THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF GREY HIGHLANDS

BY-LAW NUMBER 2013-59

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE 19 TORONTO STREET NORTH (MARKDALE OLD FIRE HALL) TO BE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE AND INTEREST

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, as amended, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact a by-law to designate real property including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS Council consulted with its’ Municipal Heritage Committee and approved the designation of a property located at 19 Toronto Street North (Markdale) on August 29th, 2013;

AND WHEREAS Notice of the Intention to Designate was published in The Advance, which is a newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality on March 20, 2013;

AND WHEREAS no Notice of Objection to the proposed Designation was served to the Clerk of the Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands;

AND WHEREAS it is desired to designate the property mentioned in Section 1 of this by-law in accordance with Clause 29(6)(a) of the said Act.

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF GREY HIGHLANDS ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the property located at 19 Toronto Street North (Markdale Old Fire Hall), Grey Highlands, Ontario and more particularly described in Schedule “A” hereto annexed and forming part of this by-law, is hereby designated as property of cultural heritage value.

2. THAT the Municipality reserves the right to install a designated property plaque or interpretive panel.

3. THAT the Municipal Solicitor is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this by-law, together with the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value and Description of Heritage Attributes set out in Schedule “B” and hereto annexed and forming part of this by-law, to be registered against the property affected in the proper registry office.

4. THAT the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized and directed:
   a) to cause a copy of this By-law, together with reasons for the designation, to be served on The Ontario Heritage Trust by personal service or by registered mail;
   b) to publish a notice of this by-law once in The Advance, which is a newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality of Grey Highlands.

Read a first and second time this 9th day of September, 2013.

Read a third time and finally passed this 4th day of November, 2013.

The Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands

[Signature]

Wayne Fitzgerald-Mayor

[Signature]

Debbie Robertson—Municipal Clerk
Schedule “A” to By-law 2013-59

19 Toronto Street North
Markdale Old Fire Hall

PIN 37249-0248(LT)

Plan 582 Blk B Pt Lot 8 Toronto St. E RP17R819 Part 1 to 5 RP17R1093 Pt 1 and known municipally as 19 Toronto Street North (Markdale)
Design or Physical Value
- Purpose built structure with interesting texture courses breaking height of the tower facades
- Tower is capped by squared onion dome crowned with round finial
- Double brick construction using locally made brick in a standard common bond pattern, with the tower being triple-brick
- Tower (estimated 75 ft above grade) is twice as tall again as the two-story hall and much taller than usual for most fire halls of the era (the added height accommodated the hanging of canvas hoses to dry)

Historical or Associative Value
- The original fire hall was built in 1913. There were two later additions
- Volunteer fire fighters manned the facility over the next 82 years
- Many serious fires occurred early on when downtown commercial buildings were built of wood. In 1976 there was a large rail car fire.
- The bell was used as a fire alarm until 1944, and for many years was rung weekdays to signal noon and 6 PM

Contextual Value
- The tall tower is an iconic landmark highly important to the streetscape of Markdale and visible on all four approaches into town
- The red brick façade and bright fire hall doors front on Highway 10 just north of the traffic light where the road from Georgian Bay and Collingwood area crosses Highway 10 then proceeds over to Highway 6, making the building a dominant and unique presence to pedestrians as well as to the thousands of motor vehicles using Provincial Highway 10
- It is unusual for a fire hall of this era to front directly onto a main street. More often they were located to the side of a civic square which area was used for staging an operation and/or sorting and cleaning equipment

Description of Heritage Attributes:
The following elements of the Old Markdale Fire Hall are to be protected under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18:
- The entire brick structure that was built in 1913
- All exterior brickwork (and interior brickwork if exposed) of said 1913 structure
- All window and door openings in said 1913 structure, including all surrounding brickwork, ledges and sills
- The bell tower including the bell
- The curved roof and ornamental finial of the bell tower
- The chimney in south east corner of original building
- The white stone 1913 plaque on the front of the structure
Schedule "B" to By-law 2013-59

19 Toronto Street North
Markdale Old Fire Hall

Notes:

1) **Structural Repair**: It is understood that preservation of the 1913 structure will require underpinning of the foundation as well as repair and re-pointing of the brick (as per engineering reports 1996, 2011, 2012).

2) **Windows**: It is understood that the boarded up window and door openings will require framing and re-glazing.

3) **Open Belfry**: It is understood that the open belfry niches may need to be glazed.

4) **1960’s Additions**: It is understood that the two concrete block additions (south side and east side of original structure) are not part of the designated features. However any alteration or demolition of either portion must not endanger the structural integrity of the 1913 building. Should the facade of the south portion of the addition be changed or demolished, the irregular joining of mismatched brick-types must be carefully repaired.

5) **1913 brickwork enclosed within 1960’s structure**: The east (rear) wall of the 1913 structure is intact with original brickwork etc. exposed and is thus included in the designated features. The South wall has been painted white, partly plastered, and has window/door openings boarded over. The roof of the addition cuts across the brickwork of the original second floor window openings although the brickwork & sills for these windows remains intact. Therefore it is understood that any restoration in order to repurpose the space and/or remove the 1960’s addition will likely require “cosmetic” changes to the present appearance.

6) **Bell**: It is understood that the tower is locked from entry due to concern that the bell is not safely secured in place and could fall. It is also understood that this situation may not be easily rectified without damaging the heritage properties of the tower and therefore, although the bell is protected under the designation and is required to remain on the property, moving it to a different publically visible location could be considered. If for any reason the bell should have to be removed from the original structure, the Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands has the right of first refusal to purchase the bell at a nominal fee of $2.00.

7) **Lattice Steel Radio Alarm Tower and Siren**: If for any reason the lattice steel radio alarm tower and siren should have to be removed from the roof, the Corporation of the Municipality of Grey Highlands has the right of first refusal to purchase the lattice steel radio alarm tower at a nominal fee of $2.00.
Views of the building (2013):
South side and rear are the two additions

south-west corner

bell & tower

addition at rear

north-west corner
Several views of brickwork

- Common bond on north wall
- Facade join left 1913
- 1913 door at joining
- South interior brick lintel
- Rear interior
- South interior - window sill near ceiling

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