

Toronto Preservation Board

Meeting No.: 42

Contact: Tanya Spinello, Committee Administrator

Meeting Date: Monday, March 30, 2026

Phone: 416-397-4592

Start Time: 9:30 AM

E-mail: hertpb@toronto.ca

Location: Committee Room 3, City Hall/Video Conference

Chair: Julia Rady

PB42.1 - 171 East Liberty Street - Inclusion on the Heritage Register

Decision Type: ACTION

Status: Adopted

Ward: 10 - Spadina - Fort York

Board Decision

The Toronto Preservation Board recommends that:

1. City Council include 171 East Liberty Street (including structure addresses at 165 – 167 East Liberty Street, 171 East Liberty Street and 37 Hanna Avenue) on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register in accordance with the Listing Statement (Reasons for Inclusion) attached as Attachment 1 to the report (March 13, 2026) from the Senior Manager, Heritage Planning, Urban Design, City Planning.

Origin

(March 13, 2026) Report from the Senior Manager, Heritage Planning, Urban Design, City Planning

Summary

At its meeting on March 30, 2026 the Toronto Preservation Board considered Item [PB42.1](#) and made recommendations to City Council.

Summary from the report (March 13, 2026) from the Senior Manager, Heritage Planning, Urban Design, City Planning:

This report recommends that City Council include 171 East Liberty Street (including structure addresses at 165 – 167 East Liberty Street, 171 East Liberty Street and 37 Hanna Avenue) on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register for its cultural heritage value and interest according to the Listing Statement (Reasons for Inclusion) found in Attachment 1.

The subject property at 171 East Liberty Street is located at the southeast corner of East Liberty Street and Hanna Avenue in the Fort York – Liberty Village neighbourhood. The property is a former factory complex containing three brick buildings constructed in 1942 as the John Inglis

Company Bren Gun Assembly and Test Buildings. The site comprises buildings at 171 East Liberty Street (the north structure), 37 Hanna Avenue (the south structure) and 165-167 East Liberty Street (the northeast structure with associated smokestack). The property contributes to an important collection of surviving industrial buildings in Liberty Village. A location map and current photograph of the heritage property are found in Attachment 1.

The property recommended for inclusion on the City's Heritage Register has been researched and evaluated by staff using the criteria prescribed in Ontario Regulation 9/06 and meets one or more of the provincial criteria for determining cultural heritage value or interest and is believed to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

On January 1, 2023, amendments to the Ontario Heritage Act (the Act) through the More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022 (Bill 23) came into effect. Under the Act, as amended, a municipal heritage register may include properties that have not been designated but Council believes to be of "cultural heritage value or interest", and that meet one or more of the provincial criteria for determining whether they are of cultural heritage value or interest. The Act now also limits listing to a period of two years.

As of January 1, 2023, should a property be subject to an Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and/or Draft Plan of Subdivision Application, properties must be listed on the heritage register prior to Part IV designation and before the occurrence of a prescribed event. A prescribed event is a point of time when the application for an Official Plan Amendment, Zoning By-law Amendment and/or Draft Plan of Subdivision Application has been deemed complete and the City Clerk provides notice of that complete application to the public in accordance with the Planning Act.

The listing of non-designated properties on the municipal heritage register under the Act also extends interim protection from demolition and provides an opportunity for City Council to determine whether the property warrants conservation through designation under the Act should a development or demolition application be submitted.

Properties on the Heritage Register will be conserved and maintained in accordance with the Official Plan Heritage Policies. Heritage Impact Assessments (HIA) are required for development applications that affect listed properties.

Background Information

(March 13, 2026) Report and Attachment 1 from the Senior Manager, Heritage Planning, Urban Design, City Planning on 171 East Liberty Street - Inclusion on the Heritage Register (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2026/pb/bgrd/backgroundfile-285284.pdf>)

Communications

(March 30, 2026) E-mail from Nicole Corrado (PB.New)