THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MEDONTE

BY-LAW NUMBER 1990-24

A BY-LAW of the Corporation of the Township of Medonte, to designate the lands and buildings known municipally as the south-east corner of Penetanguishene Road and Mill Street in the Village of Hillsdale, in the County of Simcoe, and having the legal description as set out in "Schedule A" hereto, as a property of historical and architectural value and interest under The Ontario Heritage Act, 1974, R.S.O. 1980, Ch. 337.

WHEREAS it has been proposed to the Council that the above described property be so designated pursuant to The Ontario Heritage Act, 1974,

AND WHEREAS Notice of Intention to Designate has been given to the owner and to The Ontario Heritage Foundation pursuant to the Act,

AND NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Medonte, enacts as follows:

1. The property described as the South-east corner of Penetanguishene Road and Mill Street, Hillsdale, and having the legal description set out in "Schedule A" hereto, is designated as a property of historic and architectural value and interest.

2. The information set out in "Schedule B" hereto are adopted as the reasons for designation.

READ the First, Second and Third time and finally passed this 13th Day of August 1990.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MEDONTE

[redacted]
Reeve

[redacted]
Clerk

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MEDONTE

SCHEDULE A - BY-LAW NUMBER 1990-24

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land premises, situate, lying and being in the Village of Hillsdale, in the Township of Medonte, in the County of Simcoe, and being composed of part of Lots 2 and 8, on Registered Plan No. 145 and Plan 261A, for the said Village of Hillsdale, and which is more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING at the intersection of the easterly boundary of King's Highway No. 93, with the Southerly boundary of Mill Street, in the said Village of Hilldsale;

THENCE Easterly along the said Southerly boundary of Mill Street, a distance of 140.0 feet to an iron bar;

THENCE South 42 degrees, 30 minutes East, 221.10 feet to a point;

THENCE North 57 degrees, 43 minutes, 30 seconds West, 207.90 feet to a point;

THENCE South 45 degrees, 28 minutes, 10 seconds West, 342.59 feet to the Easterly boundary of King's Highway No. 93;

THENCE Northerly along the said Easterly boundary of King's Highway No. 93, a distance of 295.0 feet to the point of commencement.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MEDONTE

SCHEDULE "B" BY-LAW NUMBER 1990-24

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The present O'Neil House Hotel building is believed to have been built in 1882, on a tavern and half-way house stand dating from about 1850.

The site of the building is historically important, bordering on the Old Penetanguishene Road, (deviation road) at approximately the midpoint between Barrie and Penetanguishene. The stand was therefore an important stage coach stop and it was here that the horses were changed. The present building is believed to be the last remaining example of the hotels which were once numerous on the Penetanguishene Road.

The structure is a frame building, probably with some timber frame elements. It stands virtually in its original state, with very little loss or alteration. The overall plan is a "T" layout, but the easterly "Tail" was probably built at the same time as the main section, or within a few years. The building is 1½ stories, with a centre hall and stair which services the entire building, and a small service stair in the rear. Some of the exterior (apparently original) stucco or pebble-dash finish remains with virtually all of the exterior door and window trim, belt coursing, soffits and facia. The dado which remains on the west front is an addition of about 1910. The original porch is lost, but is clearly shown in existing photographs.

Inside, the south portion of the main block is the mens beverage room (with a separate door to the street) with the tap room behind. It retains the original blue painted, shoulder height dado. In the north portion were two rooms (the partition has been lost), one of which has a panalled dado, very unusual in Simcoe County. Upstairs in the north part of the main block is what appears to have been a ball room (it was once used as a billiards room). The rest of the building appears to have been rooms for guests, but there must have been a winter kitchen as well.

Of particular importance is the survival of a great deal of original paint finish in the interior.

Also of special interest are the unusual and perhaps unique shape of the window frames and sash and the panel designs of the front door.

The important characteristics and features worthy of designation and protection are:

1. the original room layout and building perimeter plan;
2. the location, size and designs of the doors and windows;
3. the exterior stucco finish and the accompanying wood trim;

4. the roofline and chimneys;
5. the location and elevation of the building with the ground floor just above ground level;
6. the interior painted wood trim, mouldings, doors, painted wooded floors, and dados;
7. the door latches, hinges, and builder's hardware throughout;
8. the lathe and plaster interior finish; and
9. the wooden window sash.