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H. L. S.


THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE
BY-LAW 1994-104

A by-law to designate 156 Randall Street as a property of historical, architectural and contextual value and interest.

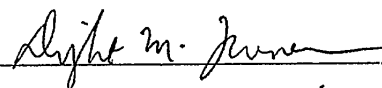
THE COUNCIL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The property municipally known as 156 Randall Street is a property hereby designated as a property of historical, architectural and contextual value and interest pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act for reasons set out in Schedule "A" to this by-law.
2. The property designated by this by-law is the property described in Schedule "B" attached to this by-law.

PASSED by the Council this 1st day of November 1994.

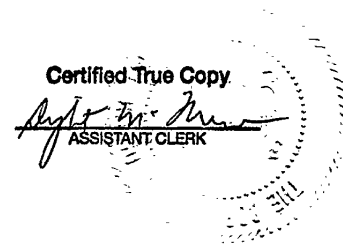


MAYOR



A/ CLERK

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SCHEDULE "A"

TO BY-LAW 1994-104

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The land on which the house at 156 Randall Street stands today was originally owned by William Chisholm as part of his 960 acre purchase from the Crown in 1827 for the town site of the village that would come to be known as Oakville.

In 1833, William Chisholm sold the property to William Uptegrave. William Uptegrave came to Oakville in 1829 and soon after he built a house for himself and his family which still stands today at 321 Lakeshore Road East. In 1831, William Uptegrave bought the lot on the southeast corner of George Street and Colborne Street (Lakeshore Road East) and built a tavern which came to be called the Royal Exchange Hotel. After a few years, Uptegrave leased his hostelry to John Diamond and moved across Colborne Street to open another tavern on the west side of Davis the shoemaker. Uptegrave was a "botanic doctor" as well as a tavern keeper, and did good business in both capacities. Uptegrave's medical skills were tested during the summer of 1832 when a cholera epidemic swept through many of the ports of the British Empire, including Oakville. William Uptegrave was appointed to a special Board of Health for Oakville that was set up to deal with the cholera epidemic.

William Uptegrave passed away in 1845. His property at 156 Randall Street was sold five years later to his former neighbour, Charles Davis. It is believed that soon after his purchase of the property at 156 Randall Street, Charles Davis built the small frame house which stands today.

Charles Davis was born in England in 1802. As a youth, Davis learned the trade of a shoemaker. As in England, the trade of shoemaking has been centered since the Middle Ages in the Town of Northampton. It is believed that Davis hailed from that area of the country. After several years of practicing his trade, Davis came to Canada, eventually settling in Oakville. Davis was one of the first shoemakers to come to Oakville. Prior to his arrival, the inhabitants had to depend upon itinerant craftsmen who visited the village periodically. They set up their tools in the kitchen and boarded with the family until the work was finished.

Charles Davis set up his shoemaker's shop on the northwest corner of George and Colborne Streets in the early 1830's. Here, he made boots and shoes to measure, in return for extra leather or farm produce. If bought for cash, a pair of "coarse boots" cost one pound and ten shillings.

In 1850, Charles Davis gave up shoemaking for the hotel trade with the purchase of John Forman's two storey frame inn at the intersection of Trafalgar Road and Randall Street. Davis continued the hotel as the Oakville Temperance House. "Comfortable meals and beds furnished travellers. Good stabling for horses", he announced the following year.

Unfortunately for Davis, the success of this venture was tempered when Davis became involved with the authorities for selling "spirituous liquors". As a result, his establishment was taken over in 1859 by Jacob Barnes, the blacksmith, and was thereafter under license as the Halton County Hotel.

After his troubles with the authorities as a hotel proprietor, Davis returned in his old age to shoemaking, in the building he had erected in the thirties. Davis continued as a shoemaker until his death in 1880.

In 1883, Mary, the widow of Charles Davis, married Mr. Samuel Smith and sold the property at 156 Randall Street to Louisa Jane Florio, the wife of Henry William Florio, a

bricklayer from England. The Florios sold the property at 156 Randall Street to Thomas Richards in 1889. He sold the property to Isabella Ferguson, the wife of John Ferguson in 1892. In 1905, the property was sold to Allen Marsell, whose son Benjamin would become a well-known figure in the Town as the owner of a service station and tire store on Lakeshore Road East and as an active member of St. John's United Church.

Allen Marsell promptly sold the property at 156 Randall Street to William Sinclair Davis. W. S. Davis, as he was best known, was one of Oakville's most successful businessmen and would go on to be Mayor of the Town on two occasions.

W. S. Davis' primary business venture was real estate. He operated a successful agency and was at one time the owner of fifteen homes in Oakville which he rented to tenants. The house at 156 Randall Street was one of the homes which W. S. Davis rented to tenants.

In 1913, the property was sold to Robert Palmer. He sold the property the following year to Adeline Marsales and in 1918, the property was sold to Mary Ann Buckle, the wife of William A. Buckle, a long established butcher in Oakville.

William A. Buckle was born in Aurora and came to Oakville around the turn of the century. He purchased a store on the northwest corner of Dunn Street and Lakeshore Road. Mr. Buckle's butcher shop was well known for the quality of its produce. Outside of his business, Mr Buckle gave active service to St. John's United Church, where he was an official and chief usher. Mr. Buckle was also an active member of the Oakville Masonic Lodge and as the first Lieutenant of the Oakville Fire Department.

Mary Anne Buckle sold the property at 156 Randall Street in 1918 to Mary E. Cullingworth, the widow of Captain J. E. Cullingworth, a farmer in the village of Trafalgar. Upon her husband's death, Mrs. Cullingworth moved to Oakville for two years before settling with her family in Toronto. Mrs. Cullingworth died at the age of 70, as a result of influenza epidemic which swept the Toronto area in 1929.

