



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Ce document est tiré du registre 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**.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF HUNTSVILLE

By-Law Number 87-81

A By-Law to Designate the Property known Municipally as The Former Bandshell of the Anglo Canadian Leather Company Concert Band, 12 Susan Street, Huntsville as being of Architectural and Historical Value or Interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of The Ontario Heritage Act, 1974 authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historic value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Huntsville has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as "The Former Bandshell" at 12 Susan Street, Huntsville, Ontario and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality;

THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Huntsville enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest the real property known as "The Former Bandshell of the Anglo Canadian Leather Company Concert Band", at 12 Susan Street Street, Huntsville, Ontario, more particularly described in Schedule 'A' attached hereto.
2. The municipal solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule 'A' attached hereto, in the proper land registry office.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each three consecutive weeks.

By-Law No.
The Former Bandshell

READ a first time this 14th day of September A.D., 1987.


MAYOR


CLERK

READ a second and third time and finally passed this 14th
day of September A.D., 1987.


MAYOR


CLERK

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

THE FORMER BANDSHELL OF THE ANGLO CANADIAN LEATHER COMPANY CONCERT BAND, 12 SUSAN ST., HUNTSVILLE, ONT.

The Anglo Canadian Leather Company Concert Band was the outgrowth of an early Huntsville band, composed of immigrant Italian workers at the Leather Company. Mr. Charles Onlando Shaw, Manager of the Tannery, and a musician himself, was impressed with their talent. He became the founder and patron of the Concert Band. He hired George Simmons of Bracebridge in 1915 to teach and direct the members of the band. New instruments and uniforms were purchased. C.O. Shaw imported talented musicians from all over North America, found them jobs in the tannery and supplied them with fine houses to live in.

In 1918, Mr. Shaw hired Herbert L. Clarke, a pupil of John Philip Sousa, to conduct the band. Under his leadership the band soared to new heights. That same year, the band was invited as co-featured Band at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. This was the ultimate achievement in musical circles, and was repeated for 6 of the following 7 years, a record that was never equalled by the great concert bands of the world. Huntsville was acclaimed.

The famous Anglo Canadian Leather Company Concert Band was disbanded in 1926, but the memory of its day of glory live on!

The former bandshell is an octagonal shaped building centrally situated on a generous lot, which slopes downward to the north. The octagonal roof has a medium pitched slope and is clad with asphalt shingles.

The roof is supported by eight concert columns, which rest on a concrete foundation. Each column is stepped at the bottom and top, roughly articulating a capital and base. The soffit, which extends about 18 inches beyond the columns, is constructed of painted wood.

The bandshell sits on a full basement, which can be entered through a door on the north, where the basement level is exposed. Windows provide light into the basement, which was used for storage and workshop for the tannery.

In 1955, the original bandshell structure was converted to a residence by Mr. Giovanni (John) Pesando, one of the workers in the tannery, and a member of the original Italian Band. Concrete slabs from Emsdale and asbestos shingles were used to fill in between the posts of the bandshell. Architecturally, the most interesting features of the former bandshell are its octagonal shape and the concrete columns, which rest on a partially exposed concrete foundation.