DA TORONTO

STAFF REPORT ACTION REQUIRED

315 Bloor Street West – Intention to Designate under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act and Authority to enter into a Heritage Easement Agreement

Date:	May 17, 2010	
То:	Toronto Preservation Board Toronto and East York Community Council	
From:	Acting Director, Policy & Research, City Planning Division	
Wards:	Ward 20 – Trinity-Spadina	
Reference Number:	P:\2010\Cluster B\PLN\HPS\TEYCC\te 06 22 10\teHPS10	

SUMMARY

This report recommends that City Council state its intention to designate the property at 315 Bloor Street West under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act and to authorize the entering into of a Heritage Easement Agreement between the City and the University of Toronto, owners of the property. The property at 315 Bloor Street West was listed on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in June 1973.

The property at 315 Bloor Street West, which is located on the southwest corner of Devonshire Place and Bloor Street West and contains the building originally known as the Dominion Meteorological Building, is being converted by the University of Toronto for the School of Global Affairs. The University of Toronto has agreed to the designation of the property and to enter into a heritage easement agreement with the City.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The City Planning Division recommends that:

 City Council state its intention to designate the property at 315 Bloor Street West (Dominion Meteorological Building) under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

- 2. If there are no objections to the designation in accordance with Section 29(6) of the Ontario Heritage Act, City Council authorize the City Solicitor to introduce the bills in Council designating the property under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- 3. If there are objections in accordance with Section 29(7) of the Ontario Heritage Act, City Council direct the City Clerk to refer the designation to the Conservation Review Board.
- 4. If the designation is referred to the Conservation Review Board, City Council authorize the City Solicitor and appropriate staff to attend any hearing held by the Conservation Review Board in support of Council's decision on the designation of the property.
- 5. City Council grant authority for the execution of a Heritage Easement Agreement under Section 37 of the Ontario Heritage Act with the owner of the property.
- 6. City Council authorize the City Solicitor to introduce the necessary bill in Council authorizing the entering into of a Heritage Easement Agreement.

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

ISSUE BACKGROUND

The University of Toronto is converting its property at 315 Bloor Street West as the location of the School of Global Affairs. A location map (Attachment No. 1) and photographs (Attachment No. 2) are attached. According to the development plans, a rear (south) addition will be added and minor alterations made to the existing heritage buildings. As a part of the rehabilitation project, the buildings will also undergo exterior restoration including masonry and window repair. The property is listed on the City's heritage inventory, and the University has agreed to its designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act and to enter into a Heritage Easement Agreement with the City.

COMMENTS

Staff have completed the attached Heritage Property Research and Evaluation Report (Attachment No. 4) for the property at 315 Bloor Street West. As a result of this assessment, staff have determined that the property meets Ontario Regulation 9/06, the criteria prescribed for municipal designation for its design, associative and contextual values. Located on the southwest corner of Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place, the Dominion Meteorological Building (1909) is a 2½-storey institutional building with a distinctive tower.

The Reasons for Designation (Statement of Significance) are found in Attachment No. 3. The property at 315 Bloor Street West is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value, and meets the provincial criteria prescribed for municipal designation under the categories of design, associative and contextual values. Anchoring the southwest corner of Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place on the University of Toronto campus, the Dominion Meteorological Building (1909) is an excellent and well-crafted example of an institutional building executed in the Romanesque Revival style by the notable Toronto architectural firm of Burke, Horwood and White. As the headquarters of the Meteorological Service of Canada until 1971, the site is associated with scientific research and advances in weather forecasting. The Reasons for Designation (Statement of Significance), which is the public Notice of Intention to Designate, will be advertised on the City of Toronto's web site in accordance with the City of Toronto Act provisions and served on the owners of 315 Bloor Street West and on the Ontario Heritage Trust according to the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act.

CONTACT

Mary L. MacDonald, Acting Manager Heritage Preservation Services Tel: 416-338-1079 Fax: 416-392-1973 E-mail: mmacdon7@toronto.ca

SIGNATURE

Kerri A. Voumvakis, Acting Director Policy and Research City Planning Division

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment No. 1 – Location Map Attachment No. 2A & 2B – Photographs Attachment No. 3 – Reasons for Designation Attachment No. 4 – Heritage Property Research and Evaluation Report

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The **arrow** marks the location of the site.

