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THE CITY OF LONDON, ONTARIO, CANADA

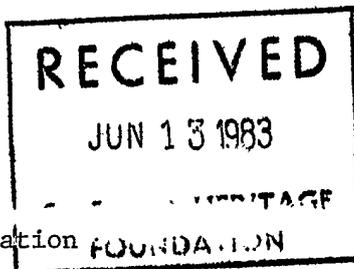
Middlesex

P. C. McNORGAN
City Clerk

TELEPHONE
(519) 679-4530



DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY CLERK



REGISTERED

June 8, 1983

Ontario Heritage Foundation
Ministry of Culture & Recreation
6-77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5S 1M2

Re: Designation of 430 Grey Street, London
The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, c. 337

Please find enclosed a certified copy of By-law No. L.S.P.-2657-240 entitled "A by-law to designate Beth-Emmanuel British Methodist Episcopal Church in the City of London of historic value.", passed by the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London on June 6, 1983.

R. J. Tolmie

R. J. Tolmie
Secretary - Board of Control

/pd

Encl.

*Recorded
June 21/83
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By-law No. L.S.P.-2657-240

A by-law to designate Beth-Emmanuel
British Methodist Episcopal Church
in the City of London of historic
value.

WHEREAS pursuant to The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, the Council of a municipality may by by-law designate a property including buildings and structures thereon to be of historic or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS notice of intention to so designate the property known as Beth-Emmanuel British Methodist Episcopal Church, 430 Grey Street, London, Ontario, has been duly published and served, and no notice of objection has been received to such designation;

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London, as follows:

1. There is designated as being of historic value or interest the real property, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto, known as Beth-Emmanuel British Methodist Episcopal Church, 430 Grey Street, London, Ontario, for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" hereto.
2. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered upon the title to the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in the London Free Press, and to enter the description of the aforesaid property, the name and address of its registered owner, and short reasons for its designation in the Register of all properties designated under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980.
4. This by-law comes into force on the day it is passed.

PASSED in open Council this sixth day of June, A.D., 1983.

M. A. Gleeson

M. A. Gleeson
Mayor

P. C. McNorgan

P. C. McNorgan
City Clerk

First reading - June 6, 1983
Second reading - June 6, 1983
Third reading - June 6, 1983

SCHEDULE "A"

to By-law No. L.S.P.-2657-240

DESCRIPTION OF BETH-EMMANUEL BRITISH METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SITE FOR
ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT DESIGNATION

Part of Lot 12, Plan Nil, north side of Grey Street,
known as Municipal Number 430 Grey Street.

SCHEDULE "B"

to By-law No. L.S.P.-2657-240

HISTORICAL REASONS:

The congregation of the British Methodist Episcopal Church, then known as the African Methodist Church, was organized at some time prior to September, 1856, at which time it was holding services in a building on Thames Street. Sometime between 1868 and 1871, the present Beth Emmanuel B.M.E. Church, a white brick Gothic Revival structure, was erected at 430 Grey Street. In later years, the building was raised for the construction of a basement.

Beth-Emmanuel is the oldest surviving black church in London. At the time the congregation was founded, the City had a large and prosperous black community, many of whom had escaped from slavery in the United States via the Underground Railroad. Some had lived in the area since the Wilberforce settlement was established at Lucan in 1832. Some of the names associated with the Beth-Emmanuel congregation are noteworthy: John Brown, the abolitionist, preached at the Thames Street Church in 1858, before his ill-fated raid on Harper's Ferry the following year. Richard B. Harrison, who played the leading role in Marc Connelly's "Green Pastures" (1930), attended this church as did his brother, The Reverend William Harrison. In more recent times, the late Paul Lewis, one of London's best-loved citizens, was an official of the congregation.