

## **Lake Simcoe Ice Company Office Building**

### Description

On the property known municipally as 2270 Gerrard Street East (formerly known as 2276 Gerrard Street East), the portion containing the entrance to the Lake Simcoe Ice Company Office Building is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value or interest, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the categories of design, historical and contextual value. Located on the north side of Gerrard Street East, east of Main Street, the Lake Simcoe Ice Company Office Building was constructed in 1923-1924 as the branch office for the provider of natural ice to houses and businesses before modern refrigeration became an affordable commodity. The property was listed on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in 2004 when authority for a Heritage Easement Agreement was authorized. The entrance of the former office building was retained on the site as part of a new residential development. The remainder of the property at 2270 Gerrard Street East is not included in the Reasons for Designation.

### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

With features derived from Edwardian Classicism, the style popular for domestic and commercial architecture in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Lake Simcoe Ice Company Office Building also has historical value as a reminder of the development of East Toronto. Originating as a separate municipality around the intersection of Main Street and Gerrard Street East, East Toronto was amalgamated with the City of Toronto in 1908. In the area, the Police Station and Fire Hall at 85 and 97 Main Street, and the Donald Stephenson House (built in 1894 and associated with a prominent local politician) at 2190 Gerrard Street East, are other significant heritage resources associated with the East Toronto community that are included on the City's heritage inventory.

### Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the Lake Simcoe Ice Company Building consist of the main entrance, specifically:

- Above a stone base, the red brickwork flanking a round-arched opening with brick voussoirs and a stone keystone
- On either side of the archway, the brick piers with stone capitals that support a wood cornice with brackets and a brick parapet

Apart from the entrance described above, the remaining portions of the former office building have been demolished.