

Buildings that work well win big at Oakville design awards

BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Every two years, the Town of Oakville holds its Urban Design Awards to recognize excellence in urban design, architecture and landscape architecture.

First established in 1988, the awards are intended to honour excellence. But Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale, who sat on the jury panel that selected this year's winning submissions, sees other benefits as well. "To us, the community wins big with having this focal point on urban design."

The awards, which were presented at Oakville Town Hall on November 17, help recognize architecture that contributes to the overall quality of life in Oakville.

What the jury looked for were buildings that worked, not only in terms of their own design, but also in terms of the environment around them. One submission that received an award of distinction was selected in part because the design added to the streetscape. The commercial building, located at 334 Lakeshore Road East, was



designed by the Oakville firm Gren Weis Architect and Associates. In its decision, the jury noted that the building is "massed to provide an appropriate transition between the 2-storey and 1-storey buildings on either side of this structure."

This year there were 13 winners among the 42 submissions received in 2004. Four designs received awards of excellence and nine received awards of distinction.

The awards of excellence included four submissions: Oakville's Wildwood Academy for developmentally challenged children; Waterstone Gate, a community of 11 houses; Lakeshore Village, a small complex of buildings; and the McTavish residence located on Navy Street.

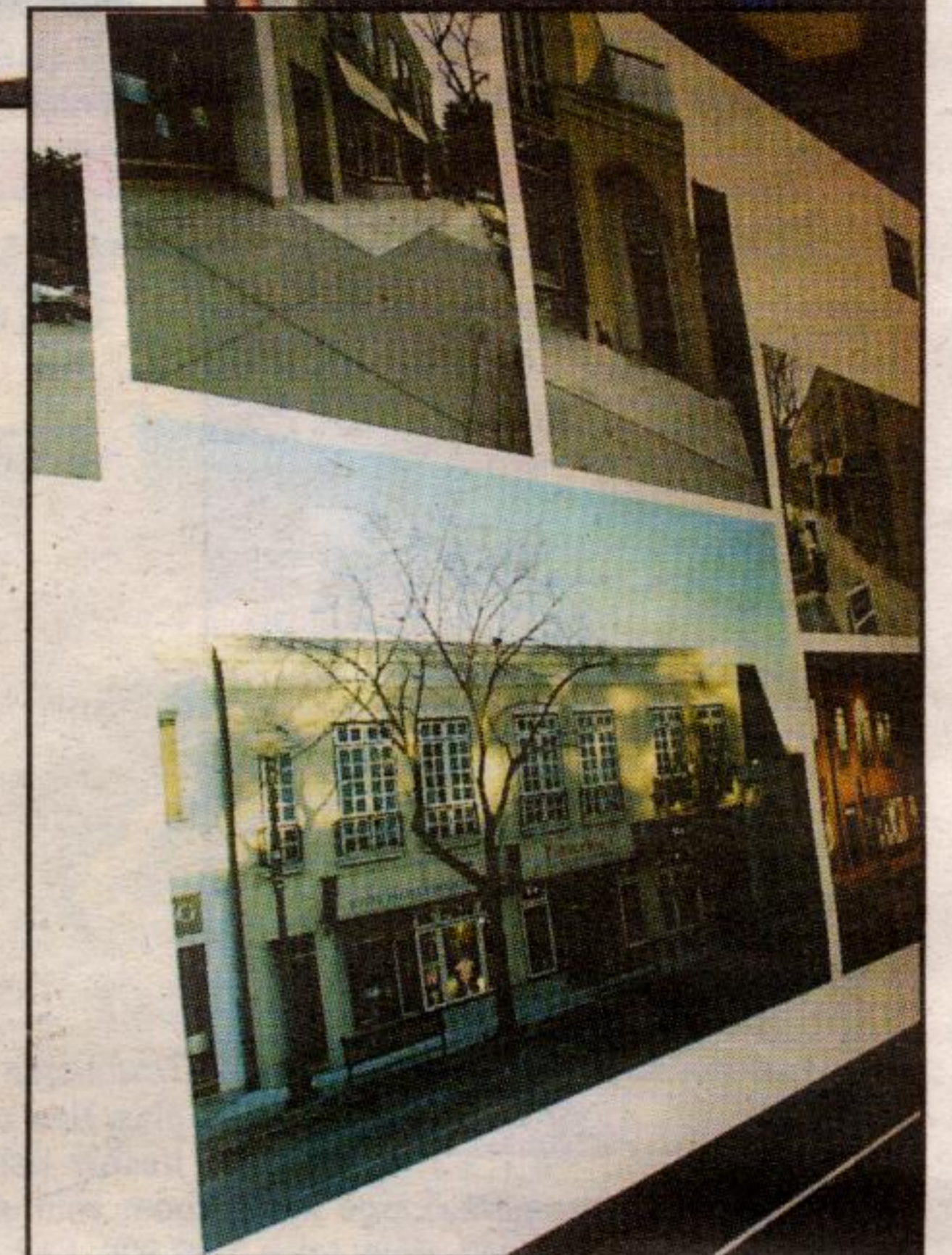
Hicks Pettes Architects Inc., Macaulay Shiomu Howson Ltd., Nuba Heights Investments Ltd. and Salmona Tregunno sponsored this year's awards.



