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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE  
BY-LAW 1993-4

A by-law to designate 382 Lakeshore Road West  
as a property of historical, architectural  
and contextual value and interest

THE COUNCIL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The property municipally known as 382 Lakeshore Road West 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 8th day of March, 1993.

  
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A/ MAYOR

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
w/ CLERK



SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 1993-4

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The land on which the house at 382 Lakeshore Road East stands today originally comprised part of the 600 acres granted by the Crown in 1806 to William Stanton of the Town of York.

As an Officer in the Royal Navy, Stanton had seen much service in the East and West Indies, in the Mediterranean, at the siege of Gibraltar, and the coast of North America during the Revolutionary War. In 1786, he had entered public service in Lower Canada (Quebec) and served in several military and civil capacities in both provinces. In 1806, Stanton was Chief Clerk in the office of President Alexander Grant, who, during a leave of absence by Sir Francis Gore, was "administering the Government of Upper Canada". It was the policy of the British Government to remunerate civil servants in part by grants of land, and Stanton received Lot Nos. 17, 18, 19 and 23 in the Fourth Concession of Trafalgar Township. Between 1811 and 1815, he was Sergeant-at-Arms in the Parliament of Upper Canada.

In 1815, ownership of the property passed to Elizabeth Lumjy. Eight years later, the property was sold to John B. Robinson, an important figure in Ontario history. A veteran of the War of 1812, Robinson was present at the capture of Fort Detroit. He later entered the legal profession, and became Chief Justice of Upper Canada. In recognition of his services to the British Empire, Robinson was knighted by Queen Victoria.

In 1830, Robinson entered into a joint ownership of the property with John Strachan, later Bishop of Upper Canada, and William Allan, first Postmaster and Customs Collector for York, first President of the Bank of Upper Canada, and

an important business partner of Colonel William Chisholm. It is of interest to note that Allan was one of the militia officers who, with the Reverend John Strachan, negotiated favourable terms with the general of the invading American forces and saved the Town of York from destruction during the War of 1812.

Strachan, Robinson and Allan likely owned the property at 382 Lakeshore Road West as an investment only, and therefore, would never have lived there. It is possible, however, in view of its favourable location on Lake Ontario, that this property was occupied and under cultivation by tenants during the ownership by the three famous men.

In 1835, the property at 382 Lakeshore Road West was sold to Joseph Kenney. According to the census of 1841, Joseph Kenney was a farmer and hotel proprietor who had migrated from the United States as a Loyalist in 1800. Joseph Kenney is documented as residing on the property at 382 Lakeshore Road East at this time. In 1855, Joseph Kenney built the house which stands on the property today.

In 1864, the property was sold to Mary Kenney. Seven years later, the property was sold to Captain Maurice Felan. Captain Maurice Felan (originally Phelan) was born in County Limerick, Ireland, in 1834. In 1853, Felan left Ireland with his family to come to Canada West, settling near Wellington Square (Burlington). Taking to sailing, Maurice Felan moved to Oakville, and after he secured his Captain's papers at twenty years of age, commanded the *Three Bells* and other vessels owned by Thompson Smith, which engaged lumber trade on Lakes Michigan and Huron. At a later date, Captain Felan was part owner with Duncan Chisholm of the schooner *Victoria*.

Hazel Chisholm Matthews, in *Oakville and the Sixteen*, described an interesting anecdote surrounding the partnership of Felan and Chisholm:

"One November, Chisholm eagerly explained to Felan that he could obtain four hundred tons of pig iron at the low price of \$2.50 per ton if it could at once be transported across the lake from Oswego. Navigation was closed, no lights would be burning on the lake, and no insurance could be procured, but Chisholm persuaded Felan to try and recruit a crew in Toronto. Felan did not succeed in getting a single man, although as he later admitted, he did not try too hard, not being anxious to make the voyage. However, when Chisholm offered to go along, Felan decided to take the risk and induced four other captains at Oakville to act as crew. The ground was covered with snow when the *Victoria* set out for Oswego. The trip across was difficult enough, but the return voyage was worse, as the ship became coated with ice and her rigging froze. When land was sighted, and a tower appeared against the skyline, Captain Coote inquired what it was. Upon being told by Felan that it was the Toronto Asylum, Coote asserted warmly, "That is where you ought to be". The *Victoria*, coming in under full sail on Christmas Day, was greeted by a large crowd assembled on the dock, and all cheered the fantastic ice-covered ship as she sailed up The Sixteen."

Captain Felan was married to Margaret Williams, daughter of hotel proprietor John Williams, in 1868. Together, Maurice and "Maggie" Felan had two daughters, Miss Mary Felan of Oakville and Mrs. Carl Ellogben of Detroit, and two sons, Arthur and Robert, both of Oakville.

Upon his retirement from sailing, Captain Felan devoted his time to farming his property at 382 Lakeshore Road West, and north of Lakeshore Road (the current area of Maurice Drive and Felan Avenue). Although he grew various crops on his farm, Felan gave special attention to the growing of apples.

Captain Maurice Felan was an active figure in various other areas of business and social affairs in Oakville for many years. Among Felan's various activities, he was a principle stockholder of the Marlatt and Armstrong

Tannery, Customs Collector for the Port of Oakville, Chief Constable on the Oakville Police Force, a baseball umpire, a founding member of the Oakville Masonic Lodge, an active member of St. Jude's Church, a member of Council and Reeve for Oakville, and Warden of Halton County.

Captain Maurice Felan passed away in February, 1926 in his ninety-second year. The Felan family continued to own the property at 382 Lakeshore Road West until 1973.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The house at 382 Lakeshore Road West is a 1 1/2 storey stucco clad house built circa 1855, the Neo-classical style.

Some features of the house include the three bay facade, double hung 6/6 windows with decorative classical pediments, and the central doorway with sidelights and full length transom.

**CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

Although not visible from Lakeshore Road, the house is attractively set amongst mature vegetation and presents a good example of a nineteenth century homestead.

SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW 1993-4

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 (formerly the County of Halton) and being composed of Part of Lot 18, Concession Four, South of Dundas Street, Town of Oakville, and which said parcel may be more particularly described as follows:

PREMISING that the course of the southeasterly limit of Lakeshore Road across the said Lot 18 has a bearing of north 38 degrees east and relating all bearings herein thereto;

COMMENCING at an iron bar planted in the said southeasterly limit of the Lakeshore Road distant 909.07 feet measured southwesterly therealong from the limit between Lots 17 and 18;

THENCE south 45 degrees 55 minutes east, 507.25 feet to an iron bar planted;

THENCE south 44 degrees 27 minutes west, 196 feet to an iron bar planted;

THENCE north 45 degrees 33 minutes west, 309.25 feet to an iron bar planted;

THENCE north 38 degrees east, 153.9 feet to an iron bar planted;

THENCE north 45 degrees 33 minutes west, 176.17 feet to an iron bar planted in the said southeasterly limit of the Lakeshore Road;

THENCE northeasterly therealong 40.05 feet to the point of commencement.

As described in Instrument #447539.