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## THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE BY-LAW 1993-49

A by-law to designate 184-186 Lakeshore Road East as a property of historical, architectural and contextual value and interest

THE COUNCIL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The property municipally known as 184-186 Lakeshore Road East is 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 26th day of May, 1993.

Christine Shewful

A / MAYOR

A CLERK

## SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 1993-49

## REASONS FOR DESIGNATION:

The building which stands today at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East was one of the first commercial buildings to be built in Oakville. In 1832, the land on which the store at 184-186 Lakeshore Road now sits was purchased by Hiram Munn from Colonel William Chisholm. Hiram Munn was likely a relation of Daniel and Millicent Munn after whom the Hamlet of Munn's Corners was named. In March, 1835 the property was purchased by Richard Tucker and within a year, a store was built. In 1839, the store was sold to William Creighton, a general merchant who had been established in Oakville since 1832, in the building at 215 Lakeshore Road East. William Creighton had become very successful by this time, and therefore, it is probable that while he continued to operate his store at 215 Lakeshore Road East, he leased out the store at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East to tenants. In 1851, Creighton moved to Toronto and in 1853 the store was sold to David Arnott.

David Arnott was the son of James Arnott, a prominent Oakville merchant. David was born in Greenoch, Scotland and as a youth he came to Canada in 1833 with his mother, father, two sisters and a brother. For the first eight years of their stay in Oakville, the Arnott family owned land and farmed in Trafalgar Township, north of Lower Middle Road (Q.E.W.). In 1841, James sold his farm and moved his family into Oakville where he set himself up as a general merchant, selling groceries and dry goods. When the Presbyterian Congregation was formed in 1846, James Arnott was one of the original members. In 1855, he was appointed Trustee to the Oakville Grammar School and in that same year, when he was sixty years of age, he moved his business from a shop he rented on the north side of Lakeshore Road between Thomas and George Streets to a new three-storey

brick building on the northeast corner of the block. This was one of a pair of buildings that he shared with his son-in-law, John Barclay. Unfortunately for James Arnott, in 1868 the brick building in which he had his business was destroyed in one of the worst fires in Oakville's history. As a result of this fire, James Arnott, then sixty-seven, decided to retire.

David Arnott soon followed in the footsteps of his father, as after he purchased 184-186 Lakeshore Road East, in 1853, he established himself as a merchant in his own right. In addition to his profession as a shopkeeper, David Arnott was also the Oakville and vicinity agent for the Ontario Marine and Fire Insurance Company. David Arnott continued his business in his store for sixteen years, but in July 1869 he closed up the business for good. This was probably because of the economic depression which had hit Oakville hard during the 1860's.

According to Summers diary, on Thursday, July 15, 1869:

"David Arnott has closed up his business here today. He left on the evening train on his way to the Old Country."

The building at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East remained vacant for almost four years and during that time, it was used for a number of purposes, an example of which was the auction sale held in the store by William F. Romain in October, 1872.

In February, 1873, the store at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East was purchased by William Joyce, who soon after set himself up in business as a general merchant.

William Joyce was a Scot who settled in Canada in 1865.

According to Francis Robin Ahern in her book, "Oakville: A Small Town":

"William Joyce's General Store was a busy place, selling groceries, flour and feed, boots, shoes, and clothing. His horse and delivery wagon were to be seen at all hours of the day delivering his merchandise."

William Joyce was an active figure in Oakville politics, serving six terms as a Councilor for Ward II during the 1880's. In January, 1924, after over fifty years in operation, the building was sold and the William Joyce General Store closed its doors for the last time. In the following years, the building at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East was in the hands of a number of owners, and occupied by a series of merchants.

The building at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East is a good example of the "Oakville Vernacular" style of the early 1830's. It retains its general form, symmetrical facade, moderate sloping roof and front gable, reminiscent of the "Classical Revival" style. The general floor plan, with central recessed doorway on the street level and balanced window placement on the upper floor, are further indications of its original use - commercial with living accommodation above.

Originally built as a commercial building in 1835, it was probably sheathed in narrow weatherboard, later covered with stucco and later clad with the insulbrick prior to the wide weatherboard it is presently covered in.

Recently, the owners of the building at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East have attempted to restore the lower portion of the shopfront, and bring it as close as possible to the look of a typical shopfront looked like in the 19th Century.

The building at 184-186 Lakeshore Road East forms an important part of the Downtown Oakville Streetscape. With the neighbouring building at 182 Lakeshore Road East, the two stores form an interesting grouping which has changed little since the buildings were constructed in 1835.

## SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW 1993-49

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Oakville, in the Regional Municipality of Halton, containing by admeasurement one-fifteenth of an acre, be the same more or less, being composed of part of Lot marked "B"in Block Number 10, Plan 1 in the said Town of Oakville and butted and bounded or which may be known as follows, that is to say:

COMMENCING on the southeasterly limit of Colborne Street at the northerly angle of said Lot;

THENCE southerly thirty-nine degrees five minutes West 28 feet, more or less, to a point distant 76 feet 4 inches measured northeasterly along the southeasterly limit of Colborne Street from the division line between Lot "A" and "B" in said Block Number 10;

THENCE southerly fifty degrees fifty-five minutes East 104 feet 4 inches to the southeasterly limit of the said lot;

THENCE northerly thirty-nine degrees five minutes East along the southeasterly limit of the said lot, 28 feet more or less, to the easterly angle of said lot;

THENCE northerly along the lot line, fifty degrees fifty-five minutes West 104 feet 4 inches, more or less, to the place of beginning.

As described in #517749.