This location map is for information purposes only; the exact boundaries of the property are <u>not</u> shown.



Principal (south) façade on Bloor Street West



Tower at east end



Principal (north) entrance

PHOTOGRAPHS: 315 BLOOR STREET WEST

ATTACHMENT NO. 2B



Contextual view of the Dominion Meteorological Building on the southwest corner of Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place



North elevation of the Transit House, which is located directly northwest of the Dominion Meteorological Building

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION: 315 BLOOR STREET WEST (STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE)

ATTACHMENT NO. 3 Page 1 of 3

Dominion Meteorological Building

Description

The property at 315 Bloor Street West is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 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 Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place, the Dominion Meteorological Building (1909) is a 2½-storey administration building with a tower. The site includes the Transit House, a single-storey outbuilding that originally contained meteorological instruments. The property was listed on the inaugural City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in June 1973.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The Dominion Meteorological Building has associative value for its direct links to significant institutions. From 1909 to 1971, it housed the Meteorological Service Canada, the federal government agency responsible for meteorological observations and weather forecasting. The University of Toronto's Admissions and Awards Office occupied the premises for nearly 40 years.

Historically, the Dominion Meteorological Building is also associated with the notable Toronto architectural firm of Burke, Horwood and White, which executed the plans prepared by its predecessor, Burke and Horwood. The partnership was headed by Edmund Burke, who had worked with his uncle, architect Henry Langley, before assuming the practice of another distinguished architect, William Storm. Teaming with J.C.B. Horwood in 1895, the pair designed such iconic Toronto buildings as Castle Memorial Hall (part of McMaster Hall and later the Royal Conservancy of Music). Murray White joined the practice in 1908, and the firm continued to receive commissions for a variety of residential, commercial, institutional and public buildings and structures, including the Prince Edward (Bloor Street) Viaduct.

From a design perspective, the Dominion Meteorological Building is a rare and unique example of a building type in Toronto, which was originally designed to house the observatory, meteorological equipment and administrative functions of the Meteorological Service of Canada. Its well-crafted design employed the popular Romanesque Revival style, identified by the rugged stone masonry, castle-like appearance and application of the round arch for the principal (south) entrance. The building displays a high degree of craftsmanship, including the treatment of the main entry with its decorative stone carvings, and the iconic tower, which was specifically designed to house the observatory's telescope.

Contextually, with its distinctive tower and location on the south side of Bloor Street West, the Dominion Meteorological Building is a local landmark at the north end of the University of Toronto campus. The building anchors the southwest corner of Devonshire Place, where it is setback from the intersection and adjoins the diminutive Transit House.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the property at 315 Bloor Street West are:

Dominion Meteorological Building:

- The scale, form and massing of the rectangular-shaped plan, which rises 2¹/₂stories above a raised base with window openings
- The roughly-textured sandstone cladding with smooth dressed stone trim on the window openings and cornice
- The truncated hipped roof with clay tile cladding, stone chimneys and stone-clad dormers
- On the principal (north) façade, the centrally-placed frontispiece with a stepped parapet and round-arched openings in the second storey and attic half-storey
- The main (north) entrance, which is elevated at the base of the frontispiece and accessed via stone steps
- The detailing of the north entrance, where the round-arched surround incorporates sandstone columns, brackets, carved mouldings with gargoyles, and a sculpted tympanum with the Royal coat-of-arms
- Flanking the north entry, the fenestration where flat-headed window openings are grouped in stone surrounds, contain wood sash windows, and have transoms in the first-floor openings and decorative upper light divided sashes in the second-storey openings
- At the north end, the round tower, which rises above the ridge of the adjoining roof and features narrow lancet window openings
- On the side elevations (east and west) that are viewed from Devonshire Place and Bloor Street West, respectively, the pattern and placement of the window openings
- The interior, with the cross corridors with arch detailing, the grand south staircase, the pressed brick cladding on the walls, and the original geometric tile flooring
- The setback of the building from Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place where a stone and ironwork fence outlines the perimeter of the property

315 Bloor Street West

Transit House:

- The scale, form and massing of the single-storey structure
- The clinker brick cladding with the smooth grey brick trim
- The gable roof that is covered with clay tile and incorporates a skylight
- The round-arched window openings
- The placement of the building to the northwest of the Dominion Meteorological Building, where it is angled according to the exact astronomical north-south orientation

