

Authority: Toronto Community Council Report No. 2, Clause No. 30,
as adopted by City of Toronto Council on February 1, 2 and 3, 2000
Enacted by Council: April 13, 2000

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW No. 180-2000

**To designate the property at 106 Trinity Street (Enoch Turner Schoolhouse)
as being of architectural and historical value or interest.**

WHEREAS authority was granted by Council to designate the property at No. 106 Trinity Street (Enoch Turner Schoolhouse) as being of architectural and historical value or interest; and

WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act* authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historical or architectural value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Toronto has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as No. 106 Trinity Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Notice of Intention to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and

WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" to this by-law; and

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation was served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

The Council of the City of Toronto HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1. The property at No. 106 Trinity Street, more particularly described on Schedule "B" and shown on Schedule "C" attached to this by-law, is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest.

2. The City Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "B" to this by-law in the proper Land Registry Office.

3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owners of the property at No. 106 Trinity Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Toronto as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 13th day of April, A.D. 2000.

CASE OOTES,
Deputy Mayor

NOVINA WONG,
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)

SCHEDULE “A”**HERITAGE PROPERTY REPORT****106 Trinity Street: Enoch Turner Schoolhouse**

This report comprises the “Long Statement of Reasons for Designation” under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for the property at 106 Trinity Street (Enoch Turner Schoolhouse). It contains Basic Building Data, as well as sections on Historical Development, Architectural Description, Context, Summary and Sources. Location Map and Photographs are included, and the “Short Statement of Reasons for Designation” (intended for publication) is appended.

Basic Building Data:

Address:	106 Trinity Street (west side of Trinity Street, south of King Street West)
Ward:	25 (Don River)
Current Name:	Enoch Turner Schoolhouse
Historical Name:	Enoch Turner Schoolhouse
Construction Date:	1848
Architect:	Henry Bowyer Lane (possible attribution)
Contractor/Builder:	none
Additions/Alterations:	1969, west wing, Gundry and Langley; 1910, addition; 1971-1972: restoration project
Original Owner:	Enoch Turner, brewer
Original Use:	educational (private school)
Current Use*:	institutional (museum); * this does not refer to permitted use(s) as defined in the Zoning By-law
Heritage Category:	Landmark Heritage Property (Category A)
Recording Date and Recorder:	November 1999/KA

Historical Background:

Corktown:

In 1793, with the establishment of the Town of York as the capital of the Province of Upper Canada, a ten-block townsite was laid out between present day George, Front, Berkeley and Adelaide Streets. East of the town, the area near the Don River was set aside for government uses. The First and Second Parliament Buildings were built in 1793 and 1814, respectively, near the southeast corner of present day Front and Parliament Streets. Further east, the Crown reserved the open space as King's Park until 1819. The southern portion was subdivided for residential streets by 1830. Industrial uses followed, with the establishment of a flourmill at the foot of present day Trinity Street by brothers-in-law William Gooderham and James Worts in 1837. The company evolved into a major distillery operation. The Dominion Brewery on Queen Street East was another important employer in the area. The intervening streets were filled with workers' housing, occupied mostly by poor Irish immigrants. As a result, the area was unofficially named "Corktown".

Roman Catholics worshipped at the first St. Paul's Church (completed in 1826) at Queen and Power streets. The closest Protestant church was St. James' Cathedral where parishioners were required to pay for their pews and to educate their children. At a demonstration held at City Hall in July 1842, Irish Protestants demanded an Anglican church and school for the east end of the community. Their supporters included Bishop John Strachan, the Gooderham family, and a local brewer named Enoch Turner. While the school was not funded, Bishop Strachan and Sir John Beverley Robinson donated land for the church. The Church of Holy Trinity in the Park opened at King and Trinity Streets on February 14, 1843. It was known as "the Poor Man's Church" before being renamed Little Trinity Church (to distinguish it from Holy Trinity in Trinity Square).

