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November 22, 1999

ACS1999-PW-PLN-0138

Ottawa-Carleton District School Board 133 Greenbank Road, Nepean, Ontario K1H

Dear Sir:

Subject: Designation of Mutchmor Public School, 185 Fifth Avenue

The Council of the Corporation of the City of Ottawa on the 17th of November, 1999, established its Intention to Designate the property known municipally as 185 Fifth Avenue, in the City of Ottawa, pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990.c.18.

Enclosed herewith is the Notice of Intention to Designate served according to the Act.

Yours truly,

Director of Council and Statutory Services & City Clerk

DC:

c.c.

Attach.

Ont. Heritage Foundation 10 Adelaide St.E, Toronto

Department of Corporate Services 111 Sussex Drive, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 5A1

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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT.

The Corporation of the City of Ottawa on the 17th day of November, 1999, established its intention to designate the following heritage property for its architectural and historical value.

185 Fifth Avenue

Statement of Reason for Designation

Mutchmor Public School is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for historical and architectural reasons.

Mutchmor Public School, completed in 1895, was one of seven elementary schools constructed in Ottawa in the 1890s. Of these schools, only two others, First Avenue Public School (1898) and Osgoode Street School (1897, now Ecole Franco-Jeunesse) remain standing. The Ottawa Public School Board built these schools when Ottawa's population was growing very rapidly and they remain as important visual reminders of an era of growth in the city when schools were a source of considerable civic pride.

Mutchmor Public School was designed by local architect E.L. Horwood, who also designed the city's other remaining 19th century public schools. In 1911, the Board of Education architect, W.B. Garvock designed an eight-room addition and in 1920, his successor W.C. Beattie added eight rooms.

Mutchmor Public School is a two-storey, red brick structure with a rock-faced stone foundation, stringcourses, window sills and lintels. A sloped parapet with bracketed eaves conceals a flat roof. The principal (south) facade, the original section of the school, is distinguished by a two-storey frontispiece with a centrally-placed, round-arched entrance and a recessed door. Elaborate terra cotta imposts from which brick voussoirs spring, a Palladian window, a date stone and a pair of handsome wrought iron gates further enhance the frontispiece. Brick is used with considerable accomplishment in this portion of the building to create decorative features such as channels, a dog-toothed course, rectangular boxes and elaborate corbelling below the cornice. Garvock and Beattie carefully designed the two additions to the north of the original portion of the school to match it, but each has more subdued classical details such as pedimented doorways and smooth-cut stone details. Large windows, designed to allow maximum light and air into the classrooms for the health of the students, further distinguish the building.

The original section of Mutchmor Public School is an example of the Romanesque Revival style that was popular in the 1880s and 1890s. Buildings of this style feature rusticated stone foundations and trim, few decorative motifs and the extensive use of the round arch, especially for elaborate entrances. The new portions of the building are more utilitarian, but show the influence of Edwardian Classicism in their classically-inspired doorways, red brick and stone trim.

As few original details remain, the interior of the school and the 1980s gymnasium addition are not included in this designation.

OBJECTIONS

Any person wishing to object to this designation may do so by letter, outlining reasons for the objections and other relevant information. These must be received by the Clerk of the City of Ottawa either by registered mail or personally delivered by the 4th day of January, 2000.

DATED at Ottawa this 22nd day of November, 1999.

P.G. Pagé City Clerk