



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Heritage Markham Committee

**FROM:** George Duncan, Senior Heritage Planner

**DATE:** June 10, 2020

**SUBJECT:** HERITAGE PERMIT APPLICATION HE 20 115154  
Restoration of Leaded Glass Transom Windows  
156 Main Street  
Unionville Heritage Conservation District

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### **Property/Building Description:**

- Two storey, frame commercial building, historically known as Brown's Store, c.1870.

### **Use:**

- Retail store.

### **Heritage Status:**

- A Class A heritage building within the Unionville Heritage Conservation District, designated under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act. Also has a Heritage Easement.

### **Application:**

- A Heritage Permit application has been submitted for the restoration of the leaded glass transom windows of the storefront at 156 Main Street, to correct an unauthorized alteration that occurred in 2019.
- At this time, the application is incomplete because the required drawings and specifications for the window restoration were not included with the application.

### **Background**

- In early October, 2019, Heritage Section staff was advised by a community volunteer who conducted a Gilmore Girls tour of Unionville that the leaded glass transom windows of 156 Main Street had been removed. This storefront was featured in the pilot episode of the TV series.
- Staff immediately contacted the owner about the removal and replacement of the windows. The owner's sister, acting on the owner's behalf, advised that the windows

were damaged during a wind storm and were removed and replaced. It is very likely that the leaded glass windows have been disposed of.

- The owner was advised by staff to restore the original windows if they had them, or reproduce them exactly as they were with replicas. A Heritage Permit form was sent to them to be completed and submitted.
- By-law Enforcement was notified and issued an order on the property. Notwithstanding this action by City staff, By May of 2020, nothing had been done by the owner or agent to restore or replicate the windows, or even apply for the Heritage Permit.
- The owner was sent a letter on May 21, 2020 to advise them to submit a Heritage Permit to initiate the restoration process. The letter noted that failure to comply could result in charges under the Ontario Heritage Act. Pursuant to the letter, a Heritage Permit was submitted on May 24, 2020. The application was not accompanied by any drawing or specifications and is therefore incomplete.

### **Staff Comment**

- Until drawings and specifications for the work are received from the applicant, the Heritage Permit cannot be processed. Staff has contacted the applicant to remind them to send in the required information.
- The delay in the applicant providing the information may be due to them needing to contact companies that can do this specialized work and deciding on one to use for the restoration project.
- The Legal Department has recommended that a deadline for the submission of the information be given to the applicant. Staff has asked them to reply by June 30, 2020, which should be enough time to obtain quotations for the work.

### **Suggested Recommendation for Heritage Markham**

THAT Heritage Markham receive the memorandum on 156 Main Street, Unionville as information.



**156 Main Street, Unionville showing leaded glass transom windows on storefront prior to alteration**



and below, current Google Street View

