

CITY CLERK

Clause embodied in Report No. 7 of the Toronto East York Community Council, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its meeting held on July 22, 23 and 24, 2003.

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Inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties -790 Bay Street (Continental Can Building) (Toronto Centre-Rosedale, Ward 27)

(City Council on July 22, 23 and 24, 2003, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)

The Toronto East York Community Council recommends the adoption of the report (May 6, 2003) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:

Purpose:

This report recommends that the property at 790 Bay Street (Continental Can Building) be included on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) City Council include the property at 790 Bay Street (Continental Can Building) on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties; and
- (2) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

Background:

The Continental Can Building is an important commission of the notable Toronto architect, Peter Dickinson. The building is featured in the current exhibition, "Peter Dickinson Architect, A Retrospective 1950-1961", on view at the Museum of Modern Design and Architecture at 59 College Street.

Culture Division staff have evaluated the site and determined that it merits inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties as a property of cultural heritage value or interest.

The Reasons for Listing are outlined below. A location map (Attachment No. 1), and photograph (Attachment No. 2) are attached.

Reasons for Listing:

The property at 790 Bay Street is recommended for inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties for its cultural resource value or interest. Located on the southwest corner of College and Bay Streets, the building was completed in 1959 as the Toronto headquarters of the Continental Can Company, manufacturers of food and beverage containers. The Continental Can Building is architecturally significant as the work of the notable Toronto architect, Peter Dickinson. After gaining prominence as the chief designer for the Toronto firm of Page and Steele, Dickinson embarked on a solo career cut short by his untimely death in 1961.

The Continental Can Building is designed in the International Style, recognized by the application of Modern materials and the lack of surface ornament. The heritage attributes of the building are found on the 11-storey flat-roofed tower with a penthouse, where the first-floor commercial openings on the east, north and west elevations are inset beneath a second-storey parking garage with glazed walls that curve to follow the line of College Street. Important features on the building are the reinforced concrete frame with precast concrete spandrels, the horizontal strip windows with stainless steel sash, the vertical division of the walls by precast concrete fins clad in stainless steel, and the stone, steel and glass detailing.

Conclusions:

It is recommended that City Council include the property at 790 Bay Street (Continental Can Building) on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

Contact:

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(Attachments referred to in the foregoing report were forwarded to all Members of the Toronto East York Community Council with the agenda for its meeting on July 8, 2003, and copies are on file in the office of the City Clerk.)

The Toronto East York Community Council also submits the communication (June 19, 2003) from the City Clerk, Toronto Preservation Board:

Recommendation:

The Toronto Preservation Board recommended to the Toronto East York Community Council, and Council, the adoption of the report (May 6, 2003) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism.

Background:

The Toronto Preservation Board at its meeting held on June 19, 2003, had before it a report (May 6, 2003) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism regarding the inclusion of 790 Bay Street (Continental Can Building) on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties, and recommending that:

- (1) City Council include the property at 790 Bay Street (Continental Can Building) on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties; and
- (2) the appropriate City officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

The following persons appeared before the Toronto Preservation Board in connection with the foregoing matter:

- Mr. Ivan Fleischmann, Miller Thomson, on behalf of the owner, and
- Mr. Michael McClelland.