

Authority: Toronto and East York Community Council Report 8, Clause 8,
as adopted by City of Toronto Council on October 26, 27, 28 and 31 2005
Enacted by Council: February 14, 2006

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW No. 182-2006

To designate the property at 10 Toronto Street (Seventh Post Office) as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 10 Toronto Street (Seventh Post Office) as being of cultural heritage 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 cultural heritage 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 10 Toronto Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, 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 withdrawal of objection was served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

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

1. The property at 10 Toronto Street, more particularly described in Schedule "B" and shown on Schedule "C" attached to this by-law, is designated as being of cultural heritage 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 10 Toronto Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust 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 14th day of February, A.D. 2006.

DAVID R. MILLER,
Mayor

ULLI S. WATKISS
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)

SCHEDULE “A”**REASONS FOR DESIGNATION**

The property at 10 Toronto Street is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural resource value or interest. In 1851, when Britain relinquished control of postal services in the pre-Confederation United Provinces of Canada (present-day Ontario and Quebec), the Legislature of Canada West authorized the construction of the Seventh Post Office in Toronto. The building was completed in 1853 on the west side of Toronto Street, between King Street West and Adelaide Street West. Architect Frederic Cumberland prepared the plans during the period when his partnership with Thomas Ridout ended and he formed a new architectural firm with William Storm. Cumberland’s design incorporated separate entrances for men and women, with a side (south) entry to provide access to the second floor. The Seventh Post Office became the offices for the Department of Inland Revenue (the precursor of Revenue Canada) in 1872. Two years later, architect Henry Langley oversaw alterations to the building that replaced the two east entrances with a single central entry. The building served as a branch of the Bank of Canada beginning in 1937. Toronto financier, E. P. Taylor, acquired the site in 1959 as the headquarters of Argus Corporation, the investment and holding company he founded in 1945. Under Taylor’s direction, a third storey was added to the rear (west) end of the structure. The federal government designated the Seventh Post Office as a National Historic Site in 1958. The property at 10 Toronto Street was listed on the inaugural City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in 1973.

The Seventh Post Office is architecturally significant for its Greek Revival design and as an early surviving stone building in Toronto from the same period as St. Lawrence Hall and St. James’ Cathedral (the latter was also designed by Cumberland). It is representative of the practice of the early Toronto architect, Frederic Cumberland, whose design was inspired by the Erechtheum Temple at the Acropolis. Historically, it is one of only two surviving 19th century post offices in Toronto (the Fourth Post Office, with portions dating to 1825-1827, survives at 252 Adelaide Street East where it is designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*). The Seventh Post Office is city-wide landmark and an important contextual feature on Toronto Street, where the former Consumers’ Gas Company Building (1876) at #17 and Excelsior Life Building (1914-1915) at #36 are designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The heritage attributes of the Seventh Post Office are found on the exterior walls and roof. Clad with limestone, the structure rises three stories, with the uppermost floor concealed behind the colossal portico that marks the principal (east) façade. On this wall, stout corner piers support the plain entablature, which is crowned by the Royal Arms of England. Four semi-engaged Ionic columns organize the openings. The main entrance (dating to 1874) is centered in the lower storey where double panelled wood doors are placed in a Classical surround with a brackets and a fanlight (a similar entry was added to the west wall). On either side, the flat-headed window openings (originally door openings) contain multi-paned sash windows. Above a cornice with dentils, the second-storey window openings have bracketed sills and are slightly reduced in height. Similar window openings (some blind) are placed on the side (north and south) elevations and the rounded rear (west) wall, where the third-storey addition is distinguished by the colour of the stonework.

SCHEDULE "B"

PIN 21401-0022 (LT).

