

Authority: Planning and Housing Committee  
Item PH32.14, adopted as amended, by City of  
Toronto Council on April 6 and 7, 2022

## **CITY OF TORONTO**

### **BY-LAW 569-2022**

#### **To designate the property at 2726 Danforth Avenue (with entrance address at 2732 Danforth Avenue) as being of cultural heritage value or interest.**

Whereas the Ontario Heritage Act authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact By-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest; and

Whereas authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 2726 Danforth Avenue (with entrance address at 2732 Danforth Avenue) as being 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 lands and premises known as 2726 Danforth Avenue (with entrance address at 2732 Danforth 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 website for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4.1. Notice requirements under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

Whereas no notice of objection was served upon the Clerk of the municipality within the prescribed time under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

Whereas the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule A to this By-law;

The Council of the City of Toronto enacts:

- 1.** The property at 2726 Danforth Avenue (with entrance address at 2732 Danforth Avenue), more particularly described in Schedule B 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 2726 Danforth Avenue (with entrance address at 2732 Danforth Avenue) at and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this By-law to be posted on the City's website for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4.1. Notice requirements under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Enacted and passed on June 16, 2022.

Frances Nunziata,  
Speaker

John D. Elvidge,  
City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

## **SCHEDULE A**

### **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION 2726 DANFORTH AVENUE (WITH ENTRANCE ADDRESS AT 2732 DANFORTH AVENUE)**

#### **Reasons for Designation**

The property at 2726 Danforth Avenue, now known as the Little York Hotel, is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value and meets Ontario Regulation 9/06, the provincial criteria prescribed for municipal designation under all three categories of design, associative and contextual value.

#### **Description**

Located on the north side of Danforth Avenue just west of Dawes Road in the heart of the former village of Little York, the pre-confederation era building at 2726 Danforth Avenue is the only surviving example of the 19th-century hotel/inn-type buildings that defined this historic intersection into the early 20th century. The property was identified in the Danforth Avenue Planning Study - Coxwell Avenue to Victoria Park Avenue (2018) and Main Street Planning Study (2019) as a potential heritage property and was subsequently listed on the City's Heritage Register on December 16, 2020.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

##### Design and Physical Value

The property at 2726 Danforth Avenue is valued as a unique surviving example in the historic Village of Little York of a pre-confederation era building. Built c.1850s-1860s, the former hotel/inn is representative of a typology which once occupied numerous properties around the Danforth Avenue and Dawes Road intersection in the mid-19th century.

Georgian styling is evident in the five nearly symmetrically-arranged, flat-headed window openings on the upper level with their double-hung sash wooden frames and two-over-two panes. Of particular significance is the building's timber-frame construction which includes massive 12"x12" oak posts and beams. Significantly, these structural members and their joinery were hand-hewn – a quality and level of craftsmanship that belies a construction date preceding the advent of machined lumber. Exterior sheathing on the upper-storey timber-frame structure consists of original lath and plaster behind tongue-and-groove wood siding. The single-storey retail storefront addition is an early 20th-century alteration to the original building and reflects the then emerging main street commercial character of Danforth Avenue.

##### Historical and Associative Value

The subject property is valued for its ability to yield information that contributes to our understanding of the development of various historic settlements near the GTR tracks at the corner of Danforth Avenue and Dawes Road from the mid-nineteenth to early-twentieth centuries. First the location of Dawes' Corners in 1850, followed by Smith's Corner in 1870, and

Little York and Coleman's Corner from the 1880s until the annexation of Little York to the Town of East Toronto in 1903, this intersection was a popular location for local inns and stores to serve the residential and commercial needs of market-bound farmers along Dawes Road, as well as a burgeoning local population.

### Contextual Value

Contextually, the Little York Hotel is visually, physically and historically linked to the Danforth and Dawes intersection where this pre-confederation era building represents the only remaining built evidence of numerous 19th-century hotels/inns once standing at this location.

The building is valued for single-handedly maintaining this once-defining typology in the area and, along with the adjacent main street commercial row properties at 2734-2740 Danforth Avenue, supporting the mid-late 19th century character as a stopping point for travellers and farmers between the rural northeast and downtown Toronto.

### **Heritage Attributes**

#### Design or Physical Value

Attributes that contribute to the value of the property at 2726 Danforth Avenue being a unique surviving example of a pre-confederation-era hotel/inn typology building in the Georgian style:

- The scale, form and massing of the 2-storey hotel/inn-type building with its "L"- shaped plan
- The placement, setback and orientation of the building on the north side of Danforth Avenue, west of Dawes Road
- The roofline with the main side gable roof fronting onto Danforth Avenue and the cross gable roof of the rear (north) tail or wing
- The placement of the three chimneys on the gable roofs
- The materials, with the tongue-and-groove wooden siding over lath-and-plaster walls at the second storey on all elevations (currently over-clad with insulbrick on the south and west elevations)
- The principal (south) elevation, with its five (nearly) symmetrically-arranged window openings at the upper-storey
- The flat-headed, double-hung sash window openings on all four elevations at the upper storey, with their wooden frames and sills, and two-over-two panes

### **Interior**

- Inside the basement level, the remaining massive timber posts and beams that served as structural support for the original building, with their hand-hewn markings and joinery

### Contextual Value

Attributes that contribute to the value of the property as supporting the historic character of the East End-Danforth neighbourhood:

- The scale, form and massing of the 2-storey hotel/inn-type building with its "L"- shaped plan
- The materials, with the tongue-and-groove wooden siding over lath-and-plaster walls at the second storey on all elevations (currently over-clad with insulbrick on the south and west elevations)

Attributes that contribute to the value of the property as being visually, physically and historically linked to the Danforth and Dawes intersection where this pre-confederation era building represents the only remaining built evidence of numerous 19th-century hotels/inns once standing at this location:

- The placement, setback and orientation of the building on the north side of Danforth Avenue, west of Dawes Road

Note: N.B. The existing commercial storefront addition projecting from the principal (south) elevation at the first storey level is not considered an attribute.

**SCHEDULE B**

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

PIN 10430-0343 (LT)  
PART OF LOT 10, REGISTERED PLAN 609 (EAST TORONTO)  
PART OF LOT 2, CONCESSION 2 FTB  
GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIP OF YORK AS IN EV74002

City of Toronto and Province of Ontario  
Land Titles Division of the Toronto Registry Office (No. 66)