ATTACHMENT NO. 4

HERITAGE PROPERTY RESEARCH AND EVALUATION REPORT



DOMINION METEOROLOGICAL BUILDING 315 BLOOR STREET WEST, TORONTO

Prepared by:

Heritage Preservation Services City Planning Division City of Toronto

May 2010



Dominion Meteorological Building, c. 1908 (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1244, Item 3022)

315 Bloor Street West: Dominion Meteorological Building				
ADDRESS	315 Bloor Street West (southwest corner of Devonshire			
	Place)			
WARD	20 (Trinity-Spadina)			
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Plan 101E, Part Lots 22-27			
NEIGHBOURHOOD/COMMUNITY	University of Toronto Campus			
HISTORICAL NAME	Dominion Meteorological Building			
CONSTRUCTION DATE	1908			
ORIGINAL OWNER	Government of Canada			
ORIGINAL USE	Observatory and administration building			
CURRENT USE*	Institutional: University of Toronto			
	* This does not refer to permitted use(s) as defined by the			
	Zoning By-law			
ARCHITECT/BUILDER/DESIGNER	Burke, Horwood and White, architects			
DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION	stone cladding; stone and wood trim			
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE	Romanesque Revival			
ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS	1934, dome on tower removed, Harry Jennings and Son,			
	contractors			
CRITERIA	Design/Physical, Historical/Associative & Contextual			
HERITAGE STATUS	Listed on City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties			
RECORDER	Heritage Preservation Services: Kathryn Anderson			
REPORT DATE	May 2010			

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2. BACKGROUND

This research and evaluation report describes the history, architecture and context of the property at 315 Bloor Street West, and applies evaluation criteria to determine whether it merits designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act according to Ontario Regulation 9/06. The conclusions of the research and evaluation are found in Section 4 (Summary).

i. HISTORICAL TIMELINE

Key Date	Historical Event
1891	University of Toronto registers Plan 101E for a residential subdivision along
	Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place
1907	The university enters into an agreement with the federal government for the
	development of an observatory, administrative building, and related
	outbuildings on the subject property
1908 January	Building permit #9882 is issued for the observatory
1908 August	The observatory complex is under construction according to the tax assessment
	rolls
1909	A year later, the building is occupied
1934	Domed roof on the observatory is removed

ii. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

University of Toronto

The property at 315 Bloor Street West is located on the University of Toronto's St. George campus. The origins of the institution date to 1827 and the founding of King's College, which was reconstituted as a nondenominational university in 1849. The main campus was assembled in the area west of Queen's Park between present-day College Street and Bloor Street West. While the earliest institutional buildings were grouped towards College Street, the northern sector was first developed with residential buildings along St. George Street. In 1891, the university registered Plan 101E, subdividing the lands between Bloor Street West and Hoskin Street on either side of Devonshire Place into residential building lots. While the tracts on the southwest corner of Bloor and Devonshire were sold prior to the turn of the century, by 1907 the governors of the university had reacquired the property and conveyed the land to the federal government as the new location of the Meteorological Service of Canada's observatory and administrative building.

Dominion Meteorological Building

In 1840, the British Government built its first Royal Magnetic and Meteorological Observatory on the University of Toronto campus. This development followed an international interest in measuring the earth's magnetic field for magnetic, meteorological and time observations. The Dominion (Canadian) Government assumed responsibility for the facility in 1855 and erected a permanent structure at the university. In 1871, the observatory became the headquarters of the Meteorological Service of Canada where

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weather mapping, storm warnings and daily forecasts were issued. Over time, the Observatory's operations were impacted by urban intrusions, including the metal construction of the neighbouring buildings and the extension of electric streetcar service on nearby College Street. As a result, the instruments measuring magnetic observations were relocated outside of the city, while a new building was designed for the meteorological service at Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place.¹

The building permit for the Dominion Meteorological Building was issued in January 1908 (as reproduced in Section 6 of this report), and contractors Brown and Love supervised the construction of the complex in the summer.² According to plans filed at the Archives of Ontario, the Transit House (designed to house a fixed transit telescope) and a Chronometer House (now demolished) were built at the same time.³

By the 1930s, the David Dunlap Observatory opened north of the city, resulting in the removal of the telescope (and the domed roof of the observatory) and the conversion of the space for storage. The premises remained the headquarters of Canada's meteorological service until 1971 when it was relocated to the Atmospheric Environment Service Building on Dufferin Street. Beginning in 1975, the University of Toronto's Admissions and Awards Office occupied the site for over 30 years. The property was included on the inaugural City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in June 1973.

