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Corporation of the Town of Newmarket

By-law 2023-03

A By-law to designate the property at 17250 Yonge Street, the York Region Administrative Centre, as being of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to the Provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990.

Whereas pursuant to Section 29, Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990, the Council of a municipality is authorized to enact By-laws to designate a real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest; and,

Whereas authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 17250 Yonge Street as being of cultural heritage value or interest; and,

Whereas the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Newmarket has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to Designate 17250 Yonge Street, the York Region Administrative Centre, and has caused such notice of intention to be published once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality; and,

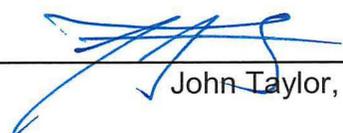
Whereas no notice of objection to the Notice of Intention to Designate was served to the City Clerk of the Corporation of the Town of Newmarket; and,

Whereas the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B" to the By-law;

Therefore the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Newmarket enacts:

1. That the property at 17250 Yonge Street, more particularly described in Schedule "A" of this By-law, is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest.
2. That the attached Schedules form part of the By-law.
3. That the Town Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served on the owners of the lands described in Schedule "A" hereby and on the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of the passing of this By-law to be published in the Newmarket Era.
4. And that the Town Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" to this By-law in the proper Land Registry Office.
5. This By-Law shall come into force and take effect on the date of its passing.

Enacted this 23rd day of January, 2023.



John Taylor, Mayor



Lisa Lyons, Town Clerk

Schedule "A" to By-law 2023-03

In the Town of Newmarket in the Regional Municipality of York, property descriptions as follows:

PCL 4-1 SEC 65M2118; PT BLK 4 PL 65M2118; PTS 1 TO 11 65R7443; S/T LT212720E, LT770069 NEWMARKET

Property Identification Number: 035840081

Schedule "B" to By-law 2023-03

Statement of Significance Reason for Designation

The York Region Administrative Centre
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 4W5

Reason for Designation

The property at 17250 Yonge Street, also known as the York Region Administrative Centre, is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, 1990 for its cultural heritage value or interest, and meets Ontario Regulation 9/06, for design/physical value, historical/associative value and contextual value.

Description of Property

17250 Yonge Street, the York Region Administrative Centre, is located on the west side of Yonge Street between Millard Avenue West and Eagle Street West, Part of Lot 94, Concession 1 West of Yonge Street, in the Town of Newmarket, York Region. The property consists of a four-storey postmodern Canadian Indigenous prairie style administrative building. The structure was built between 1992-1993 and officially opened on June 23, 1994.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest/Statement of Significance

Physical/Design Value

The York Region Administrative Centre is an excellent example of a postmodern institutional building; specifically, the Canadian Indigenous prairie interpretation of the style. The building displays elements of the prairie regionalism branch of postmodernist architecture exemplified by its organic and curvilinear design. Typical of this style, the flat roofed four-storey stone and glass structure has an irregular, organic floor plan with a horizontal emphasis on each stepped storey of alternating rusticated and smooth stone bands with continuous window ribbons. The structure's windows are plain and unadorned and feature extensive areas of glass, indicative of the style. Four wings radiate from the large central circular driveway with colonnades and two sets of tall double doors flanked by a shorter door on each side, all with semi-arched glass insert and semicircular door handles. The entryway apparatus is installed within a curved wall of windows. The York Region Shield is etched in the window above the entrance. The northeast wing terminates at the clock tower feature with four towers of varying heights, each with a round simple clockface of black on white Roman numerals. The other three wings terminate at two towers of varying heights. White is a dominant colour of this building style and as been integrated into the building's light coloured stone and columns, reinforcing institutional overtones. Attention to detail is evident in the utility infrastructure (gas metre housing and water hook up) designed and built in a manner sympathetic to the building's architecture. The York Region Administrative Centre displays a high degree of artistic value with its striking scale and curvilinear massing including the nature of the horizontal waving bands of stone and glass.

Historical/Associative Value

The York Region Administrative Centre demonstrates and reflects the work and ideas of renowned Indigenous Canadian architect Douglas Cardinal. Cardinal was born in 1934 in Red Deer, AB to Métis parents and is of Siksika descent. He studied at the University of Texas School of Architecture where

he developed his architectural style that was influenced by Antonio Gaudi, Frank Lloyd Wright and Le Corbusier. His notable buildings include the: Museum of Canadian History, Hull, QB (1989, 1999); Museum of the American Indian, Washington, DC (2004); Alberta Government Services Building, Ponoka, AB (1975); and First Nations University, Regina, SK (2003). As a post-war period architect, Douglas Cardinal was a forerunner of philosophies of sustainability, green buildings and ecologically designed community planning. His architecture springs from his observations of nature and its understanding that everything works seamlessly together. This philosophy is clearly demonstrated by the manner in which the York Region Administrative Centre harmonizes with the natural features of the landscape through its curvilinear massing and organic forms. Cardinal is known for curvilinear designs which is demonstrated in this building. He was a pioneering adopter of early computer technology, notably Computer-Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) systems, harnessing the power of computers as early as the 1960s to create his signature organic forms. By the late 1970s, Cardinal's practice became the first to be fully computerized, using their own proprietary architectural programming.

Contextual Value

The York Region Administrative Centre is designed to harmonize with the natural features of the landscape, physically and visually linking the building to the surrounding topography. It is the founding property around which the Town of Newmarket and York Region are creating a civic campus within the established government district along this area of Yonge Street. Due to its striking architecture, the building is a physical and visual landmark along Yonge Street in the Town of Newmarket.

Cultural Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes that contribute to the Cultural Heritage Value of Interest of 17250 Yonge Street include, but are not limited to:

- Four-storey postmodern Canadian Indigenous prairie style building;
- Organic curvilinear plan;
- Flat roof;
- Rusticated and smooth stones laid in horizontal undulating bands;
- Alternating horizontal lines of continuous glass ribbons;
- Four radiating wings from a main circular driveway;
- Two variable height towers at the terminus of the southeast, southwest and northwest wings;
- Four clock towers of varying heights at the terminus of the northeast wing;
 - o Simple black on white round clock faces with Roman numerals;
- Continuous lines of skylights through the centre of three wings;
- Colonnades at main circular driveway and entryway;
- Large glass wall at main entryway with two sets of tall double doors flanked by a shorter door on each side, all with semi-arched glass insert and semi-circular door handles;
- Utility infrastructure sympathetically designed to harmonize with the building's stone material and treatment;
- Visible recessed concrete foundation;
- Situation on a rise in topography north of a ravine along Yonge Street; and
- Location in the government district of York Region.