PHOTO BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Oakville Mayor Ann Mulvale presents a design award to David Clusiau (second from left), an architect with Norr Limited. Mr. Clusiau received his award along with David Leinster (third from left), a landscape architect with Envision the Hough Group, and James Oloman of Ford of Canada. The award of distinction recognized a design created by Norr Ltd. and Envision for Ford's Canadian headquarters on The Canadian Road in Oakville.

This commercial building located at 334 Lakeshore Road East in Oakville received an award of distinction at Oakville's Urban Design Awards on November 17. The building, designed by Gren Weis Architect and Associates for owner Yahia Ayatollahi, was recognized for its "good street presence." Three retail stores - Kids Hollywood, Pinocchio's, and Bark and Fitz - are located in the building.



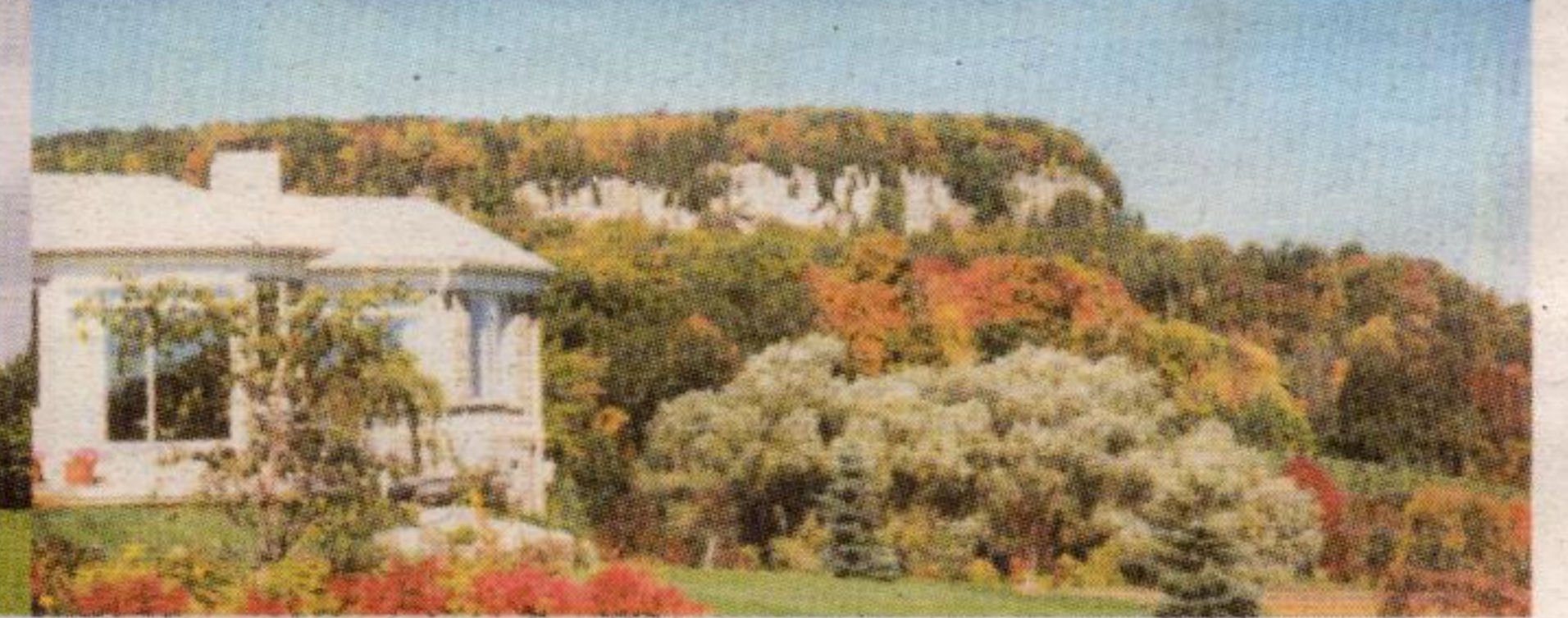
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