



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act e-Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **[www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.

---

Ce document est tiré du registre électronique. tenu aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **[www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.

The Corporation of the City of Hamilton

BY-LAW NO. 86- 272

To Designate:

THE HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE LOCATED ON YORK BOULEVARD OVER THE DESJARDINS CANAL

As Property of:

HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL VALUE AND INTEREST

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Hamilton did give notice of its intention to designate the property mentioned in section 1 of this by-law in accordance with subsection 29(3) of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection was served on the City Clerk as required by subsection 29(5) of the said Act;

AND WHEREAS it is desired to designate the property mentioned in section 1 of this by-law in accordance with clause 29(1)(a) of the said Act.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

1. The High Level Bridge located on York Boulevard over the Desjardins Canal and more particularly described in schedule "A" hereto annexed, is hereby designated as property of historic and architectural value and interest.

2. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this by-law, together with reasons for the designation set out in schedule "B", to be registered against the property affected in the proper registry office.

3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed,

- (i) to cause a copy of this by-law, together with reasons for the designation to be served on the owner and The Ontario Heritage Foundation by personal service or by registered mail;
- (ii) to publish a notice of this by-law in a newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality of the City of Hamilton, for three consecutive weeks.

PASSED this 1st day of October A.D. 1986.

  
City Clerk

  
Mayor

(1986) 12 R.P.D.C. 23, June 24

SCHEDULE "A"

To

By-law No. 86-272

THE HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE

York Boulevard Over the Desjardins Canal,  
Hamilton, Ontario

Part of York Boulevard, Regional Road No. 127. according to Regional Road By-law No. R79-109 previously established by City of Hamilton By-law No. 9863, being part of Lots 20, 29, 30 and 31, part of Blocks E, F and G, part of Main Street between Hamilton and Toronto, Registered Plan 77; also part of Blocks E, F, and G, Registered Plan 77, in the City of Hamilton, Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, described as follows:

Premising that the eastern limit of York Boulevard lying immediately south of the High Level Bridge hereinafter described has a bearing of North  $13^{\circ} 50'$  West and relating all bearings herein thereto.

Commencing at the intersection of the eastern limit of York Boulevard and the southern concrete face of the High Level Bridge which may be arrived at as follows:

Beginning at the south west angle of York Boulevard as established by City of Hamilton By-law No. 9863, registered as Instrument No. 216422 H.L. said point being distant one thousand and thirty-five point five feet (1035.5') measured on a course of North  $15^{\circ} 15' 30''$  West from the northern limit of Woodbine Crescent as established by Registered Plan No. 200.

Thence North  $74^{\circ} 44' 30''$  East, Seventy two point one-two feet (72.12') to the south east angle of York Boulevard as established by the said By-law No. 9863.

Thence northerly along the eastern limit of York Boulevard in the following courses:

North  $8^{\circ} 30' 30''$  West a distance of three hundred sixty-two point three three feet (362.33') to the beginning of a curve to the left having a radius of six hundred fifty-six point four-eight feet (656.48').

Northerly along the arc of the last mentioned curve one hundred and sixty point seven nine feet (160.79') to the end of the said curve, the chord of the said arc having a length of one hundred and sixty point three nine feet (160.39') and a bearing of North  $15^{\circ} 01' 30''$  West.

North  $22^{\circ} 02' 30''$  West along the tangent of the last mentioned curve, seven hundred and forty point one six feet (740.16') to the beginning of a curve to the left having a radius of two thousand six hundred and ninety-three point five three feet (2693.53').

Northerly along the arc of the last mentioned curve two hundred thirty-one point nine-two (231.92') to the end of the curve, the chord of the said arc having a length of two hundred three-one point eight five feet (231.85') and a bearing of North  $24^{\circ} 30' 30''$  West.

North  $26^{\circ} 58' 30''$  West along the tangent of the last mentioned curve seven hundred thirty-nine point four six feet (739.46') to the beginning of a curve to the right having a radius of three thousand eight hundred and ninety-three point eight-one feet (3893.81').

Northerly along the arc of the last mentioned curve eight hundred and ninety-three point zero seven feet (893.07') to the end of curve the chord of the said arc having a length of eight hundred ninety-one point one five feet (891.15') and a bearing of North  $20^{\circ} 24' 15''$  West.

North  $13^{\circ} 50'$  West along the tangent of the last mentioned curve twenty six point seven-two feet (26.72') to the point of commencement.

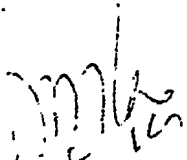
Thence North  $76^{\circ} 10'$  East along the southern concrete face of the High Level Bridge and it's easterly production a distance of four point two feet (4.2') to a point.

Thence North  $13^{\circ} 50'$  West a distance of four hundred seventy-six point five two feet (476.52') to its intersection with the easterly production of the northern concrete face of the High Level Bridge.

Thence South  $76^{\circ} 10'$  West to and along the northern face of the said bridge a distance of ninety point two feet (90.2') to the western limit of York Boulevard as established by City By-law No. 9863.

Thence South  $13^{\circ} 50'$  East along the said western limit of York Boulevard a distance of four hundred seventy six point five two feet (476.52') to its intersection with the westerly production of the southern concrete face of the High Level Bridge.

Thence North  $76^{\circ} 10'$  East to and along the said concrete face eighty six feet (86') more or less to the point of commencement.



Ontario Land Surveyor

SCHEDULE "B"

To

By-law No. 86-272

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

THE HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE

York Boulevard Over the Desjardins Canal,  
Hamilton, Ontario

The construction in 1932 of the High Level Bridge was the result of an international competition held by the Hamilton Parks Board for the "Improvement of the North-western Entrance to the City of Hamilton".

Architect John Lyle, the engineering firm of James, Proctor and Redfern, and the City's Engineering Department collaborated on a design of a short span steel cantilever bridge which was erected by the Hamilton Bridge Company.

Of particular significance is Lyle's architectural design of the bridge which featured a pair of monumental pylons at each end, connected by an ornamental metal balustrade and lighted by the pylon lanterns and, originally, ornamental steel light standards (since removed). The open design of the bridge takes advantage of its unique location on Burlington Heights by affording views east to Hamilton Bay and west to Cootes Paradise.

As the major architectural element at the north-west entranceway, the High Level Bridge is an important component in the gateway scheme which also included the development of the Royal Botanical Garden's Rock Garden and Memorial Garden.

Historically, Lyle's structure is the fourth and culminating High Level bridge to span the Desjardins Canal since the canal was cut through in the 1850's. The bridge is of provincial significance and is included on the Ontario Heritage Bridge List.

Important to the preservation of the High Level Bridge is the retention of the following original features: the steel structure, the stone-faced pylons with their decorative elements and ornamental lanterns, and the metal and concrete balustrade.