

Authority: Item CC19.19, as adopted by City of Toronto Council on June 26 and 27, 2024
City Council voted in favour of this by-law on June 27, 2024
Written approval of this by-law was given by Mayoral Decision 15-2024 dated June 27, 2024

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW 701-2024

To designate the property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street (including the structure address of 130 East Liberty 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 80-86 Lynn Williams Street (including the structure address of 130 East Liberty 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 80-86 Lynn Williams Street (including the structure address of 130 East Liberty 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 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 80-86 Lynn Williams Street (including the structure address of 130 East Liberty 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 80-86 Lynn Williams Street (including the structure address of 130 East Liberty 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 June 27, 2024.

Frances Nunziata,
Speaker

John D. Elvidge,
City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

SCHEDULE A

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

80-86 LYNN WILLIAMS STREET (INCLUDING THE STRUCTURE ADDRESS OF 130 EAST LIBERTY STREET)

Reasons for Designation

The property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street (including the structure address of 130 East Liberty Street), is worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural value and meets Regulation 9/06, the provincial criteria prescribed for municipal designation under the categories of design/physical, historical/ associative and contextual value.

Description

The property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street (including the structure address of 130 East Liberty Street), also known as the A. R. Williams Machinery Company Warehouse, is located in Toronto's Liberty Village neighbourhood, on the north side of Lynn Williams Street, mid-block between Hanna Avenue and Western Battery Road. The property contains a 59-metre-long, brick warehouse building constructed in 1928-29 with a twostorey central mass flanked by one-storey wings. The south half of the building was renovated for office use in 2005, while the northerly portion is unused. The property is part of a concentration of listed and designated industrial heritage buildings within the Liberty Village vicinity and included on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street has historical, associative and contextual value for being directly associated with the industrial activity which historically defined the Liberty Village area throughout most of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Liberty Village was one of the primary industrial areas in Toronto from the 1870s until the last decades of the 1900s.

The A. R. Williams Manufacturing Warehouse contributed to this industrial activity serving as a machinery warehouse for the company from 1929 until about 1946. It likely served the company in a manufacturing capacity as well. By 1943 the west wing was being used by other companies as a welding shop and by 1948 the property had become the Liberty Storage Warehouse and operated in this capacity into the 1960s.

The 1928-29, A. R. Williams Machinery Company Warehouse has design and physical value for being representative of a warehouse building typology of the period. It is a 59- metre-long, rectangular, brick structure typical of manufacturing warehouses which were constructed at the time. The building features two-storey central massing flanked by one-storey wings on the east and west sides. Defining features of the building include its bands of clerestory windows on the second-storey east and west walls. A 10-ton travelling crane traversed the central portion of the building. The interior features exposed steel column with cross braces which support the structure and crane runway, as well as an open ceiling with steel trusses.

It is likely that the building was designed for factory use in addition to warehouse use. The clearstory windows allow for significant light infiltration suggesting a manufacturing purpose, in addition to other supporting evidence and research.

The A. R. Williams Warehouse has historic value as it yields information about the historical institutional character and uses of the Liberty Village area and specifically the former Central Prison for Men. The east wall of the warehouse wing is one of only two physical remnants - along with the former prison Chapel (1877), a block to the southeast on East Liberty Street - to recall the presence of the former prison at the site from 1873-1915. The east wall of the warehouse is the remnant party wall of an abutting two-story, former prison building constructed c.1890-1893 and used as a woodworking and iron-styling shop.

The A. R. Williams warehouse is historically linked to the area's industrial heritage and anchors the eastern portion of Liberty Village, an area which is defined by warehouse buildings and industrial complexes. The form, scale, materials of the warehouse typology further define, maintain and support the character of the area.

Heritage Attributes

Design or Physical Value

Attributes that contribute to the value of the property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street being a representative example of an early Nineteenth Century warehouse type building includes:

Exterior features of the warehouse:

- The form, scale and massing comprising a two-storey, gable roof central mass with flanking one-storey, flat-roof extensions (wings)
- The multi-pane clerestory windows forming the east and west facades of the second storey
- The fenestration, including doorway openings, and the multi-pane profile of the window sashes
- The brick cladding and construction materials; the rough-dressed stone window sills
- The ghost signage of the north and south gables showing "A. R. Williams Machinery Co. Liberty Street Plant"
- Four skylights (two per each one-storey wing)

Interior features of the warehouse:

- The steel structural framework including vertical supports and steel roof trusses
- The travelling crane and its structural framework

Historical or Associative Value

Attributes that contribute to the value of the property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street for having direct associations with the industrial activity that is significant to the Liberty Village area includes:

- The industrial character of the property as found in its design and physical features

Attributes that contribute to the value of the property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street for yielding information that contributes to an understanding of the early institutional character and function of the Liberty Village area includes:

- The remnant brick party wall of the former Central Prison building (c, 1890-1893) which abutted the warehouse helping to form the east wall and east corner or the south wall of the warehouse

Contextual Value

Attributes that contribute to the contextual value of the property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street as being functionally and historically linked to its surroundings:

- The warehouse building typology and other design and physical features in contribution to the historic industrial character of Liberty Village

Attributes that contribute to the contextual value of the property at 80-86 Lynn Williams Street as defining, supporting and maintaining the historic character of the area:

- The building's contribution to the concentration of other industrial heritage buildings in the area

SCHEDULE B
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

80-86 Lynn Williams Street (Including the structure address of 130 East Liberty Street)

PIN 21299-0176 (LT)
PART OF BLOCK 11, ORDANCE RESERVE TORONTO
AS IN CT887238
PIN 21299-0268 (LT)
PART OF BLOCK 11, ORDNANCE RESERVE TORONTO
AS IN WF36908
City of Toronto and Province of Ontario
Land Titles Division of the Toronto Registry Office (No. 66)