

Authority: Toronto and East York Community Council Item 12.12,
as adopted by City of Toronto Council on January 29 and 30, 2008
Enacted by Council: September 25, 2008

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW No. 996-2008

To designate the property at 194 Dowling Avenue (Parkdale Mansions) as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 194 Dowling Avenue (Parkdale Mansions) 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 194 Dowling Avenue and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be posted on the City's web site for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4, Notice requirements under 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 was served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

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

1. The property at 194 Dowling Avenue, 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 194 Dowling Avenue and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this by-law to be posted on the City's web site for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4, Notice requirements under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 25th day of September, A.D. 2008.

SANDRA BUSSIN,
Speaker

ULLI S. WATKISS
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)

SCHEDULE “A”**REASONS FOR DESIGNATION****Parkdale Mansions**Description

The property at 194 Dowling Avenue is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design, associative and contextual value. Located on the southwest corner of Queen Street West and Dowling Avenue, the apartment building historically known as the Parkdale Mansions was constructed in 1912 and occupied by July 1913 when it was recorded in the tax assessment rolls.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The Parkdale Mansions has design value as a well-crafted example of Edwardian Classical styling applied to an early 20th century apartment building. One of the most popular architectural styles of the early 20th century, Edwardian Classicism represented a return to symmetrical designs with detailing inspired by the buildings of ancient Greece and Rome. The apartment building at 194 Dowling Avenue was designed as a mirror image of its neighbour at 1501 Queen Street West (also named the Parkdale Mansions), with entrances on both dwellings facing Queen Street and the respective side streets.

The Parkdale Mansions are associated with the evolution of Parkdale in the 20th century. The area developed as a residential suburb along the north shore of Lake Ontario, west of Toronto. Parkdale was incorporated as a village in 1878 and a town in 1885 before it was annexed by the City of Toronto four years later. The increase in population in the early 1900s led to the development of previously vacant land and the replacement of single-family dwellings with apartment buildings. David Lavine, a Toronto developer, commissioned the apartment buildings at 194 Dowling Avenue and 1501 Queen Street West, naming both the “Parkdale Mansions.” The apartment building at 194 Dowling Avenue was renamed the Queensboro Apartments by 1930 to distinguish it from 1501 Queen Street West.

The site is associated with a tragic event in September 1998 when a deliberately set fire killed two residents and injured other occupants and firefighters. The incident was extensively covered by local media, which described the fire as “reminiscent of the 1989 blaze at the run-down Rupert Hotel that killed ten (and) sparked an inquest and a movement aimed at cleaning up Toronto’s most squalid rooming houses” (Globe and Mail, 30 September 1998).

Contextually, the Parkdale Mansions contribute to the character of Queen Street West in Parkdale. The apartment buildings at 194 Dowling and 1501 Queen Street West anchor the corners of the block on the south side of Queen Street West between Dowling Avenue (east) and Beaty Avenue (west). Together, they frame the central building at 1197 Queen Street West and create a sense of symmetry in the block. The adjoining blocks contain the Parkdale Substation (1928) at #1457 Queen and Our Lady of Lebanon Church (1911) at #1515 Queen, which are recognized on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties as local landmarks.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the Parkdale Mansions at 194 Dowling Avenue related to the building's cultural heritage value as a well-designed example of Edwardian Classicism that contributes to the character of Queen Street West in Parkdale and complements the near-identical building at 1501 Queen Street West are:

- The scale, form and massing of the three-storey structure.
- The mottled red and buff brick cladding with brick and cast stone trim.
- The flat roofline, which is marked by a stone cornice moulding and a brick parapet.
- The organization of the long principal (north) façade into seven bays, with the placement of the main entrance in the second bay from the right (west).
- The main entry, where a round-arched door opening with a transom is set in an Classical surround with a keystone, mouldings, pilasters, columns, an entablature, and a balustrade.
- Flanking the entry and in the second bay from the east end, the three-storey bay windows with parapets, flat-headed window openings, and stone lintels, sills and quoins.
- The flat-headed window openings with stone trim in the remaining bays.
- In the first bay from the east end, the chimney with stone detailing that extends above the cornice line.
- On the parapet above the entrance bay, a date stone (the numbers have been removed).
- The east elevation facing Dowling Avenue, where the central entry, bay windows and flat-headed window openings repeat the detailing introduced on the north façade.
- On the west elevation, the orientation of the wall to the neighbouring building to the west.
- On the rear (south) wall, the portion west from Dowling Avenue to the first row of window openings.

- The relationship of the building to 1501 Queen Street West, which was designed as its mirror-image.

