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File No. ACS2024-PDB-RHU-0063

December 13, 2024

McPhail Memorial Baptist Church
249 Bronson Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
K1R 6H6

RECEIVED
2024/12/11
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear Property Owner,

RE: Designation of McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*

This letter is to advise you that Ottawa City Council, at its meeting of November 27, 2024, approved the following recommendation in respect of the above-noted item:

That Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value.

A copy of the complete report in this matter, as well as the minutes of the City Council meeting of November 27, 2024, can be found on the City's website at ottawa.ca/agendas.

Enclosed is the Notice of Intention to Designate, served according to the *Ontario Heritage Act*, to be published online at Ottawa.ca/heritagenotices on December 13, 2024. You will have 30 days from the publication date, until January 12, 2025 to file an objection to the designation. Should you wish to object to the designation, you may do so by submitting a notice of objection in writing, outlining the reasons for the objection and any other relevant information. The notice must be received by the Clerk of the City of Ottawa within 30 days after the online publication of this notice.

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

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110, ave. Laurier ouest
Ottawa (Ontario) K1P 1J1
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Ligne directe (613) 580-2424 poste 28136
caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca

The notice of objection can be submitted via email to CityClerk-HeritageObjections@ottawa.ca, or via registered mail or in-person delivery, 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

To make an appointment, please contact Mélanie Blais, Committee Coordinator at (613) 580-2424, ext. 27005, or at melanie.blais@ottawa.ca. When an objection has been received, City Council will consider the objection including all relevant information within 90 days after the end of the objection period. After consideration of the objection, Council may decide to withdraw the Notice of Intention to Designate or to pass a by-law designating the property under the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Should Council pass a by-law to designate the property, there will be further correspondence from the City on how you may appeal this decision to the Ontario Land Tribunal.

Should you require further information, please contact Heritage Planner, at (613) 580-2424 ext. 23665, Greg MacPherson or by email at greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. MacDonald', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Caitlin Salter MacDonald
City Clerk

c.c. Lauren Luchenski, Built Heritage Research Coordinator, City of Ottawa
(lauren.luchenski@ottawa.ca)
Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner, City of Ottawa (greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca)
Registrar, Ontario Heritage Trust (registrar@heritagetrust.on.ca)

Encl.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE MCPHAIL MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH, 249 BRONSON AVENUE, AS A PROPERTY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST, PURSUANT TO SECTION 29 (3) OF THE *ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18

DATED AND PUBLISHED at the City of Ottawa this 13th day of December, 2024.

TAKE NOTICE that the City of Ottawa, on November 27, 2024, established its intention to designate the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue, is a red brick church constructed in 1893. The property includes two buildings, 249 and 251 Bronson Avenue and is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Bronson Avenue and Lisgar Street.

The building at 251 Bronson Avenue is excluded from the designation.

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue is a unique example of the Queen Anne Revival style with elements of the Romanesque Revival style used in a religious building in Ottawa. The Queen Anne Revival style was frequently used in Canada, and Centretown, in residential architecture for middle and upper-class families in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The church evokes the Queen Anne Revival style through its corner tower, turret, gabled roof, repetitive dormers, and sash and leaded windows. It also includes elements of the Romanesque Revival style through its rectangular massing and rusticated stone lintels and sills.

The church has design value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship. The building's craftsmanship is demonstrated through its brick and wooden detailing, and coloured leaded glass windows.

The property is directly associated with the growth of the Baptist church in Ottawa. It was constructed as the church for the second Baptist congregation in the city. In 1888, 24 members from the First Baptist Church, located at Laurier Avenue West and Elgin Street, established a mission hall in the west part of the city on Bronson Avenue, formerly Concession Street. The congregation formed the Second Baptist Church and was originally located on the west side of Bronson Avenue between Christie and Somerset Streets. Due to the church's early increase in membership and financial success, the church decided to construct a larger space to accommodate for their growing congregation. The congregation purchased the land at corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue, and the new church opened as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church in December 1893, and was dedicated January 1894.

McPhail Memorial Baptist Church has contextual value because it is important in defining and maintaining the character of the west area of Centretown and Bronson Avenue, which defines the edge of the neighbourhood. The building is located on Bronson Avenue, which

experienced an early wave of development in the late 19th century by Ottawa's elite and lumber barons. The west area of Centretown is largely characterized by red brick residential buildings with Queen Anne Revival influence from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Constructed in 1893, the church maintains the historic character of the street and defines the character of area through its red brick construction, its distinct Queen Anne Revival architectural style, and its prominent location on Bronson Avenue.

The property is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. The growth of this area of Centretown in the late 19th and early 20th centuries contributed to Bronson Avenue's development as a hub for institutional buildings, including the Bronson Centre (formerly Immaculata School), the landmark Peace Tower Church (formerly the Erskine Presbyterian Church), the Saint-Vincent hospital, and Centennial Public School. As a place of worship, the church is historically and functionally linked to the institutional character of this area of Centretown.

DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of 249 Bronson Avenue as a unique example of a church designed in the Queen Anne Revival style include:

- Red brick cladding
- Exposed stone foundation
- Gabled roof
- Gabled dormers on roof
- Rectangular window openings with stone lintels and sills.
- The west façade facing Bronson Avenue including:
 - Bracketed wood soffits
 - half-round rose window with coloured glass, multiple lights, stone sill, and brick voussoir.
 - Date stone inscribed with "McPhail Memorial 1893"
 - Raised main entrance with coloured glass transom, brick surround and drip edge, flanked by rectangular windows with coloured leaded glass.
 - Rectangular tower at the building's northwest corner, including:
 - Square hip roof with steep gable dormers featuring wood bargeboard and scalloped wood shingles.
 - Wood cornice with bracketed soffits.
 - Rounded arch windows with coloured leaded glass and stone sills.
 - Projecting cylindrical turret at building's southwest corner, including:
 - Conical roof with finial and bracketed soffit.
- The building's north and south facades, including:
 - Regularly spaced window bays.
 - Coloured leaded glass windows.
- This designation excludes the entrance addition at the base of the north tower.

This designation only pertains to the church at 249 Bronson Avenue and excludes the building on the south portion of the parcel with the civic address 251 Bronson Avenue. The designation also excludes the interior of the church.

OBJECTIONS

Please be advised that any person wishing to object to this designation may do so under the objection process set out in Section 29 (5) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* by giving the Clerk of the City of Ottawa, within 30 days after the online publication of this notice, a notice of objection outlining the reasons for the objection and any other relevant information.

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

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c/o Mélanie Blais, Committee Coordinator
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For further information please contact: Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner,
greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca.