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RM of Madam

Clerk's Office

CAROLYN J. BOOTH, A.M.C.T.
Town Clerk

January 12, 1994.

Ontario Heritage Foundation,
10 Adelaide Street East,
Toronto, Ontario.
M5C 1J3

File # R01.06
REGISTERED MAIL

Re: Notice of passing of By-law to designate under the
Ontario Heritage Act - The Holloway Memorial Chapel -
Point Abino Road - Town of Fort Erie

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 29(6)(a) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18 enclosed please find a certified copy of By-law No. 3-94 which is a by-law to designate lands on the south west side of Point Abino Road (Holloway Memorial Chapel) as being of architectural or historical value or interest as passed by the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of January 10, 1994.

Would your office kindly advise me either by telephone or through a written communication whether or not your office provides the designated plaque to be erected on a property so designated under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Your earliest response to this enquiry will be sincerely appreciated.

Yours very truly,



Carolyn J. Booth, A.M.C.T.,
Town Clerk.

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Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
200 Jarvis Street, Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Phone (905) 871-1600

Fax (905) 871-4022



The Municipal Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie

BY-LAW NO. 3-94

BEING A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE LANDS ON THE
SOUTH WEST SIDE OF POINT ABINO ROAD (HOLLOWAY MEMORIAL CHAPEL)
AS BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL VALUE OR INTEREST (R01.06)

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18 authorizes the council of a municipality to pass a by-law to designate a property within the municipality to be of historic or architectural value or interest, and

WHEREAS notice of intention to designate under Section 29(1) of the aforesaid Act was served on the owner of the property described as Part of Block A, Registered Plan 38 for the former Township of Bertie, now known as Plan 995 in the Town of Fort Erie, located on the south west side of Point Abino Road and commonly known as the Holloway Memorial Chapel and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, and

WHEREAS notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid property was published in the Fort Erie Times Review, a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Fort Erie, on December 21st and 28th, 1993 and January 4th, 1994, and

WHEREAS the reasons for the designation are set out in Schedule "A" annexed hereto and forming part of this by-law, and

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie enacts as follows:

- (1) THAT the property described as Part of Block A, Registered Plan 38 for the former Township of Bertie, now known as Plan 995 in the Town of Fort Erie, located on the south west side of Point Abino Road and commonly known as the Holloway Memorial Chapel be and it is hereby designated as being of architectural and historic value or interest.
- (2) THAT the Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the aforesaid property as described in Section (1) above in the local Land Registry Office.

BY-LAW NO. 3-94

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(3) THAT the Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the Fort Erie Times Review, a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality, once a week for three consecutive weeks.

(4) THAT the Clerk is hereby authorized to include the designation of the aforesaid property in the Register which is kept by the Clerk of the Town of Fort Erie pursuant to Section 27 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 10TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1994.


MAYOR


CLERK

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE HEREBY CERTIFY THE FOREGOING TO BE A TRUE CERTIFIED COPY OF BY-LAW NO. 3-94 OF THE SAID TOWN. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE SAID CORPORATION THIS 12TH DAY OF JANUARY, 1994.


CLERK

SCHEDULE "A"
TO
BY-LAW NO. 3-94

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The original Holloway Chapel, built in 1894, was a small one-storey, wooden country church of no recognizable style with neither plumbing nor electrical facilities.

By the 1950's the little building, constantly exposed to high water and winter winds, had deteriorated badly. At this time Mr. William Baird, a nearby property owner, hired local Canadian builder, Elmer Zimmerman, to rehabilitate the chapel, make desirable improvements, and bring it up to code. This collaboration, involving Baird, Zimmerman and the Chapel Board, resulted in the present Holloway Chapel, which was moved at this time a few hundred feet to higher ground.

The present architecture of the Holloway Chapel is vaguely New England Colonial-Revival. The design of the Chapel approximates that of the eighteenth-century village churches of the northeast area of the U.S. and Canada. The design was carried in the minds of early settlers from England and Scotland.

The Holloway Chapel follows this traditional plan, which calls for a rectangular, shed-like building with a gable at each end. As often consistent with this style, the Holloway Chapel has a welcoming, open portico attached to the front and a simple Christopher Wren-style steeple rising from the roof above the front gable. The Chapel also has the original large casement windows, with their diamond-shaped panes, filling the sides of the building. The portico, the steeple, and the windows are notable exterior features of the Chapel, which is built of white wooden clapboarding, chiefly from the original building. It has no vinyl, aluminum, or other artificial materials. It is these decorative features that form part of the specialness of the Chapel and add support to a claim for local plaque recognition.

Added to these exterior features are the improved, charming siting on a natural slope looking out on Abino Bay.

Inside the Chapel, almost all of the original, 100 year old structure remains. The windows are intact, as are the original pews, the "matchboard" grooved wainscoting going all around the sanctuary, the "reeded" doorway architrave moulding. These features are typical of the 1890's, according to on-the-site comments made by Peter Stokes, the Niagara-on-the-Lake restoration architect and a member of the Niagara Township LACAC Committee.

Appropriate Colonial fixtures have been added, an electric organ in a mahogany case, a communion rail, and a simple pulpit. Just inside the main portal are a bathroom on one side and a minister's robing room on the other. These are improvements over the original, and in Mr. Stoke's words, "part of the evolution of the building". They do not detract from the original integrity of the structure.

The Holloway Chapel exterior, interior, and landscaping are in excellent condition.

In regard to historical criteria, the Holloway Chapel would also seem to qualify for local plaque recognition. In a sense it symbolizes the American-formed settlement on Point Abino in its evocation of an early New England Colonial-Revival country church. It is named after the business man who founded the first commercial business on the Point and whose descendants began the first modern settlement there. The chapel also symbolizes the religious freedom of both countries in that it is, I think, the only non-sectarian house of worship in the Greater Fort Erie area, open to all peoples, and featuring each Sunday in the summer an American or Canadian guest preacher of various faiths.

In local history, too, the Chapel takes on some of the legendary folklore of the Jesuit priest, Father Aveneau, who is said to have stopped at the Point about 1678 to Christianize the Indians here.

Also connected with the site of the Chapel are the Neutral Indians, of which a thousand or more lived on the Point until they were caught in the crossfire between the Iroquois and the Hurons and were all but eliminated.