PCL 2-12 SEC Y1

PT TOWNLT 2 E/S OLD TORONTO ST PL TOWN OF YORK TORONTO

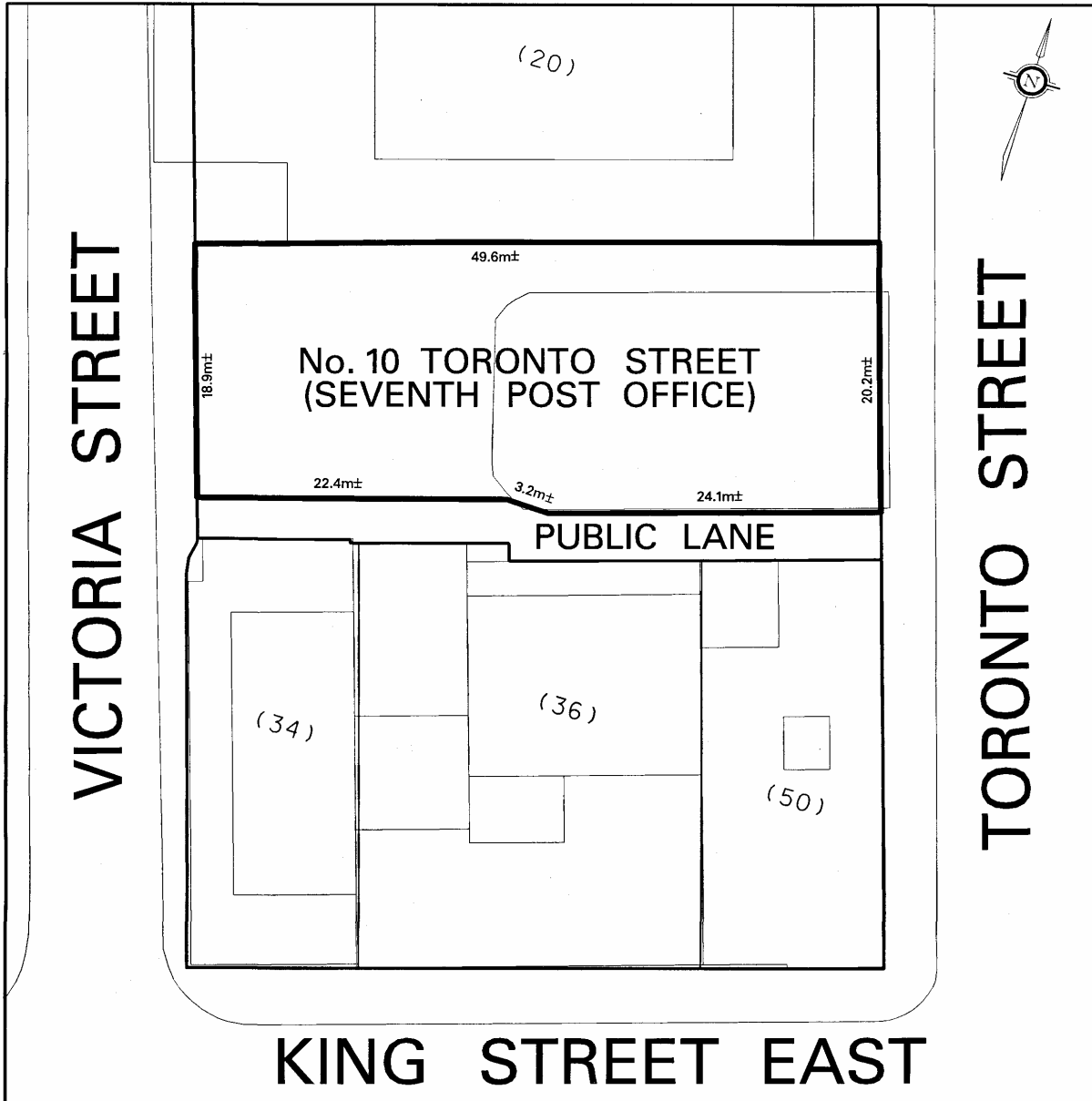
PT 1 66R14117

City of Toronto and Province of Ontario,

Land Titles Division of the Toronto Registry Office (No. 66)

The hereinbefore described land being delineated by heavy outline on Sketch No. PS-2005-010 dated January 31, 2006, as set out in Schedule "C".

SCHEDULE "C"



KING STREET EAST



TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION
SURVEY & MAPPING SERVICES

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

PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET

No. 10 TORONTO STREET (SEVENTH POST OFFICE)
LAND DESIGNATED AS BEING OF
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE AND INTEREST

(NOT TO SCALE)

WARD 28 - TORONTO CENTRE-ROSEDALE
DATE: JAN 31, 2006

SKETCH No. PS-2006-010