Enoch Turner (1792-1866) was a native of Staffordshire where his family was involved in the local pottery industry. He immigrated to Toronto in the early 19th century, founding a brewery on the creek near Front and Parliament Streets. As a successful businessman, Turner turned his attention to funding worthy causes associated with his Anglican faith. In 1849, he contributed generously to an endowment fund establishing the University of Toronto as a non-denominational institution. Turner resided near his brewery until 1856 when he moved to Sherbourne Street, north of Dundas Street. His residence, named "Allandale" after local land owner William Allan, is now part of the Sherbourne Lanes housing complex at 241-285 Sherbourne. The property is identified on the *City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties*. Turner remained active in the Corktown community, serving as a warden at Little Trinity Church. Although he married twice, Turner remained childless. According to historical descriptions, "in a period of grinding poverty he was regarded as a generous and compassionate man who loved children and animals. At the end of a hard day it is said that he would feed his horses beer" (Reed Scrapbooks).

Enoch Turner Schoolhouse:

Common schools were established in the Province of Upper Canada (later Ontario) in 1816. Partially funded by government grants, the balance of their operating expenses was raised by students' fees. By the mid 19th century, there were 15 common schools in Toronto whose operation was overseen by a special committee of City Council. The Province introduced the *Common School Act* of 1847, permitting municipalities to raise funds for public education through taxation. Despite the support of the Board of School Trustees, city aldermen were reluctant to impose property taxes for education. All schools that enjoyed public support closed for one year. This provoked Enoch Turner into funding the first free school in Toronto. It was designed to educate the children that populated the neighbourhood adjoining his brewery. Little Trinity Church donated the land for the project. The school opened in 1848 with space for 240 pupils. It was known locally as the Ward School and used, in part, by Little Trinity as a Sunday School. William Honeywood Ripley, Little Trinity's first minister, supervised the students. A Latin Master at Upper Canada College, Ripley offered his services free to the parish and school until his death from cholera in 1849.

Enoch Turner financed the school for three years. Beginning in 1850, citizens elected school trustees who were responsible for educational funding. Public education began in Toronto in 1851. The Toronto Board of Education rented the Ward School, which was renamed Trinity Street School. In 1859, Palace Street School opened at Front and Cherry Streets (it is listed on the *Inventory of Heritage Properties*). Trinity Street School was returned to Little Trinity Church. In 1869, the Toronto architectural firm of Gundry and Langley designed a west wing for a Sunday School. The schoolhouse was used as a local recruiting centre during the Boer War and World Wars I and II. In the 1930s, a large-scale soup kitchen operated on the premises for the duration of the Great Depression.

In 1970, the property was in deteriorated condition and threatened with demolition. Little Trinity Church donated the property to the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse Foundation. A fundraising campaign supported by the Premier of Ontario and the Mayor of Toronto raised \$250,000 toward the restoration of the building. The project involved restoring the brick, windows and finials, stabilizing the foundations, replicating the window sash and doors, and altering the interior. The work was completed in 1972 under the supervision of Toronto architect and preservationist Eric Arthur. The Foundation offers "living history" classes in the schoolroom where elementary students experience the educational practices of the mid 1800s. The west wing is used for a variety of activities. Enoch Turner Schoolhouse has been in continuous operation for more than 150 years as a school, Sunday School and parish hall, centre for social services, community meeting place, and cultural venue. With Little Trinity Church and Rectory, Enoch Turner Schoolhouse was among the first sites included on the *City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties* in 1973.

Architecture:

Enoch Turner Schoolhouse is designed in the Early Gothic Revival style where features associated with medieval architecture were applied to balanced Classical designs. This simplicity and lack of asymmetry distinguishes the early phase of the style from later Gothic Revival designs. It is speculated that Enoch Turner Schoolhouse was designed, but not built at the same time as Little Trinity Church, thereby explaining its church-like appearance. Architect Henry Bowyer Lane was well-versed in Gothic design, employing the style for Little Trinity Church and its successors:

St. George the Martyr Church on John Street (where only the tower survives) and Holy Trinity Church in Trinity Square. The latter properties are listed on the *Inventory of Heritage Properties*.

Enoch Turner Schoolhouse features a long and narrow rectangular plan that rises 1-&-1/2 stories beneath a gable roof with a brick parapet on the east face. The chimneys are missing. The structure is clad with red brick and trimmed with contrasting buff brick, stone and wood.

