

Authority: Toronto and East York Community Council
Item TE23.19, as adopted by City of Toronto Council on
March 10, 2021

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW 372-2021

To designate the property at 2946 Dundas Street West (with entrance addresses at 2948, 2950 and 2952 Dundas Street West) 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 2946 Dundas Street West (with entrance addresses at 2948, 2950 and 2952 Dundas Street West) 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 2946 Dundas Street West (with entrance addresses at 2948, 2950 and 2952 Dundas Street West) 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 2946 Dundas Street West (with entrance addresses at 2948, 2950 and 2952 Dundas Street West), 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 2946 Dundas Street West (with entrance addresses at 2948, 2950 and 2952 Dundas Street West) 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 May 6, 2021.

Frances Nunziata,
Speaker

John D. Elvidge,
City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

SCHEDULE A

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Reasons for Designation

The property at 2946 Dundas Street West (including entrance addresses at 2948, 2950 and 2952) is located on the north side of Dundas Street West, east of Pacific Avenue, and contains a three-storey mixed use building with four storefronts at ground level and eight residential units above. The building, known as the William Rowntree Block, was completed in 1921.

The property is located within The Junction Heritage Conservation District Study Area.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Design and Physical Value

The property at 2946 Dundas Street West has design value as a fine example of an early twentieth century commercial and residential mid-block building in the Neo-Gothic style with Collegiate Gothic features, the latter more often employed for educational institutions than for Main Street buildings. Buttresses, parapet walls with embrasures and brown rug-brick cladding punctuated by sandstone sills, lintels and caps are indicative of the style, while the "R" carved into the four pilaster capitals refers to the original property owner, William Rowntree.

Historical and Associative Value

The property has historical value as it is associated with the development of the West Toronto Junction and its main streets during the area's most prolific period of growth, following amalgamation with the City in 1909. It has historic associations with long-standing local resident William Rowntree, who commissioned the building, as well as the nearby heritage property at 2881-2887 Dundas Street West (1901) that housed the Rowntree meat and grocery business, as well as the offices of one of the area's first politicians, Andrew McMaster.

The William Rowntree Block is also valued for its association with the Junction-based Toronto architectural partnership of Smith & Wright, whose commissions also included the similarly Neo-Gothic styling of York Memorial Collegiate Institute (1929).

Contextual Value

The property at 2946 Dundas Street West has contextual value as it maintains this portion of Dundas Street West's late 19th and early 20th century Main Street pattern of two-three storey buildings with a mix of brick shopfronts with residential accommodation, monumental stone banks and post offices that characterised the West Toronto Junction throughout its early subdivision and development history.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the William Rowntree Block are:

- The placement of the property on the north side of Dundas Street West which contributes to its contextual value as this feature is representative of the early 20th century Main Street character of this portion of Dundas Street West within The Junction community
- The scale, form and massing of the three-storey building which contributes to its design and contextual value as they are characteristic of a local commercial and residential building and maintain the early 20th century character and scale of this section of Dundas Street West in the Junction
- The primary material cladding on the principal (south) elevation, which is brown rug-brick
- The roofline featuring a cornice in the central four bays indicated by upper and lower stone stringcourses and including four vertically arranged stone details, and the end pavilions feature a parapet wall with embrasures and stone trim
- On the principal (south) elevation, the stone details including the lintels, sills, spouts and caps, including the four capitals of the pilasters with the letter "R" carved on them
- The ground floor shopfronts are framed in stone, with the stone above the two end shopfronts being stepped (currently stuccoed over at 2952)
- The principal (south) elevation organized into two end pavilions with paired, flat-headed windows at the second and third storeys surmounted by decorative brick detailing, flanking four central bays containing four symmetrically-arranged window openings with flat headings at the second storey and segmental-arched openings and decorative brick headers at the third storey

SCHEDULE B
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

PART OF PIN 10518-1166 (LT)
LOT 71, PART OF LOTS 69 AND 70
REGISTERED PLAN 603, WEST TORONTO JUNCTION
LOTS 3, 4 AND 5 AND PART OF LOT 6 AND PART OF PRIVATE LANE REGISTERED
PLAN 1066, WEST TORONTO JUNCTION DESIGNATED AS PART 1, PLAN 66R-31284

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