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Report No. ACS2024-PDB-RHU-0035

September 13, 2024

Somerset West Community Health Centre
755 Somerset Street West
Ottawa, ON
K1R 6R1

RECEIVED
2024/09/17
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear Somerset West Community Health Centre,

Re: Notice of passage of By-law 2024-352 to designate 755 Somerset Street West, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*

Ottawa City Council, at its meeting held on September 4, 2024 passed the following by-law:

2024-352 A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate 755 Somerset Street West to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

Please find enclosed a copy of the by-law, including the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value and Attributes, for the property.

Notice of the passage of By-law 2024-352 will be published online at [Ottawa.ca/heritagenotices](https://ottawa.ca/heritagenotices) on September 13, 2024.

Please be advised that any person who wishes to object to the by-law may do so by appeal to the Ontario Land Tribunal by giving the Tribunal and the Clerk of the City of Ottawa, within 30 days after the online publication of this notice, a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection.

The notice of appeal can be submitted via email to CityClerk-HeritageObjections@ottawa.ca. The notice of appeal can also be submitted via registered mail or be delivered in person, by appointment, at the following coordinates:

Caitlin Salter MacDonald, City Clerk
c/o Mélanie Blais, Committee Coordinator
110 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 1J1, mail code 01-71

Office of the City Clerk
City of Ottawa
110 Laurier Avenue West
Ottawa, ON K1P 1J1
ottawa.ca

Direct Line (613) 580-2424 Ext. 28136
caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca

Bureau du greffier municipal
Ville d'Ottawa
110, ave. Laurier ouest
Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 1J1
ottawa.ca

Ligne directe (613) 580-2424 poste 28136
caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca

To make an appointment, please contact Mélanie Blais, Committee Coordinator at (613) 580-2424, ext. 27005, or melanie.blais@ottawa.ca.

If no appeals are filed, By-law 2024-352 will come into force on October 14, 2024 and be registered on title. A copy of the registered by-law will be served on the Ontario Heritage Trust.

Should you require further information, please contact Taylor Quibell, Heritage Planner directly at taylor.quibell@ottawa.ca or 613-580-2424 x 74708.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CSM', with a stylized, flowing script.

Caitlin Salter MacDonald
City Clerk

cc: Lauren Luchenski, Built Heritage Research Coordinator, City of Ottawa (by email to lauren.luchenski@ottawa.ca)
Taylor Quibell, Heritage Planner, City of Ottawa (by email to taylor.quibell@ottawa.ca)
Registrar, Ontario Heritage Trust (by email to registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca)

Encl.

BY-LAW NO. 2024 - 352

A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate 755 Somerset Street West to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18, as amended, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

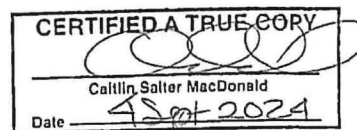
AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Ottawa has caused notice of intention to designate to be served upon the owners of the lands and premises known municipally as 755 Somerset Street West (more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto), and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, the said notice being published online on Ottawa.ca on July 19, 2024, as permitted by by-law 2002-522 as amended;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the said proposed designation was served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the statement of cultural heritage value or interest and description of heritage attributes reasons for designation are set out as Schedule "B" hereto;

THEREFORE the Council of the City of Ottawa, enacts as follows:

1. The real property known municipally as 755 Somerset Street West, and more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto, is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest.
2. The Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes are set out as Schedule "B" hereto.
3. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry office.
4. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served upon the owners of the property described in Schedule "A", and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, and to cause notice of this By-law to be published online on Ottawa.ca as permitted by by-law 2002-522 as amended.
5. The schedules attached hereto and marked Schedule "A" and Schedule "B" form part of this By-law, and all notations, references and other information contained therein shall be as much a part of this By-law as if all the matters and information set forth by the said Schedules were all fully described herein.



ENACTED AND PASSED this 4th day of September 2024

A stylized, cursive handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long trailing line.