The principal (east) façade on Trinity Street is symmetrically organized with a narrow three-bay façade. A brick frieze runs above the first-floor openings and continues across the north wall. The main entrance is placed in a shallow brick porch with a gable roof. The stone surround incorporates a pointed-arch opening with voussoirs, a board-and-batten door and a wood transom carved in a trefoil pattern. The entrance is flanked by single lancet windows with pointed hood moulds and lug sills. A nameplate reading “SCHOOL HOUSE ERECTED BY ENOCH TURNER, A.D. 1848” is placed above the entrance. The half-storey contains a diminutive lancet window with stone trim.

The north wall is organized into five bays by pilasters. In the centre, a segmental-arched opening with brick voussoirs contains a pair of board-and-batten doors. Historical photographs indicate that a shallow porch with a gable roof originally protected the door opening. On either side, the bays display tall lancet windows. The south wall was removed for the 1910 addition, and the rear (west) wall was concealed and altered when the west wing was added.

The west wing complements the schoolhouse with its height, brick cladding and stone detailing. Featuring a square plan, the wing is wider than the schoolhouse at the north end. The wing is covered by a hip roof with cross-gables. A cupola with a steeple and finial was removed from the centre of the roof; its base remains. Beneath the gables on the north, west and south walls, trios of lancet windows display varied heights. A door opening (on the north wall it is segmental-headed) and a single lancet window flank the central window grouping. The window openings have sandstone sills. A single-storey flat-roofed addition along the south side of the original schoolhouse has similar cladding, fenestration and details.

On the interior, the exposed truss roof in the west wing is identified as an important feature.

Context:

The Enoch Turner Schoolhouse is located on the west side of Trinity Street, south of King Street East. It is positioned behind Little Trinity Church and Rectory, forming an institutional enclave at the southwest corner of King and Trinity Streets. The site includes a commemorative plaque installed by the provincial government.

To the west, house form buildings at 399-403 King Street near Parliament Street are surviving examples of mid-19th century housing that are identified on the *Inventory of Heritage Properties*.

At the south end of Trinity Street, the Gooderham and Worts Distillery is a National Historic Site that is designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Summary:

The Enoch Turner Schoolhouse is the oldest free school in Toronto. The building has been used continuously by the community since its opening in 1848. It is an early example of Gothic Revival styling in the city, possibly attributed to the important 19th century architect, Henry Bowyer Lane. Enoch Turner Schoolhouse is an historical and architectural landmark in the Corktown neighbourhood and in the City of Toronto.

Subject: By-law: Designation of Premises 106 Trinity Street (Enoch Turner Schoolhouse)
under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act

SCHEDULE “B”

In the City of Toronto and Province of Ontario, being composed of parts of Lots A and E on Plan 263-E registered in the Land Registry Office for the Metropolitan Toronto Registry Division (No. 64) the boundaries of the land being described as follows:

COMMENCING at a point in the easterly limit of the said Lot E being also the westerly limit of Trinity Street, distant 0.51 metres measured southerly thereon from the north-easterly angle of the said Lot E;

THENCE westerly parallel to the northerly limit of the said Lot E. being also the southerly limit of the said Lot A, a distance of 38.40 metres to the westerly limit of the said Lot E;

THENCE northerly along the westerly limits of the said Lots E and A , being also the easterly limit of Erin Street, a distance of 17.87 metres to the north-westerly angle of the said lands herein described;

THENCE easterly parallel to the said southerly limit of Lot A, a distance of 17.25 metres;

THENCE southerly parallel to the easterly limit of the said Lot A, a distance of 3.79 metres;

THENCE easterly parallel to the said southerly limit of Lot A, a distance of 21.16 metres to the easterly limit thereof;

THENCE southerly along the last mentioned easterly limit a distance of 14.08 metres to the point of commencement.