In 1920, the house at 156 Randall Street was sold to Florence Wilson, the wife of John Wilson. John Wilson was born in England and was the son of a soldier in the British Army. John's father was killed in action in Africa in the late 19th century, possibly with General Gordon at the Siege of Khartoum where many British soldiers lost their lives at this time. As his mother was unable to care for him, John Wilson was placed in the care of the Dr. Bernardo's Organization. This was an organization that was founded by Dr. Bernardo in London, England in the late nineteenth century to help care and provide homes for orphaned children.

At the age of five a home was found for John Wilson in Canada with the Wilson Family (John adopted the family name) on Gilbrae Farm, a dairy farm near the present site of Coronation Park in Oakville. After his marriage to his wife Florence, at St. Jude's Church, John Wilson took over the distribution part of the family business by operating the Gilbrae Dairy from their home on the northwest corner of Church Street and Trafalgar Road.

Francis Robin Ahern in her book "Oakville: A Small Town" described the Gilbrae Dairy:

Close to the road on the northwest corner of Church Street stood the red brick home of the Wilson Family. Here using the milk and cream from his father's "Gilbrae Farm" on Lakeshore Road West, John W. Wilson's Gilbrae Dairy supplied dairy products to the households in town. A horse drawing one of the milk-wagons soon became familiar with the driver's route and, more often than not, stopped of its own accord at the homes of regular customers. The heavy glass milk-bottles, held upright in their wire-mesh carrier, were left at the door by the milkman according to the number of milk tickets left for him, or the instructions in a note: and a

dollar might have been left for another strip of tickets (10 for \$1.00). All this took place in the very early morning.

When pasteurized milk became available, the nature of the dairy industry changed dramatically in Oakville so John Wilson began working at the Tannery on the west bank of the Sixteen Mile Creek and in 1920, the Wilson family moved into the house at 156 Randall Street.

John and Florence Wilson had four children: Aileen, Frederick, Larry and John D. (Douglas). Aileen, Frederick and Larry eventually married and moved away from the house at 156 Randall Street. Douglas Wilson remained in the house at 156 Randall Street. Douglas and Mabel Wilson were married at Knox Sixteen Church in North Oakville. Douglas Wilson was a very active figure in Oakville throughout his life. During his early years he was employed at the General Stampings Company (the present site of Trafalgar Lodge) and was a volunteer in the Oakville Fire Department. With the growth of the town the need for a permanent Fire Department became necessary and Douglas Wilson became a full time fireman. Douglas Wilson's dedication and excellence as a fire fighter were recognized in 1958 when he was selected as Oakville's first full time Fire Chief, a position he held until his retirement in 1976.

Outside of the workplace Douglas Wilson was also an active figure in a number of areas of community life. His most notable contributions came in sport. As a youth he was cited as being one of Oakville's best baseball players and was on the famed Oaks baseball team which won the Provincial championship. In later years Douglas Wilson took up coaching of both baseball and hockey and led Oakville teams to several provincial championships.

In 1979 the property at 156 Randall Street was sold to Anna Ferris in Trust.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The house at 156 Randall Street was built circa 1850, and is a representation of the Oakville vernacular style. The building was originally clad in narrow weatherboard, and then covered with stucco at a later date. Some features of the building include the steeply pitched central gable in a medium pitch roof, an ornate Roman arched window and door molding and a symmetrical facade. The building at 156 Randall Street has undergone a number of alterations since it was first built. Some early alterations include the symmetrical dormers and the double hung windows on the front facade. The dormers are estimated to be at least 84 years old, as they are visible in a 1908 photograph of the property. The two lower window frames and openings appear to be original, however, the original 4/4 panes were replaced at the turn of this century. The two chimneys on either end of the roof appear to have been built during the early twentieth century. Some more recent alterations include the new foundation, the addition to the rear and the multi-paned front door. According to a previous owner of the house, Mabel Wilson, the shutters on the north facade were salvaged from the Hillmer house which was demolished in the 1950's.

CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE

The house at 156 Randall Street is a visible feature along Randall Street and together with neighbouring structures such as the Radial Station, 134 Thomas Street, and the Masonic Hall contributes to the heritage character of the area.

SCHEDULE "B"

TO BY-LAW 1994-104

Those lands and premises located in the following municipality, namely, in the Town of Oakville, in the Regional Municipality of Halton,

and being composed of Part of Lots B, C, E and F in Block 1, in the aforesaid Town of Oakville, on Plan 1, designated as Part 2 on Reference Plan No. 20R-5995 .

and

THOSE lands and premises located in the following municipality, namely, in the Town of Oakville, in the Regional Municipality of Halton, and being composed of Part of Lots B and C, in Block Number 1, in the aforesaid Town of Oakville, Plan 1, designated as Part 1 on Reference Plan No. 20R-5190.

TOGETHER with a right-of-way over those parts of Lots B and C in Block Number 1 in the aforesaid Town of Oakville, Plan 1, designated as Parts 2 and 3 on Reference Plan 20R-5190 for all lawful purposes, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing the right of ingress and egress at any time and all times until such times as the lands hereby conveyed are declared to be and are assumed by the Town of Oakville as part of a public highway.

TOGETHER with all right, title and interest in the existing building constructed on the above described lands and on that part of Lot C in Block Number 1 in the aforesaid Town of Oakville, Plan 1 designated as Part 2 on Reference Plan 20R-5190 and together with a right in the nature of an easement over the said Part 2 on Reference Plan 20R-5190 to maintain the existing encroachment for the life of the existing building but no longer and the right to repair and maintain the existing building for the life of the existing building but no longer.