Burke, Horwood and White, Architects

The Dominion Meteorological Building was designed by the Toronto architectural firm of Burke and Horwood, and executed by its successor, Burke, Horwood and White. The practice was founded in 1895 when Edmund Burke entered into a partnership with fellow architect J.C.B. Horwood. Burke had apprenticed with his uncle, architect Henry Langley before joining him and another uncle, Edward Langley in the firm of Langley, Langley and Burke. While the partners continued to concentrate on ecclesiastical commissions that were the mainstay of Henry Langley's long career, their other projects included McMaster Hall (1880), the Baptist Theological College on Bloor Street West, east of Devonshire Place. After Edward Langley's retirement in 1883, the partnership of Henry Langley and Edmund Burke continued, with Burke assuming the role of chief designer. In 1892, Burke worked alone after acquiring the practice of deceased architect William Storm. This began a new and innovative period of his career when he prepared the plans for Toronto's first Chicago-style cast-iron building for department store merchant Robert Simpson (as well as its replacement after the first store was destroyed by fire). In 1895, Burke's new partner, architect J. C. B. Horwood, had articled with

¹ The Royal Observatory was disassembled and partially reconstructed on Hart House Circle where it later housed the university's Students' Administrative Council (the site is recognized on the City's heritage inventory).

² Brown and Love constructed many of Toronto's best-known buildings at the end of the 19th century. Another extant example of their work is the George Gooderham House at Bloor Street West and St. George Street, opposite the subject property.

³ The positions of the outbuildings are also outlined on the Goad's Atlas for 1910, revised to 1912, with the extract reproduced in Section 6 of this report.

Langley and Burke before gaining additional experience in New York City. Chicagotrained architect Murray White joined the practice in 1908.

Burke and Horwood received the commission for the Dominion Meteorological Building in 1906, although construction did not start until after White joined the firm. The architects based their plans for the complex on the Dominion Observatory (1899) in Ottawa, for which David Ewart, Chief Architect for the Department of Works, shared his plans. Burke and Horwood "adopted in turn the rough-hewn masses of Ewart's design right down to the tower resembling a medieval battlement."⁴ Its design inspired the firm's next project in 1908 for the Royal College of Dental Surgeons (now the University of Toronto's Faculty of Architecture, Landscape and Design on the northeast corner of College Street and Huron Street). By 1910, Burke had relinquished the majority of his design responsibilities to his partners, but he continued to manage the firm as it acquired noteworthy commissions that included Willard Hall (1911), the Women's Christian Temperance Union's residence on Gerrard Street East, as well as the iconic Prince Edward (Bloor Street) Viaduct.

iii ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Dominion Meteorological Building is designed in the Romanesque Revival, which was one of the most prevalent architectural styles in Canada at the close of the 19th century and identified by its typical rough-textured masonry, castle-like forms and round-arched motifs drawn from 10th through 12th century architecture. The style quickly gained popularity through the work of American architect, H. H. Richardson, whose application of its forms was dubbed "Richardsonian Romanesque." In Toronto, the best-known example of the Romanesque Revival is Old City Hall (1889-1898).

The Dominion Meteorological Building features a 2 ¹/₂-storey rectangular plan above a raised base with window openings. The highlight of the design is the round tower that protrudes at the east end of the structure and displays an arcaded parapet, corbelled machicolations and, on the shaft, staggered windows (the original domed roof was removed). Above a rusticated stone base, the building is clad with rough-hewn Miramichi sandstone from New Brunswick, with smooth sandstone applied for the trim. The main body is covered by a truncated hip roof with extended eaves and brackets, clay tile roofing, stone chimneys and, on the south face, gabled stone dormers.⁵