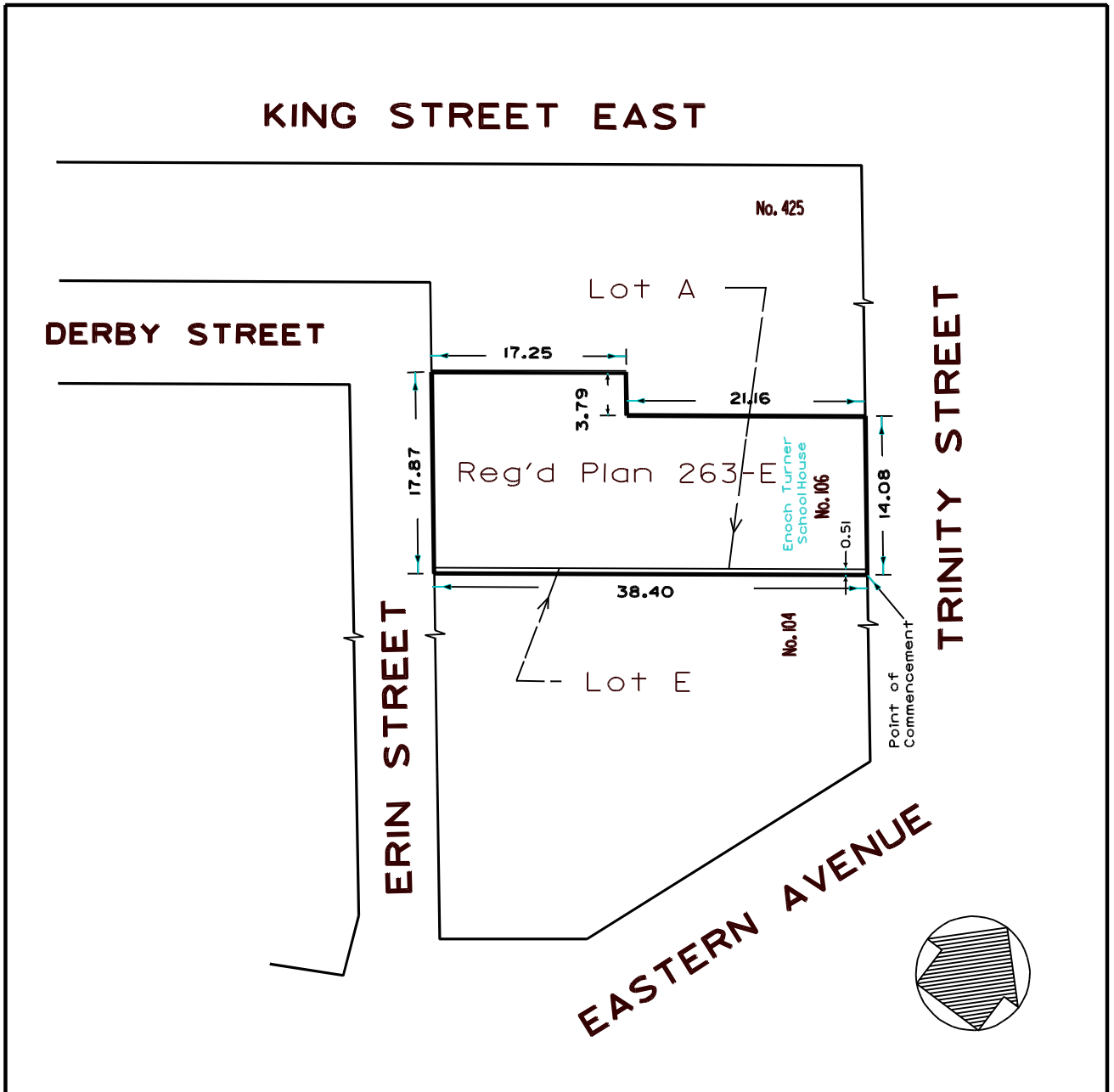
The hereinbefore described land being delineated by heavy outline on Plan SYE2935 dated February 7, 2000, as set out in Schedule “C”.


O. L. S.

City Surveyor

Toronto, February 16, 2000

Schedule 'C'



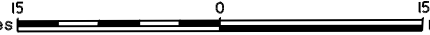
 Premises 106 TRINITY STREET

NOTE:

THIS SKETCH IS NOT A PLAN OF SURVEY AND HAS BEEN COMPILED FROM SURVEY NOTES AND OFFICE RECORDS, IT SHALL NOT BE USED EXCEPT FOR THE PURPOSE INDICATED IN THE TITLE BLOCK.

TORONTO
WORKS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

SKETCH TO ILLUSTRATE
**LAND DESIGNATED AS
BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND
HISTORICAL VALUE OR INTEREST**

RATIO 1 : 500
Metres  Metres

Drawn ME

Checked W.J.M.

Date: Feb.7, 2000

W.Kowalenko-City Surveyor

FILE
T2-H2

PLAN SYE2935