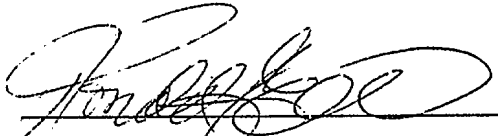
By-law read a first, second and third time and finally passed this 4th day of March, A.D. 1996.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE AND CORRECT
COPY OF BY-LAW NUMBER 1996-24


DEPUTY CLERK
DATE March 6 1996

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MAYOR


CITY CLERK

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NUMBER 1996-24 OF THE CITY OF ORILLIA

SIR SAM STEELE BUILDING

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the City of Orillia, in the County of Simcoe and being composed of Part Lot 6, north side of Colborne Street, Registered Plan 12, City of Orillia, County of Simcoe, more particularly described as follows:

Commencing at the northwest corner of said Lot 6;

Thence southerly along the easterly limit of Peter Street 75 feet to a point;

Thence easterly on a course parallel to the north limit of said Lot 6 to the east limit thereof;

Thence northerly along the said easterly limit of said lot, 75 feet to the north limit of said lot;

Thence westerly along the northerly limit of the said lot to the place of beginning.

As in Instrument No. 68481.

**IN THE MATTER OF The Ontario
Heritage Act, 1990**

-and-

**IN THE MATTER OF By-law Number
1996- , a by-law to designate
certain property pursuant to the Act.**

**SIR SAM STEELE MEMORIAL BUILDING
30 Peter Street South, Orillia**

ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

The Sir Sam Steele Memorial Building is one of only two examples of the architectural style known as Richardson Romanesque located in Orillia. (The other example is the old armories, now known as the Georgian Apartments on West Street) Romanesque Revival style became popular in the last decades of the nineteenth century largely due to the great American architect H.H. Richardson. This style became very suitable for civic buildings and symbolic of urban aspirations through its monumental scale and bold, massive appearance.

The building at 30 Peter Street South is a fine example and has been maintained in excellent condition. Features of the style pertaining to this building are: extensive use of rounded arches, heavy stone string courses, white stone work accentuating the openings, heavy transom bars dividing windows, and arched entries. Although the facade was redesigned in 1914, the Romanesque features were enhanced by the addition of a clock tower, keystones on the arched windows and other elements.

FOUNDATION

The rough-faced dress limestone block foundation capped with a solid, bevelled stone course that is raised three to five feet above grade gives the appearance of the stalwart footing and strength for the building. The height of the foundation allows fenestration for the 9-foot basement. The basement windows were enlarged during the 1914 remodelling.

FACADE

The structure is of red Milton brick and has four contrasting, rough-faced string courses of Rama limestone-one heavy course caps the foundation limestone, another heavy layer accents the division of the first and second floor, and supports the two blocks indicating the postal and customs door. The third, thinner layer functions as the sills for the upper storey windows and the cornice layer protrudes below the roof-line and acts as a water trough and ice break (for the original metal hip roof). These enrichments serve to tie the building together horizontally to create visual solidity. The clock tower has two strings of limestone in which the four-faced clock is framed.

The original 1894 facade featured a central pediment on the upper level, and windows that were more separated than in the current facade. When it was redesigned, the windows on both the main and second floor were brought closer together in the centre of the building and the central pediment (dormer) was relocated to the top of the Customs wing to avoid visual conflict with the new clock tower. The squared tower added in 1914 retains the Romanesque tradition. The north wing with the tower (the Post Office entrance) now projects much further toward the street than when originally built. This tower has brick corbeling on all corners up from the second storey.

The whole exterior of the building remains largely intact since 1914, although some changes were made to the building's facade subsequent to becoming a police station in 1956. The principal changes during this period are that the Post Office entrance was removed and restructured into a window, the Customs entry arch was covered and a small secondary portico roof was added, and the top, 1/2 storey postmaster's quarters were removed along with the shallow hipped roof and the clock tower roof. (Plans for restoration of the building by the Sir Sam Steele Art Gallery Foundation incorporate the reinstatement of these architectural elements).

WINDOWS, DOORS

On three sides is a typical feature of Richardson Romanesque - square-headed transom windows in a row on the ground floor and matching arched windows on the second floor. Ground floor fenestration has heavy transom bars dividing the 1/1 double hung windows, each with a transom light across the top. Some transom windows still have the original 32 small panes, while some have been replaced. These windows have massive limestone lintels (larger than the sills) that almost touch each other on the front facade.

Second storey fenestration again features the two double hung windows with a small-light transom. All of these are arched with heavy limestone lintels and oversized keystones. During the rebuilding in 1914, the main windows of the front facade were brought closer together so the arched lintels indeed do touch forming a triptych.

On the clock tower, the louvred bell openings also form a thin, narrow triplex appearance surrounded by limestone. Both main doors have been altered, but not irreparably.

ROOF

The original 1914 roof line is gone on both the main building and the clock tower, but the original (interior) entry door to the tower is still extant on the flat roof. In the 1914 remodelling a mansard roof was added and the central dormer relocated to the Customs wing. It too is now flat-topped.

CLOCK

The bell and four-faced clock machinery was imported from J.B. Boyce & Co., England and installed in 1916, through careful and attentive maintenance by the City is still in fine working condition. The faces have had little damage over the years and are illuminated. The Bell also still tolls.

HISTORY

The Orillia Post Office and Customs House was erected by the Federal Government at a cost of \$14,000, and opened to the public in 1894. It was designed by Thomas Fuller, the Dominion Architect from 1881 to 1896, and built by Mr. J.R. Eaton, contractor between 1892 and 1894. The building was declared surplus by the Federal Government and purchased by the City of Orillia in 1956 for \$9,000. The building subsequently became the City Police Station and Magistrate Court until the fall of 1977 and was named in memory of Major General Sir Sam Steele (1849-1919).

The site of the building capitalizes on the topography for a view and to be seen as a community landmark. The Department of Public Works required a site with good drainage access to transportation and the business district, with visual prominence in the City.

Fuller's Post Offices in both Barrie and Lindsay are now demolished, only half of Fuller's buildings erected in Ontario are still extant.