On the principal (north) façade, a frontispiece with a parapet is centered in the wall. At the base of the frontispiece where it is accessed by stone steps, the main entrance is placed in a round-arched opening with columns, brackets and carved mouldings with gargoyles. A sculpted tympanum contains the Royal coat-of-arms. In the upper stories above the entry, round-arched window openings are set in stone surrounds with quoins. Similar detailing is applied to the openings on either side of the frontispiece, where

⁴ Carr, <u>Toronto Architect Edmund Burke</u>, 1995, 88

⁵ In 2010, plans for the rehabilitation of the building for the University of Toronto's School of Global Affairs involve the construction of a rear (south) addition and alterations to the historic building, including the introduction of new window openings and the removal of the east chimney.

groups of four flat-headed window openings contain wood windows, with transoms in the lower storey and decorative upper light divided sashes in the second floor. The fenestration and detailing is continued on the side elevations and rear (south) wall, which contains a secondary entry with classical detailing beneath a monumental round-arched window opening.

On the interior, surviving heritage attributes are found on the first and second stories where the cross-corridors have arches and pressed brick cladding, the grand staircase rises at the rear (south), and original geometric tile flooring remains.

Located northwest of the main building, the Transit House is a diminutive single-storey T-shaped outbuilding that is clad with clinker brick and trimmed with smooth grey brick under a gabled roof with clay tile and a narrow skylight. The round-arched window openings complement those on the administration building. Placed on an angle in relation to Bloor Street, the alignment of the Transit House is related to the operation of the equipment it originally housed.

The Dominion Meteorological Building and Transit House are set back from Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place where a fence with stone posts and decorative ironwork extends along the east and north ends of the property. Near the north edge of the site, a commemorative plaque erected by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada is entitled "Early Meteorology in Canada."

iv CONTEXT

The Dominion Meteorological Building is located on the southwest corner of Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place near the north end of the University of Toronto campus. Directly west, the property is adjoined by the Woodsworth College Residence and, to the east, the university's stadium anchors the other corner of Bloor and Devonshire. The George Gooderham House (later known as the York Club) is located to the northwest near the intersection of Bloor Street West and St. George Street where it complements the Dominion Meteorological Building in style and scale.

3. EVALUATION CHECKLIST

The following evaluation applies <u>Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the Ontario</u> <u>Heritage Act: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest</u>. While the criteria are prescribed for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, the City of Toronto uses it when assessing properties for inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties. The evaluation table is marked "N/A" if the criterion is "not applicable" to the property or X if it is applicable, with explanatory text below.

Design or Physical Value	
i. rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression,	Х
material or construction method	
ii. displays high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	Х
iii. demonstrates high degree of scientific or technical achievement	X

Rare and Unique Example of a Building Type, and Representative Example of a

Style – The Dominion Meteorological Building is a rare and unique example in Toronto of an original institutional building with an observatory. While an earlier observatory survives on campus, it was relocated to Hart House Circle and substantially rebuilt.⁶ With its roughly-textured sandstone cladding, fortress-like appearance with a distinctive round tower and round-arched openings, the Dominion Meteorological Building is a representative example of the Romanesque Revival style applied to an institutional building in Toronto.

High Degree of Craftsmanship – The Dominion Meteorological Building displays a high degree of craftsmanship in its design with a round tower that recalls medieval fortifications, its rich surface textures combining rough and smooth stone, and the decorative detailing on the door and window openings.

High Degree of Scientific or Technical Achievement – With the adjoining Transit House, the Dominion Meteorological Building displays a high degree of scientific or technical achievement as a purpose-built complex that incorporated an observatory and its accompanying meteorological equipment.

Historical or Associative Value	
i. direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or	X
institution that is significant to a community	
ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an	N/A
understanding of a community or culture	
iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder,	
designer or theorist who is significant to a community	

Institution – The Dominion Meteorological Building is identified with institutions of national importance. From its opening in 1909 until 1971, the complex was occupied by the Meteorological Service of Canada, which was founded in 1871 to conduct meteorological research and observe and forecast weather patterns. The Meteorological Service of Canada was a leader in innovations in weather reporting during the 20th century. In the 1930s under its director, meteorologist John Patterson, the Service developed a 24-hour weather service to assist airmail flights. During the Second World War, Patterson and his staff provided meteorological training to facilitate the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan (BCATP), and provided long-range weather forecasts

⁶ Another much later example is the observatory (1969) at the Petrie Science and Engineering Building (1968) at York University, which was constructed in the City of North York.

for the Ferry Command and Coastal Command. In recognition of his contributions, the Canadian government created the "Patterson Medal," which is awarded annually to a distinguished Canadian in the field of meteorology.

