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**THE CORPORATION OF
THE TOWN OF PERTH**

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**Notice of Intention to Amend
Heritage Designations Bylaws**

Bylaw 2381- McMillian Building

Bylaw 2439- Matheson House

Bylaw 2458 Sheriff House

Bylaw 2529- Rockcliff Cottage

Bylaw 2522 Farmers Block

Bylaw 2586- Town Hall

Bylaw 2785 St. James Church

Bylaw 2978 St. Andrew's Church

Bylaw 2980 Codes Mill

**Pursuant To the Provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act
R.S.O. 1990 Section 29, Section 30.1(2) to (10)**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Perth intends to amend Bylaw Numbers

2381, 2439, 2458, 2529, 2522, 2586, 2785, 2978, and 2980

The intent of the amendments to the bylaws is to clarify the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest, the description of heritage attributes, and legal descriptions of properties.

Further information is available upon request from the Heritage Manager, Karen Rennie at 613-267-1947.

Any notice of objection, setting out the reason for objection and all relevant facts, must be served upon the Clerk within 30 days of the first publication of this notice.

Dated at Perth, Ontario this 8th day of January, 2010
Lauren Walton, Clerk, Town of Perth
613-267-3311 ext. 2239

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PERTH

BY-LAW NO. 2522-1

**A by-law to amend the Municipal Heritage Designation
of the Robertson Building - Music Hall By-law No. 2522**

WHEREAS, Section 29 in Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, as amended, provides that the Council of a municipality may by by-law designate a property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS Council wishes to bring the designation into compliance with the current standards for designation of heritage buildings as prescribed by the Ontario Ministry of Culture under the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND WHEREAS the Committee of the Whole has reviewed CoW Report 2010-4.UB.3 and concurs with staff and LACAC recommendations;

AND WHEREAS Council of the Town of Perth passed Motion #09-185 authorizing staff to publish the Notice of Intention to amend the designation;

AND WHEREAS on January 8th 2010, notice of intention to amend the heritage designation of The Robertson Building - Music Hall was served on the property owner, the Ontario Heritage Trust, and published as per the Town's Public Notice Policy;

AND WHEREAS the public was provided an opportunity to object to the intention to amend the designation within 30 days of the notice, to the Clerk;

AND WHEREAS the Clerk has not received any objection to the proposed amendment to the designation as of February 8th, 2010;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation of the Town of Perth is desirous of enacting such an amendment to the by-law regarding the Municipal Heritage Designation of The Robertson Building - Music Hall.

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Perth hereby enacts as follows:

1. That By-law No. 2522, be amended to remove in its entirety Section 1 and 2 and be replaced as follows:

The following property is hereby designated to be of cultural heritage value or interest:

PERTH HERITAGE DESIGNATED PROPERTIES

Building/Property Name: The Robertson Building - Music Hall
(commonly called The Farmer Block)

Address: 11 - 15 D'Arcy Street

Original Owner: James Robertson

Present Owner: [REDACTED]

Date Built: # 11 in 1846. # 15 in 1851

Architect/Contractor: Unknown

Original Use: # 11 - Residence
15 - Music Hall / Residence / Business

Present Use: Residential

Designation: By-Law No. 2522 - January 24, 1984

Registration:

Designation of Property:

On the north side of D'Arcy Street, these two joined two storey buildings in local stone in a vernacular style are reputed to have been built using only Edinburgh trained Scottish masons. Both built for James Robertson, a local cordwainer, Number 11 features parapet walls on both end gables. Number 15 adjoining is twice as wide in the same style, but without the parapets and a hip end roof. Both houses have two storeys, offset rear extensions in rubble stone.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:

Although both houses display finely crafted stonework particularly on the main façade of coursed, finished sandstone, the composition is lacking in any conspicuous refinements. However, the front corners are emphasized by larger, scribed and alternating cornerstones in the same plane as the adjoining walls. The windows on the D'Arcy Street elevation on both floors are regularly spaced, 6 over 6 in wood and are framed by finished rectangular lintels and sills. Current protruding and gabled porticos are offset in both cases and the door at Number 13 has been converted to a window, with the shadows of the original entrance surround visible on the stone walls.

The historical connections of these houses are quite different. On the west end, Number 15 was designed to provide a large music hall on the second floor as well as a shop and residential space on the main floor below. The space was used for concerts, meetings of various Temperance societies and political gatherings. It also provided space, briefly, for the First Baptist congregation while its church was built next door in 1888 (replacing the original building of 1842). In the 1890's the building was converted to residential units (Numbers 13 and 15) by members of the extended Farmer family.

Number 11 on the east end is known for having been owned by Dr. J.K. Kennedy, from 1871 to 1920. Dr. Kennedy, a local dentist, was related by marriage to the Rev. Thomas P. Henderson who had persuaded the family of Alexander Graham Bell to move to Canada from Scotland. This connection resulted in the installation of the first privately owned telephone in Canada in 1877, linking Dr. Kennedy's home with his dental office on Foster Street. Dr. Kennedy then became an agent of the Bell Telephone Company. The first switchboard in Perth was located in this house from 1885 to 1890.

Colin S. Farmer purchased the property at 11 D'Arcy in 1946 in addition to his brothers' shares of the property at 15 D'Arcy Street and converted the buildings to apartment units, thus providing its current nomenclature. In 1967 Mr. Farmer installed bronze plaques at each entry summarizing the historical background of the houses.

Description of Heritage Attributes:

Key exterior attributes that embody the heritage value of the Farmer Block include:

- The particularly fine stonework that demonstrates the skill of early Scottish trained masons in Canada even in this case of a simple yet fairly large composition.
- The parapet walls and embedded double chimney of Number 11
- The design and regular spacing of the 6 over 6 windows with fine wooden muntin bars on the D'Arcy Street elevation.
- The peddlers' shingles on both buildings.

Key interior attributes that embody the heritage value of the Farmer Block include:

- The fine plasterwork of the Music Hall ceiling (central medallion identical to the one in the Haggart House)
- The faux marble painted walls of the Music Hall.

- The faux stone walls of the lobby with performers signatures. (The walls have been covered in wallpaper in consultation with a conservator and treatment is reversible)
- The elaborate millwork of Number 11 and James Robertson's apartment in Number 15 (the door and window architraves).

Legal Description: The building and property at 11 - 15 D'Arcy Street. Part Lot 37, 38, 39, 4 N. D'Arcy, Plan 8828

References:

- Going to Town: Architectural Walking Tours of Southern Ontario; Katherine Ashenburg; Macfarlane, Walter & Ross; 1996.
- Perth Remembered; Edward Shortt (ED.) 1967; The Telephone; Colin S. Farmer, M.A.; pgs 87/88.
- Algonquin College research Paper; J. Philip Stokes; 1992.
- Interview with Janet (Farmer) Coward.

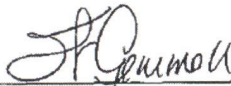
Revised: December, 2008, by Sam Kingdon.


January 2009 by Margaret (Farmer) McGregor.

Further revised by LACAC March 9th 2009

Further revised by James Coward and LACAC on Feb. 8th, 2010

Read a first time, second and third time and finally passed this 16th day of March, 2010.


John Gemmell, Acting Mayor


Lauren Walton, Clerk

(Seal)