

Authority: Toronto and East York Community Council
Item TE18.17, as adopted by City of Toronto Council on
September 30, October 1 and 2, 2020

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW 1143-2020

To designate the property at 661 Huron Street 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 661 Huron Street 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 661 Huron Street 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; 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 661 Huron Street, 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 at 661 Huron Street 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 December 18, 2020.

Frances Nunziata,
Speaker

John D. Elvidge,
Interim City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

SCHEDULE A

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Reasons for Designation

The property at 661 Huron Street 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 Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act under all three categories of design, associative and contextual value.

Description

Located on the east side of Huron Street south of Dupont Street in The Annex neighbourhood, the property at 661 Huron Street was completed in 1891 and comprises a 2.5-storey brick and stone house-form building originally constructed as a single family residence. From 1924 through 1933, the building became known as the Elizabeth Rye Home, a children's home established by the Church of England's Waifs and Strays Society that housed and trained young British girls for domestic service.

Statement of Significance

Design/Physical Value

The property at 661 Huron Street has cultural heritage value as a fine representative example of Queen Anne Revival styling applied to a large house-form building in the last decade of the nineteenth century. The style, identified by the variety of materials and their decorative detailing, asymmetrical profile and complicated roof lines including conical roofs, represented the exuberance of architectural styling of the late Victorian era. Despite a number of later additions and alterations over the years, the original building at 661 Huron Street maintains its physical integrity and is noteworthy for its attractive combination of forms, massing and stonework.

Historical/Associative Value

The property at 661 Huron Street is valued for its associations with the Christian organization known as the Waifs and Strays Society established by the Church of England. From 1924 through 1933 the property, then known as the Elizabeth Rye Home, housed and trained immigrant British girls for employment in domestic service.

Contextual Value

Contextually, the property at 661 Huron Street has cultural heritage value for its visual and historical links to its setting in The Annex neighbourhood. Its appearance reflects the late-nineteenth to early-twentieth century development of the area as one of the most sought-after residential enclaves in Toronto where the city's leading citizens occupied large-scale houses. The property at 661 Huron Street is significant in context with the adjacent property at 663-665 Huron Street directly to the north, as these two properties together comprise the earliest structures built on the block between Dupont Street and Bernard Avenue following Simeon Janes' subdivision of this portion of The Annex neighbourhood in 1886.

The heritage attributes of the property at 661 Huron Street are:

- The setback, placement and orientation of the building on its lot on the east side of Huron Street south of Dupont Street.
- The scale, form and massing of the 2.5-storey plan above a raised basement.
- The materials, with the red brick and rusticated stone cladding and the stone and wood detailing.
- The complicated rooflines with their combination of hipped, gabled and conical roofs and rectangular brick chimney rising just behind the principal (west) elevation.
- The various decorative cornices at the rooflines on the principal (west) elevation and corner tower with the wood soffits and dentil detailing.
- On the principal (west) elevation, the terracotta fish-scale shingling on the conical roofs and central gable peak.
- The principal (west) elevation, which is asymmetrically arranged including a 2-storey corner tower at the north end and an upper-storey oriel window at the south end.
- The main entrance located on the north elevation, with its raised and recessed doorway beyond a large, rounded-arch red brick entryway with red sandstone detailing at the springing joints and keystone.
- On the north side, the gabled parapet roofline centred over the main entrance.
- The recessed, second-storey porch on the principal (west) elevation with its decorative wooden framing.
- The window openings, including their arrangement on the principal (west) and north elevations, with the stone lintels and sills.
- The existing original fenestration with the double-hung sash windows and glass transoms above.

Note: the later 2-storey additions to the south and east (rear) elevations of the original building are not considered heritage attributes

SCHEDULE B
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

PIN 21216-0132(LT)
LOT 221 & PART OF LOT 220, REGISTERED PLAN M6,
COMMENCING AT THE NORTHWEST ANGLE OF LOT 220, THENCE SOUTHERLY
ALONG THE EASTERLY LIMIT OF HURON STREET 30 FEET MORE OR LESS TO A
POINT DISTANT 20 FEET MEASURED NORTHERLY FROM THE SOUTHWEST ANGLE
OF SAID LOT; THENCE EASTERLY PARALLEL WITH THE SOUTHERLY LIMIT OF
SAID LOT 120 FEET MORE OR LESS TO THE EASTERLY LIMIT OF SAID LOT;
THENCE NORTHERLY ALONG THE SAID EASTERLY LIMIT OF SAID LOT 30 FEET
MORE OR LESS TO THE NORTHEAST ANGLE OF SAID LOT; THENCE WESTERLY
ALONG THE NORTHERLY LIMIT OF SAID LOT 120 FEET MORE OR LESS TO THE
POINT OF BEGINNING; TORONTO

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