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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE BY-LAW 1995-44

A by-law to designate 502 Dundas Street West as a property of historical, architectural and contextual value and interest

THE COUNCIL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- The property municipally known as 502 Dundas Street West is hereby designated as a
 property of historical, architectural and contextual value and interest pursuant to the
 Ontario Heritage Act for reasons set out in Schedule "A" to this by-law.
- 2. The property designated by this By-law is the property described in Schedule "B" attached to this by-law.

PASSED by the Council this 27th day of March, 1995.

`MAYOR

Chusta Show huk yCLERK

Certified True Copy

ASSISTANT CLERK

8/17/00 RC

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 1995-44

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The property on which the house at 502 Dundas Street West was built was granted by the Crown to Daniel Shawson in 1808. In 1815, the property was sold to Amos Biggar, a United Empire Loyalist, who, soon after his purchase of the property is believed to have built the original rectangular section of the house at 502 Dundas Street West.

The house was later enlarged, possibly by its next owner, Philip L. Box, who bought the farm in 1843 and sold it ten years later to Jonathan Pettit.

Another building on the property, which is believed to have been built in the early nineteenth century, is the old barn to the rear of the house. Built of local stone and wood, this structure is a good example of the pioneer agricultural architecture of Trafalgar Township. According to a former occupant of the property whose family owned the farm at the beginning of this century, the barn has changed little since that time.

Jonathan Pettit was a brother of William Y. Pettit, the owner of the neighbouring farm on Lot 19. William Young Pettit was a prominent Tory in Trafalgar Township. Following the Rebellion of 1837, William Young Pettit was called upon to Chair a heated meeting of local farmers who were protesting the Rebellion Losses Bill, a bill designed to compensate claimants in Lower Canada for losses incurred in the Rebellion. The reason for anger among the Tories of Upper Canada was that discontent had been widespread in Lower Canada prior to the Rebellion, and it was felt that many of the people who would be compensated would have participated in the Rebellion against the Crown. The meeting which took place at Ralston's Inn at Munn's Corners was a notable event in this area of Upper Canada, and was a feature story in the Hamilton Gazette. In view of his association with William Young Pettit, it is probable that Jonathan Pettit was an active participant at this meeting.

The house at 502 Dundas Street West came face to face with the major proponent of the Rebellion of 1837. William Lyon MacKenzie passed directly by the house on his famous "flight" from the law, following the failure of the Rebellion, and is said to have sheltered nearby in the Village of Sixteen Hollow. The house at 502 Dundas Street West is one of the few houses along Dundas Street in Trafalgar Township which remains from this time.

During the early part of its history, the house at 502 Dundas Street West would undoubtedly have been associated with the now lost Village of Sixteen Hollow, located a few hundred yards to the west in the valley of the Sixteen Mile Creek. The Sixteen Village, as it was also known, was once the most promising village in Trafalgar Township. Begun by George Chalmers, who built a mill and a dam on the site in 1827, the village soon flourished, and by the 1850s, it boasted a sizeable population, several shops and a three storey hotel. The building of the Great Western Railway in the mid-1850's, and the subsequent removal of the stagecoach run along Dundas Street, spelled the end for the Sixteen Village. By the 1870s, almost nothing remained of the once thriving village.

In 1903, the property at 502 Dundas Street West was sold to George King, an area farmer who, for the previous 10 years, had lived on a farm on the north side of Dundas Street. George King was born in England in the Village of Harsham, Sussex, and emigrated to Canada with his family when he was 18 and settled in Toronto. While in Toronto, George King met Miss Halston of Devon, England, who would eventually become his wife.

George King and his wife moved to Trafalgar Township around 1890, and by 1903, were farming the property at 502 Dundas Street West. The principal crop on the farm was wheat. The Kings had nine children, all of whom lived at some time on the farm at 502 Dundas Street West. Among the children were Earnest, who later trained as a school teacher, Percy, Warden

and George, who became farmers, and five daughters, Edith, Laura, Harriet, Violet (Winnifred) and Dora.

The King family sold the farm at 502 Dundas Street West to Harriet Pierce Bunting in 1936. Thirteen years later, she sold the property to Taymouth Industries Limited.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The house at 502 Dundas Street West was built circa 1816, and is a good example of the Classic Revival style. The house consists of a 1 1/2 storey rectangular original section with single storey additions to either side.

Some outstanding features of the house include original, narrow weatherboard siding, multi-paned windows with classical pediments, and a classically inspired doorway. Although a number of alterations have been made to the house over the years, all are sympathetic to the original character.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

Although set back some distance from Highway 5, the house at 502 Dundas Street West, in conjunction with the old barn to the rear, presents a good example of a Loyalist farmstead.

The house at 502 Dundas Street West is featured in the book, The Governor's Road, by Mary Byers and Margaret McBarney. The house is believed to be one of the oldest in Halton County.

SCHEDULE "B"

TO BY-LAW 1995-44

Part of Lot 20, Concession 1, South of Dundas Street, Town of Oakville, Regional Municipality of Halton, designated as Part 1 on Plan 20R-11668.