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THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE

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REGISTERED MAIL

May 21, 1991

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ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION
77 Bloor Street West
2nd Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

ARCHITECTURE AND
PLANNING
HERITAGE DIVISION

Dear Sir/Madam:

RE: TOWN OF OAKVILLE BY-LAW 1991-75
DESIGNATION OF 191-195 LAKESHORE ROAD EAST, OAKVILLE

Pursuant to Section 29(6)(a) of the Ontario Heritage Act, attached is a certified true copy of By-law 1991-75 being "A by-law to designate a certain property as a property of historical and architectural value and interest (191-195 Lakeshore Road East)".

Yours very truly

G. Collier

for Carol Provost
Committee Co-ordinator
and Assistant Clerk
TOWN OF OAKVILLE

CP/gc
MERG-45

cc: R. Boddington, Heritage Planner


THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAKVILLE
BY-LAW 1991-75

A by-law to designate 191-195 Lakeshore Road East
as a property of historical, architectural
and contextual significance

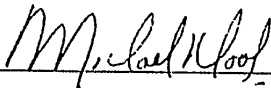
THE COUNCIL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. The property municipally known as 191-195 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 22nd day of April,
1991.

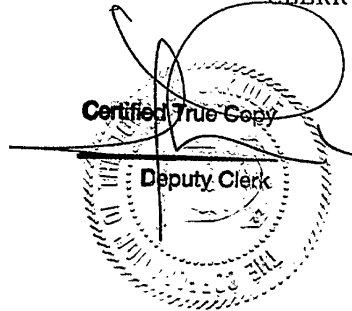


MAYOR



CLERK

4 73 1



SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 1991-75

Historical Significance

The building at 191-195 Lakeshore Road East (#64 Colbourne Street) was known for generations as the William Busby Store. At the age of eleven, William Busby journeyed with his parents and family from Ashley, Northamptonshire, England, to set sail for Canada. They departed late in 1862. Disease swept through the passengers of the vessel, and William's mother died on January 1, 1863, soon after their arrival in Oakville. A sister, Clara, died in July, and two years later his young brother George died, leaving William and three sisters. In 1867, William's father, George Busby, married Elizabeth Gibbons Walker, a widow with five children, and four more children were born to them. In Lovell's Directory of 1871, George Busby is listed as a Teamster and a Carter. George served as a private in the 1st Oakville Rifle Company, and he and his wife were original members of the Salvation Army in Oakville. George and Elizabeth both died in the typhoid epidemic of 1889.

Young William apprenticed to Aaron Matthews, an artist and repairer of clocks who was responsible for tending the clocks at the Town Hall and school house. William Busby learned the trade well, and after a stint in Hamilton he returned to Oakville and started business for himself in 1881.

In 1831, William Uptegrave purchased the lot on the southeast corner of George Street and Lakeshore Road and had a tavern erected. A few years later, Uptegrave moved across the street to set up another tavern to the west of Charles Davis the Shoemaker. John A. Williams reminisced in his daily journal around 1900 that "Old Mr. Uptegrave kept a tavern in-house where W.S. Davis now stands." The land title records show that in 1884, William Busby purchased the westerly part of Lot F in Block 6 for \$800, being the lot where William Uptegrave had built his second tavern. William Busby's daughter, Miss Mary Busby, recalled that her father joined the two old buildings together before greatly "modernizing the exterior".

During renovations in 1933, confirmation of an early dating of the structure was made with the discovery of old wallpaper applied directly to wide planks in the hall of the original entry, and pinned, mortised, handadzed and half-round timbers were still evident in the cellar. No doubt William Busby took Uptegrave's tavern and another old building, and had them drawn up in a line to create a long narrow structure, forming 191-195 Lakeshore Road East. A coat of smooth stucco was applied over the weatherboard siding, and the finish was then scored to imitate courses at ashlar block. Pairs of gracefully swooping brackets decorated with large drops were fitted under the projecting gable in an attempt to impart some of the splendour of the current Victorian taste.

William married Mary Jane Walker and they had four children; Allen, Irene, George and Mary. The family lived over the shop, entering by a pair of doors on the westerly corner of the building. These doors have since been moved, as has the stairway, to an addition on the west side. A parlour ran the breadth of the building across the front of the second storey, and the bedrooms were located at the rear. On the street level, at the back of the shop, a door led to a large dining room, and further back a kitchen. Although it no longer exists, a large bay projected from the dining room and the room above, offering a fine view of the side yard which was resplendent with gardens and agazebo.

In the booklet, Picturesque Oakville, published in 1904, the following notation appeared:

"The jewellery line, too is well represented by W. Busby, who has been in business since 1881, and a resident since 1862. Besides a very fine assortment of jewellery, watches, etc., Mr. Busby keeps a full supply of stationery, cut glass and fine china. In these various branches, always well-stocked, a considerable trade is done every year, especially in watch adjusting which is a feature of the business; only the best skill is employed. Here also is the central office of the Bell Telephone Company (a small switchboard was located in the back of the store for the 100 telephones in 1909. By 1915, the number had grown to 500 and a new premises had to be found), of whom Mr. Busby is the local manager. Along with his other duties, Mr. Busby acts as agent for the Western Fire Insurance Company."

Mr. Busby had a keen interest in the affairs of the community and particularly in its educational activities. First elected in 1883, he served on the Board of Education for forty years. For a quarter century of that time, he was Chairman of the Board. William Busby was also interested in beautifying Oakville, and wished to see the community dump improved, but did not live to see it become the park it is today. Used for many years as the Town dump, the marsh at the bottom of the east bank of the river, north of the Lakeshore Road bridge, was eventually filled in. After Busby's death, it was covered with top soil, graded, and in recognition of William Busby's activities, named Busby Park.

His death ended forty years of service as a member of the Board of Education, and forty-five years as a member of the Board of Trustees of St. John's Church. William Busby's daughters continued to operate the shop for a number of years, and finally sold it after ninety-five years of family ownership.

Architectural Significance

The building, made from two older buildings joined together, is typical of the "Picturesque style". Although the ground floor facade has been modernized and is not in keeping with Busby's original facade, the upper storey has changed little in appearance since it was built. The "Picturesque" style influences are evident on this portion with its arch headed windows and paired eave brackets.

The original entrance to the family living quarters has been moved to the masonry infill on the west side of the building. The paired entrance doors, with pilaster and architrave are of the 1800's period.

Contextual Significance

The gable to street facade of the William Busby store adds contrast to the main street and is an important contributor to the cultural landscape.

SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW 1991-75

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 and Province and Ontario and being composed of that part of Lot F in Block 6, according to the Plan described as follows:

Plan 1

BEGINNING at the most easterly angle of Lot F;

THENCE southwesterly along the northwesterly limit of Lakeshore Road, being also the southeasterly limit of Lot F, a distance of 50.23 feet to a point, which said point shall be the point of commencement;

THENCE northwesterly in a straight line a distance of 104.33 feet to a point in the northwesterly limit of Lot F distant 50.58 feet along this said limit from the most northerly angle of Lot F;

THENCE southwesterly along the northwesterly limit of Lot F, a distance of 32.45 feet to a point;

THENCE southeasterly in a straight line a distance of 104.33 feet more or less to a point in the southeasterly limit of Lot F, which said point is distant 82.93 feet more or less from the most easterly angle of Lot F;

THENCE northeasterly along the southeasterly limit of Lot F, a distance of 32.70 feet more or less to the point of commencement.

As previously described in Inst. # 507819.