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City Clerk's Office

Ulli S. Watkiss
City Clerk

Secretariat
Rosalind Dyers
Toronto and East York Community Council
City Hall, 2nd Floor, West
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Tel: 416-392-7033
Fax: 416-397-0111
e-mail: teycc@toronto.ca
Web: www.toronto.ca

ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

SEP 04 2012

RECORDED

**IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT
R.S.O. 1990 CHAPTER 0.18 AND
1115 QUEEN STREET WEST (QUEEN AND LISGAR LIBRARY)
CITY OF TORONTO, PROVINCE OF ONTARIO**

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

Greg Moorby
Manager, Design Construction and Asset Preservation
Facilities and Real Estate, City of Toronto
55 John Street, Metro Hall, 2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 3G6

Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3

1115 Queen Street West (Queen and Lisgar Library)

Take notice that Toronto City Council intends to designate the lands and buildings known municipally as 1115 Queen Street West (Queen and Lisgar Library) under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Reasons for Designation

Description

The property at 1115 Queen Street West is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design, associative and contextual values. Located on the southeast corner of Queen Street West and Lisgar Street, the Queen and Lisgar Library (1908) is a single-storey institutional building. The site was listed on the first City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in 1973.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The Queen and Lisgar Library is a highly-crafted example of Edwardian Classicism designed according to Beaux-Arts principles and applied to one of the first Carnegie libraries in Toronto. Its architectural elements, specifically the roof plan and classical detailing, were specifically designed for the building to distinguish it from other contemporary library branches and identify it as an important institutional edifice.

The site is historically associated with the development of the Toronto Public Library system, its expansion under the leadership of the first chief librarian, James Bain, and the construction of the original reference library and the first purpose-built branches (which included the Queen and Lisgar Library) with funding from American industrialist Andrew Carnegie.

The Queen and Lisgar Library was designed under the auspices of Robert McCallum in his role as City Architect for the municipality and followed his study tour of libraries in the northeastern United States. It remains part of a collection of significant institutional buildings, among which are the extant Palm House at Allan Gardens and the former City Morgue at 86 Lombard Street, that represent McCallum's decade-long tenure as City Architect between 1903 and 1913.

Contextually, the Queen and Lisgar Library is an integral part of a collection of buildings and structures along this section of Queen Street West, east of Dufferin Street to which it is historically and visually linked. The library stands with the adjoining Postal Station G, the Dovercourt YMCA, the surviving walls of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum, and the iconic Gladstone Hotel, as recognized heritage properties in the revitalized neighbourhood most recently known as West Queen West.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the property at 1115 Queen Street West are:

- The single-storey library building
- The scale, form and massing on a T-shaped plan with a raised base with openings on the east and west sides
- The materials, with red brick cladding and brick, stone and wood detailing
- The truncated hipped roof with extended eaves and a dentilated cornice
- On the principal (north) façade, the symmetrical organization of the openings with a central frontispiece with a nameband and a parapet with a datestone
- The main (north) entrance, which is centered and elevated in the wall, with a pair of paneled wood doors with inserts and a flat transom set in a stone surround with classical detailing
- Flanking the north entry, the single flat-headed three-part window openings that are highlighted with multiple keystones
- On the side elevations (east and west), the trios of flat-headed window openings
- The classical detailing, which incorporates band courses, panels, quoins, piers with capitals, and swag motifs

Notice of an objection to the proposed designations may be served on the City Clerk, Attention: Rosalind Dyers, Administrator, Toronto and East York Community Council, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, 2nd Floor, West, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 2N2, within thirty days of September 4, 2012, which is October 4, 2012. The notice must set out the reason(s) for the objection, and all relevant facts.

Dated at Toronto this 4th day of September, 2012


Ulli S. Watkiss
City Clerk