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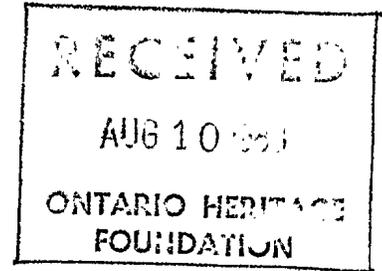
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TOWN OF DUNDAS
ONTARIO
L9H 2P8



August 3rd, 1988.

Ontario Heritage Foundation,
77 Bloor Street West,
Toronto, Ontario.
M7A 2R9

Dear Sirs:

Re: Designation of Central Public School, 73 Melville Street,
Dundas, Ontario.
Our File: 10.64.10

In accordance with the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act RSO 1980, Chapter 337, please find enclosed a copy of By-law 3751-88 of the Corporation of the Town of Dundas. A By-law to designate the property known municipally as 73 Melville Street, Central Public School. This By-law was passed by Council at its meeting of July 18th, 1988. Passage of the By-law was advertised in the local newspaper beginning July 27th, 1988 for three consecutive weeks.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

J. Robert Gerrie,
Town Clerk.

JRG:cb

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DUNDAS

BY-LAW NO. 3751-88

A BY-LAW OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF DUNDAS, BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY IN THE TOWN OF DUNDAS AS LAND AND/OR BUILDING OF HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL VALUE OR INTEREST.

(CENTRAL PUBLIC SCHOOL,
73 MELVILLE STREET)

WHEREAS this Council is empowered under Subsection 6 of Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337, as amended, to enact by-laws to designate a property, including exteriors and interiors of buildings, as described in Schedule "A" attached hereto to be of historical or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS this Council has caused to be served upon the owners of the lands and premises known municipally as Central Public School, 73 Melville Street, in the Town of Dundas and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation notice of intention to so designate the described property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in this Municipality, once for each of three consecutive weeks;

AND WHEREAS objection to the proposed designation of the described property which has been served on the Clerk of this municipality within the time prescribed by the said statute has been withdrawn;

AND WHEREAS this Council's reasons for the proposed designation are as set forth in Schedule "B" attached hereto;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF
DUNDAS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. There is hereby designated as being of historic and architectural value or interest, the exterior and some interior of the property known municipally as Central Public School, 73 Melville Street, in the Town of Dundas, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto.

2. The Town Solicitor is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the Land Registry Office for the Registry Division of Wentworth.

3. The reasons set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto are confirmed as the reasons for the proposed designation.

4. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this By-law to be served upon the owners of the property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause a notice of this By-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Dundas.

READ a First, Second and Third time and finally PASSED this Eighteenth day of July, A.D. 1988.


MAYOR


CLERK

SCHEDULE "A"

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Dundas, in the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, being composed of the whole of Lots Number 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48 and 49 according to a Plan registered in the Registry Office for the Land Registry Division of Wentworth as Number 1446.

SCHEDULE "B"

Historical Significance

Central Public School was built as the Dundas Union School in 1857. It was originally built as a six room school with two of the upstairs rooms used as the first public grammar (high) school. The other four rooms were the public elementary school. It was built on a 2.4 acre block bounded by Melville, Elgin, Victoria and Albert Streets by a local contractor, James Scott. Scott had built the Dundas Town Hall in 1847 which had been designed by Francis Hawkins, a local resident, and it is likely Hawkins designed the school as there are many similarities in the two designs. Mr. R. King was the first principal serving from 1857 to 1860.

The first addition was constructed in 1885 and was known as the Bell Tower section although the ornate Bell Tower was erected over the original wing. An internal winding staircase was replaced at that time with the double set of stairs that still exist. This addition was constructed in much the same style as the original and consisted of eight rooms.

The entire school grounds were enclosed by a tall wooden fence that was removed around 1890. There was, as well, a caretaker's cottage located on the grounds on the east side of Albert Street, but it was removed around 1896. The Kindergarten was started in 1873 by Miss Scott, daughter of the original builder, and was the first such class in the Province and reputed to be the second in North America.

A separate building was built for the High School in 1909 comprising eight rooms and became known as the Annex. The architect for the High School was James Keagy, a local resident living then on Cayley Street, and was built by Frid Construction for \$22,200.00.

In 1919, another four room addition was added to the north of the main school becoming known as the New Section. The architecture was somewhat different from the original design. The last addition was done in 1960 in a modern design.

The Osler family children attended this school with William Osler being perhaps the school's most illustrious student. He attended between 1857 when the Osler family moved to Dundas and 1864 when he was expelled for pranks.

Architectural Significance

The architectural style of the original 1857 Union School building and the 1885 Bell Tower addition is known as Classical Revival. It is a style reminiscent of many other public buildings built in Canada during the 19th Century. The Classical style is suitable for institutional buildings such as schools as it reflects the integrity and seriousness of purpose attributable to these types of structures.

Pilasters give continuity to the first and second storeys and outline the corners. The wall planes are recessed and divide the surface into compartments proportionate to the whole. The east and west elevations are crowned with large pediments extending the full width of the original structure. The cornices are bracketed and decorated with dentils.

An elaborate Bell Tower was added in 1885, but demolished around 1948. Wide stairs lead up to the main entrance and there were entrances on either side of the front which have since been closed off. All of the exterior staircases had elaborate hand rails. The building sits on a raised basement inspired perhaps by the classical temple built on a podium.

The main entrance possesses all the detailed features that a proper classical doorway should have. Headed with a gently pitched pediment, the frieze and cornice are enhanced with dentils and enriched with acanthus leaf trim, two brackets in a shape similar to a scroll also trimmed with acanthus leaves and protruding wooden rails that separate the cornice, frieze and architrave. Below the architrave, wooden pilasters that flank the door simulate Corinthian columns with a capital consisting of acanthus leaves and panels that decorate the columns.

The Bell Tower addition is very similar to the first building except we now have two windows per bay instead of one, but no longer have the pedimented window heads or dentilled cornices. The base has now been constructed of irregular stone instead of cut stone of the original.

The 1909 Annex and 1919 New Section try to maintain some continuity of design with the first two sections, but the final one of 1960 is totally modern.

The following features are to be included as elements of architectural significance:

- (a) The south, west and east facades of the 1857, 1885 and 1919 structures;*
- (b) Vaulted metal ceilings on the second floor of the original structure and other original interior finishes;*
- (c) Missing elements, i.e. (i) exterior hand rails and (ii) Bell Tower.*