Beginning in the mid 1970s, the Dominion Meteorological Building housed the offices of the University of Toronto's Admissions and Awards Office. In operation for nearly two centuries, the University of Toronto is one of Canada's leading post-secondary institutions that is renowned for its research innovations and academic achievements. With over 60,000 undergraduates and graduate students, the University also administers an array of scholarship programs. In 2010, plans are underway to convert the Dominion Meteorological Building for the University's School of Global Affairs.

Architect – The Dominion Meteorological Building is a noteworthy reflection of the career of the Toronto architectural firm of Burke and Horwood, which designed the complex, and its successor, Burke, Horwood and White, which executed the plans. With architect Edmund Burke as principal, the partnership was responsible for a wide variety of commissions during the late 19th and early 20th centuries when it was among the city's best-known firms.

Contextual Value	
i. important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area	Х
ii. physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings	X
iii. landmark	X

Character – The Dominion Meteorological Building supports the institutional character of Bloor Street West, extending from Queen's Park to Spadina Avenue along the north edge of the University of Toronto's main campus. To the east, McMaster Hall (now the Royal Conservancy of Music) and the Royal Ontario Museum are complementary late 19th- and early-20th century institutional buildings that share the roughly-textured cladding and Romanesque Revival detailing of the Dominion Meteorological Building, as well as its presence as an iconic institutional building on Bloor Street West.

Surroundings – The Dominion Meteorological Building is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings at the north end of the University of Toronto's St. George campus. The complex forms part of the collection of institutional buildings associated with the university, including the neighbouring Woodsworth College Residence on St. George Street on the west, and Varsity Stadium to the east.

Landmark – Anchoring the southwest corner of Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place and displaying an iconic round tower, the Dominion Meteorological Building is a local landmark on Bloor Street West and on the northern perimeter of the university campus.

4. SUMMARY

Following research and evaluation according to Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 315 Bloor Street West has cultural heritage value for its design, associative and contextual significance. The Dominion Meteorological Building is an institution of importance for the community, which served as the headquarters of the Meteorological Service of Canada for more than 60 years, and subsequently housed the University of Toronto's Office of Admissions and Awards for over 30 years. Designed by the prominent Toronto architectural firm of Burke and Horwood, and executed by its successor, the Dominion Meteorological Building is well-crafted example of the Romanesque Revival style. The Dominion Meteorological Building is also a rare and unique complex in Toronto that demonstrates scientific or technical achievement as a purpose-built observatory with related auxiliary buildings, including the extant Transit House. Located on the southwest corner of Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place, the Dominion Meteorological Building contributes contextually to the institutional character of Bloor Street West at the north end of the University of Toronto's campus where the observatory is a local landmark.

5. SOURCES

Archival Sources

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"World's magnetic force caught in Toronto," Toronto Star (29 August 1987)

6. IMAGES



Extract, <u>Goad's Atlas</u>, 1910 revised to 1912, showing the Dominion Meteorological Building and Transit House in place at the southwest corner of Bloor Street West and Devonshire Place



Drawing, north elevation, 315 Bloor Street West (Archives of Ontario, Horwood Collection)

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BUILDING PERMIT	The second
Plan No. 9887	
Lot No	
Toronto, JAN 31 1908 190	
Permit granted to	
Mr. I starter Observations Dominions Grat.	
To evect a 3 slowy brick Observationy	
on cn. Blon St. & Devanching Place.	
Architect Barke, Howwood +U lite.	
Builder Bunn + Love.	
E Cust of Building, \$ 91, 8 or	
[§] Plans and Specifications approved by	
1	
No. of Block Plan	

Building Permit #9887, January 31, 1908 (City of Toronto Archives)



Sir Frederick Stupart, director of the Meteorological Service of Canada, at the entrance to 315 Bloor Street West, c.1917 (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1244, Item 2340)



Detail of the Royal Observatory, Ottawa, which inspired the design of the Dominion Meteorological Building in Toronto (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1244, Item 9173)