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LEE, ROCHE & KELLY

BARRISTERS, SOLICITORS, NOTARIES

NICHOLAS B. ROCHE, B.A., LL.B.

SEAN KELLY, B.A., B.P.E., LL.B.

ERNEST P. LEE, Q.C. (1929-1981)

6 DOMINION STREET
P.O. BOX 990
BRACEBRIDGE, ONTARIO
POB 1C0

TELEPHONE 645-2286
AREA CODE (705)

May 2, 1985.

REGISTERED MAIL

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

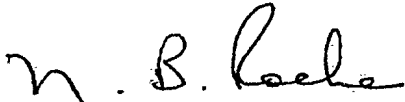
Dear Sirs:

Re: Town of Bracebridge - Designation of St. Thomas's Anglican
Church as a Historical Site

We enclose herewith a certified copy of the By-law #85-32 in connection with the above matter which we serve upon you.

Yours truly

LEE, ROCHE & KELLY



Per: N.B. Roche
NBR:es
Encl.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF BRACEBRIDGE

BY-LAW 85- 32

BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY
KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS ST. THOMAS' ANGLICAN
CHURCH, 15 MARY STREET, BRACEBRIDGE, ONTARIO,
AS BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND/OR HISTORICAL
VALUE OR INTEREST.

WHEREAS Section 29 of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980,
Chapter 337, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact
by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings
and structures thereon, to be of architectural and/or historical
value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of
Bracebridge has caused to be served on the owners of the lands
and premises known as St. Thomas' Anglican Church, 15 Mary Street,
Bracebridge, Ontario, more particularly described in Schedule "A"
attached hereto, and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, a
Notice of Intention to Designate the aforesaid real property and
has caused such Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper
having a general circulation in the municipality, once for each
of three consecutive weeks;

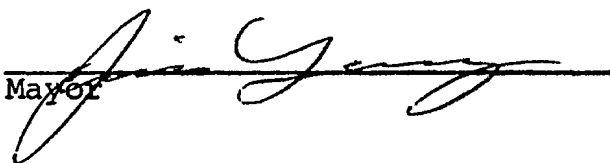
AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B"
attached hereto;

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

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

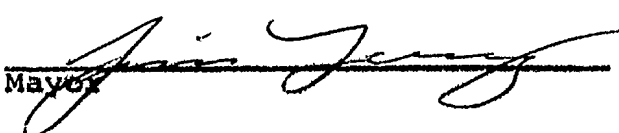
1. There is designated as being of architectural and/or historical
value or interest the real property known as St. Thomas'
Anglican Church, 15 Mary Street, more particularly described
in Schedule "A" attached hereto.
2. The Town Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of
this by-law to be registered against the property described
in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the proper land registry
office, at Bracebridge, for Muskoka.
3. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this
by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property
and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice
of this by-law to be published each of three consecutive
weeks in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town
of Bracebridge.

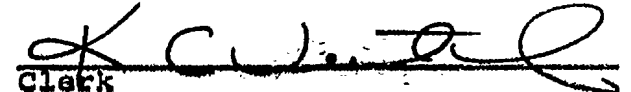
READ a first and second time this 24th day of April , 1985.


Mayor



Clerk

READ a third time and finally passed this 24th day of April , 1985.


Mayor


Clerk

Certified a true copy of
B/L 85-32 of the
Corporation of the Town of
Bracebridge.


Clerk-Treasurer

SCHEDULE "A"

TO BY-LAW 85- 32

THE CORPORATION OF THE

TOWN OF BRACEBRIDGE

FIRSTLY:

All of Lot 6, Plan 2 for the Town of Bracebridge, in the District Municipality of Muskoka.

SECONDLY:

The west half of Lot 119 according to Registered Plan 2 for the Town of Bracebridge, in the District Municipality of Muskoka.

SCHEDULE "B"

TO BY-LAW 85-32

THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWN OF BRACEBRIDGE

REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION:

The present St. Thomas' stands on land which was given for the building of the Church by Mr. Arthur A. Mahaffy, who was later a member of the Provincial Legislature and became a Judge for the Muskoka District. The Church retains its original appearance as completed in 1896 except that a tower was added early in the century, (1903) and the vestry was extended in 1956. The vestry addition was designed to harmonize with the original building. Interestingly, the bricks used in the 1956 extension match the original bricks of the church, as they were salvaged from the Bracebridge Public School, another early Bracebridge building, when it was demolished to make way for a more modern structure. I understand that all of these rather distinctive red bricks were produced at a brick-kiln that operated here in Bracebridge for some years before and after the turn of the century.

Other points of interest with regard to St. Thomas' which ought to be noted are as follows:

The Church was designed by a Toronto Architectural Company, that of Mr. Charles J. Gibson, who served his architectural apprenticeship with a New York firm. Mr. Gibson, also designed Christ Church, Mimico, St. John's, Norway, the Earls Court Public Library, the Conservatory at the Horticultural Gardens. In that era it would have been an important achievement for a Congregation in a town such as Bracebridge, to have obtained the services of a solid and well-established architectural firm to design their Church.

In style St. Thomas' appears to be a picturesque representative of the Gothic or a modified Gothic from a Victorian point of view. It is a rather good representative of the architectural development resulting from the Oxford Movement's stress of traditional Gothic, as opposed to classical Greek or Georgian styles, enhancing the Liturgical renewal that began in the middle decades of the last century in England. This movement procured the type of lay-out of Nave-Chancel-sanctuary as we have it in St. Thomas'. Other architectural features of distinction are:

- a) The exposed interior wooden truss system with the large half-circle arches, resting on decorated hammer-beam truss wall brackets is truly admirable. Both engineers/Architects and builders who have recently viewed the Church remark that such a combination is unusual and possibly fairly rare in this country.
- b) This truss-work is further enhanced by longitudinal arches, decorative 'tre'-foil panels in the hammer-beam truss wall panels plus circular scroll-work above the main arches.
- c) The exposed brick-work is of interest. Each wall involves 2 single walls joined by hidden metal "headers" or "tie-pieces". (These walls are separated by an air-space) The Church has no interior panelling; the very carefully-laid brick inner wall being exposed. Some masons have described this brick-work as being of the "English-style",— a builders term.

continued

SCHEDULE "B" (cont'd.)

- d) The exterior brick buttresses enhance the structure. These buttresses together with the large steep roof coming rather low to the ground were other essential characteristics of the modified Victorian Gothic architecture.
- e) The siting of the building in the town is rather important in the street-scape;—across from the town Library, a Heritage Building, and diagonally placed to the very lovely town-park or common.
- f) The stained-glass windows harmonize with the colouring of the brick-work, and truss system. They are well designed.