SCHEDULE "B"

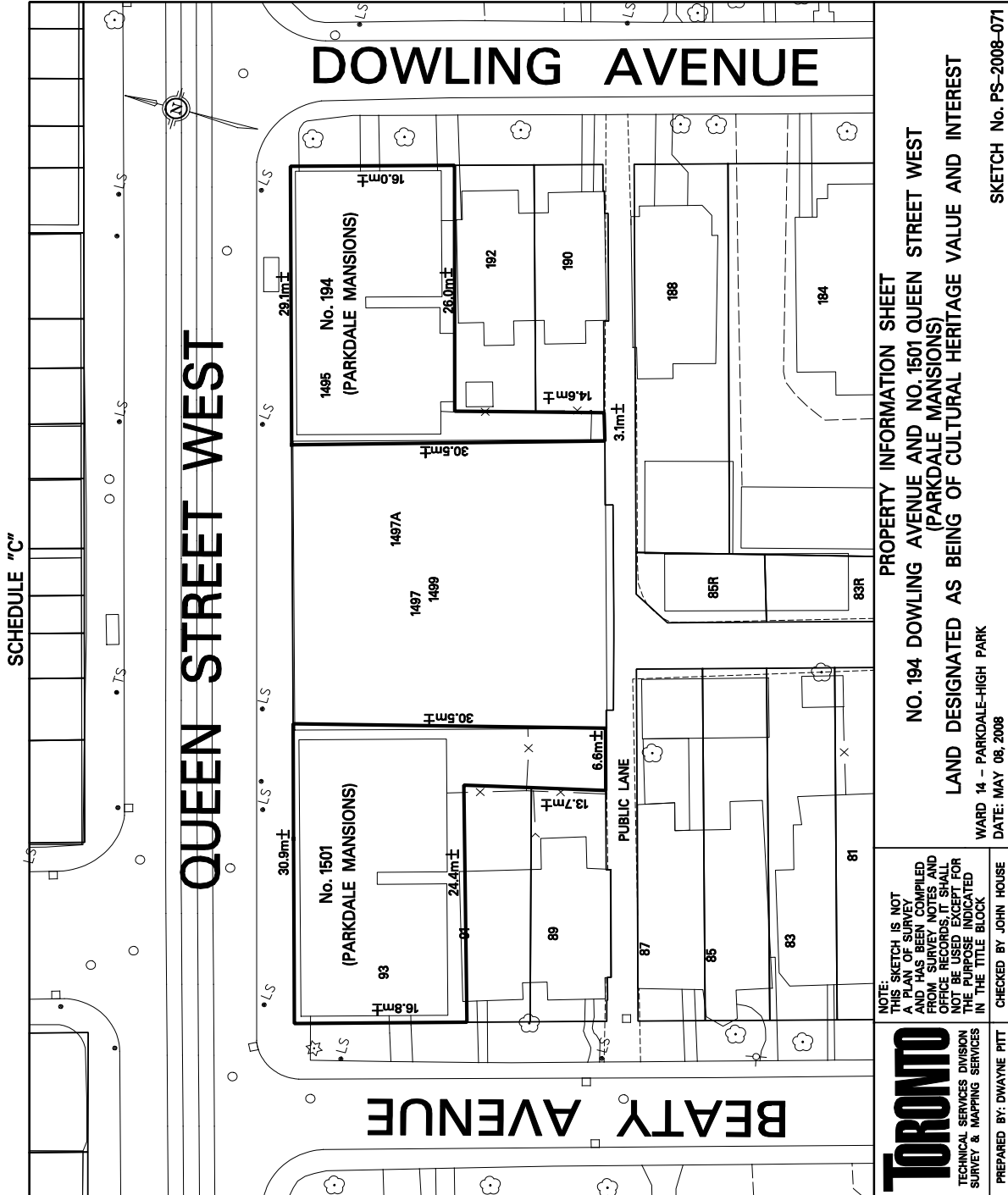
In the City of Toronto and Province of Ontario, in the Land Titles Division of the Toronto Registry Office (No. 66), being composed of:

PIN 21342-0265 (LT)

LOTS 4, 5 & PART OF LOT 6, PLAN 1231, CITY OF TORONTO, DESIGNATED AS PART 1, EXPROPRIATION PLAN NO. AT1284441

The hereinbefore described land being delineated by heavy outline on Sketch No. PS-2008-071 dated May 8, 2008, as set out in Schedule "C".

SCHEDULE "C"



SCHEDULE "C"

QUEEN STREET WEST

DOWLING AVENUE

BEATY AVENUE



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

PROPERTY INFORMATION SHEET

NO. 194 DOWLING AVENUE AND NO. 1501 QUEEN STREET WEST
 (PARKDALE MANSIONS)

LAND DESIGNATED AS BEING OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE AND INTEREST

WARD 14 - PARKDALE-HIGH PARK

DATE: MAY 08, 2008

CHECKED BY: JOHN HOUSE

PREPARED BY: DWAYNE PITT

SKETCH No. PS-2008-071