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CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A8

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June 24, 2024

[Redacted]

RECEIVED
2024/06/26
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

**RE: St. Clement Church Located at 9567 County Road 11 in the Hamlet of
McGregor**

Dear Town of Essex Property Owner.

At their regular meeting on Monday June 17, the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Essex issued a Notice of Intention to Designate your property at 9567 County Road 11 under section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Why was my property selected?

Your property has been selected because it displays cultural heritage value and interest.

Attached is a Statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and a description of the heritage attributes of the property.

Notice of objection

A Notice of Objection to the Notice of Intention to Designate may be served on the Clerk of the Town of Essex by **July 27, 2024**. The Notice of Objection must set out the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts.

Your cooperation with the preservation of our past is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

Rita Jabbour, RPP

Manager, Planning Services

rjabbour@essex.ca

519.776.7336 ext. 1112



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c.c. Joseph A. Malandrucolo, Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk

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APPENDIX A

Municipal Address

9567 County Road 11, McGregor – St. Clement Church

Legal Description

COLCHESTER NORTH CON 11 W PT LOT 1 RP 12R24294 PARTS 1 TO 3 and 7

General Description of Property

9567 Walker Road is located on the eastern side of County Road 1, adjacent to 9571 County Road 11, in the settlement area of McGregor.

It is comprised of the St. Clement Church: a large limestone, French-Colonial Revival, Catholic Church that was built in 1903.

Description of Property that has Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The area of the property that demonstrates cultural heritage value or interest is the area that includes St. Clement Church: a large limestone, French colonial revival Catholic Church.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Design/Physical Value

The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.

9567 Walker Road retains significant design or physical value due to it being built in a French-Colonial Revival architectural style. The limestone building was built in 1903 by local French-Catholics to replace an older structure. The architectural style is comparable to other Roman-Catholic churches built in Ontario during the late 19th and early 20th century.

The church is characterized by the limestone walls, the high ceilings in the chapel, the large stained-glass windows, and the area at the front where a large tower would sit.



Architecturally, the church contains decorative embellishments including carved stones, raised quoins, stained glass windows, and an area for a large belltower.

Historical/Associative Value

The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.

9567 Walker Road retains significant historical or associative value because it has direct associations with an organization and institution that is significant to a community. The church is located on the oldest religious property within the community of McGregor, and it has ties to the French-Catholic community of McGregor and the surrounding rural areas. The St. Clement Church was built to replace an earlier structure in 1903 to accommodate the rapidly growing congregation.

The St. Clements Church is an important institution within the community of McGregor, being the oldest church property within the community. The original church was built in 1879, located where the parking lot now sits. The present church was constructed afterward, finishing in December 1903. The church didn't receive its name until June 1880, once it was blessed and then given the name St. Clement.

Contextual Value

The property has contextual value because it is a landmark.

9567 Walker Road retains contextual value because it serves as a well-known marker within the community due to both its size and its longstanding history. The church serves as a defining feature of the McGregor community and is important to the French-Catholic community of McGregor.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The key heritage attributes that contribute to the design/physical value of 9567 Walker Road, includes:

- The mass, form, and style of the church,
- The limestone brickwork,



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- The Bell tower, metal belfry, and cross finial,
- The Bell (Ava Maria),
- All existing door opening and window openings and stained-glass window pieces with limestone voussoirs and underscored by limestone sills,
- Decorative quoins,
- Arched vent opening under eastern tower,
- Inset carved limestone with cross detail,
- Inset engraved cornerstone.

The key heritage attributes that contribute to the historical/associative value of 9567 Walker Road includes:

- Its location on the east side of County Road 11 in the Settlement area of McGregor.

The key heritage attributes that contribute to the contextual value of 9567 Walker Road as a landmark includes:

- Its location on the east side of County Road 11 in the Settlement area of McGregor.