

Second Stop – Marina Ave. & Long Branch Ave.

Funeral home

One of the features of any urban setting is that, for any given plot of land, a constant recycling occurs.

Generations of people come and go.

Buildings get put up, and in many cases, after enough time has passed, they get torn down and replaced.

Occasionally, if a building has heritage value, and that value is recognized by the community, the building gets to be preserved, and is repurposed, for some other use, than it originally served.

At this corner on the west, we see a funeral home that has served a vital community purpose, for many years.

A hearing at the Etobicoke York Community Council, some time back, featured a range of speakers, offering the views of local residents, and others, regarding what to do with the building, and the land on which it stands.

The decision was made: Stacked townhouses will be built, starting a new chapter in the life of this particular corner of Long Branch.

Church and rectory

On the other side of the street, on the east side, we have a church building, and a rectory.

Again, in earlier generations, this church, among other houses of worship in Long Branch, played a central role in the life of the community.

Now, expenses for the upkeep of old church building are mounting, and in many cases, congregations are diminishing.

At this corner, the next step for this particular plot of land is a redevelopment, where the church building and rectory will actually be preserved, and will be repurposed for another use, by a new generation of residents.