CITY CLERK

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Sutcliffe" in a cursive script.

MAYOR

SCHEDULE "A"

PIN

04111-0134 (LT)

Legal Description:

PT LT 3 E LORNE AVE & LTS 1 N SOMERSET ST, 2 N SOMERSET ST, 2 W
EMPRESS AVE & 3 W EMPRESS AVE, PL 11285 , AS IN NS584 ; OTTAWA/NEPEAN

SCHEDULE "B"

Description of Property

The former École St-Jean-Baptiste at 755 Somerset Street West, is a three-storey stone building located to the northwest of the intersection of Somerset Street West and Empress Avenue in the Primrose Hill area in West Centretown.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The former École St-Jean-Baptiste at 755 Somerset Street West was constructed circa 1887 and is a representative example of a purpose-built, late 19th century, stone, French language Roman Catholic school with Neo-Classical elements. The original building underwent significant modifications at the start of the 20th century, including the removal of a mansard roof and a side porch. The elements that express the Neo-Classical style today include a balanced façade with projecting bays, pedimented entrance with doric columns, stone sills and lintels, and stone banding above the third storey.

École St-Jean-Baptiste has historical and associative value due to its direct associations with the development of French language education in Ontario and the opposition to Regulation 17, a 1912 Provincial regulation that made English language instruction mandatory in elementary schools. This building represents the struggle for the right to teach francophone children in their first language. The school was part of the Institute of Christian Schools and run by the Ontario Christian Brothers, also referred to as De La Salle Brothers. In the 19th and 20th centuries, the Christian Brothers were a significant organization in the community that played a crucial role in the development and expansion of Ontario's publicly funded Catholic separate school system. However, it must also be acknowledged that, since the 1980s, a difficult legacy of harsh discipline, physical and sexual abuse by many members of the order across North America has surfaced.

The property also has historic associations with the Catholic francophone community in the area surrounding Primrose Hill which developed circa 1872. The school and surrounding religious institutions were constructed to address the growing need for additional religious services on the Ontario side of the Ottawa River and a growing Catholic francophone community in this area in the late 19th century.

As a prominent stone building on Somerset Street West, facing Empress Avenue, this property is important in defining the character of the area surrounding Primrose Hill, an area in West Centretown located at the top of an escarpment, overlooking LeBreton Flats. Primrose Hill is defined by several religious buildings including a monastery complex (90 Primrose Avenue East and 96 Empress Avenue), Our Lady of the Rosary Convent (85 Primrose Avenue East) and residential properties many of which were constructed in the late 19th early 20th century. The property is linked to its surroundings

as part of this cluster of French-Canadian religious institutions that have similar construction dates and ecclesiastical function.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the heritage value of 755 Somerset Street West as an example of a late 19th century early 20th century stone school with Neo-Classical ornamentation include its:

- Rectangular plan
- Three storey balanced massing with projecting bays
- Regularly spaced window openings
- Smooth stone window lintels and sills
- Regular coursed limestone walls
- Entrance portico on the east façade with:
 - Doric columns and a gable roof with subtle detailing
 - Central double limestone staircase
 - A double door opening with stained glass rectangular transom
- Decorative carved name stone incised with *École St. Jean Baptiste*
- Smooth limestone banding with a central limestone cross with corbel
- Simple portico with gable roof on the south façade

Key attributes that demonstrate its contextual value include:

- Its location within a cluster of religious buildings
- Its orientation facing east

The designation is limited to the exterior of the building. The interior of the building is excluded from the designation.

BY-LAW NO. 2024 - 352

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A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate
755 Somerset Street West to be of cultural
heritage value or interest.

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Enacted by City Council at its meeting of
September 4, 2024.

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LEGAL SERVICES
GS/LA

COUNCIL AUTHORITY:
City Council July 10, 2024
Agenda Item 13.3
(Built Heritage Committee Report No. 16)