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Report No. ACS2024-PDB-RHU-0078

February 10, 2024

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

**RECEIVED**  
2025/02/10  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

Dear Property Owner,

**Re: Notice of passage of By-law 2025-38 to designate McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act***

Ottawa City Council, at its meeting held on January 29, 2025 passed the following by-law:

2025-38      A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue, 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 2025-38 will be published online at [ottawa.ca/heritagenotices](https://ottawa.ca/heritagenotices) on February 12, 2025.

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](mailto: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](https://ottawa.ca)

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

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

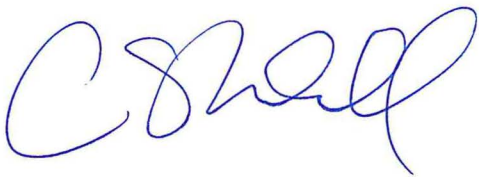
Ligne directe (613) 580-2424 poste 28136  
[caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca](mailto:caitlin.salter-macdonald@ottawa.ca)

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

If no appeals are filed, By-law 2025-38 will come into force on March 15, 2025 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 Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner, at 613-580-2424 x23665 or by email at [greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca](mailto:greg.macpherson@ottawa.ca).

Regards,



Caitlin Salter MacDonald  
City Clerk

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

Encl.

BY-LAW NO. 2025 - 38

A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue, 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;

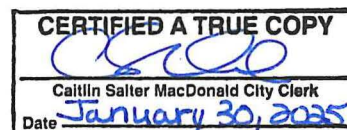
AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Ottawa has caused notice of intention to designate to be served upon the owners of the lands and premises known municipally as 249 Bronson Avenue (more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto), and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, the said notice being published online on Ottawa.ca on December 13, 2025, 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;

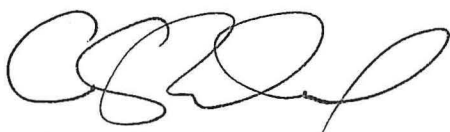
AND WHEREAS the statement of cultural heritage value or interest and description of heritage attributes reasons for designation are set out as Schedule "B" hereto;

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

1. The real property known municipally as 249 Bronson Avenue, 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 29<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025.

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

CITY CLERK

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

MAYOR

SCHEDULE "A"

PIN:

04113-0031 (LT)

Legal Description:

LTS D & E, PL 15061 , E/S BRONSON AV ; OTTAWA/NEPEAN



## SCHEDULE "B"

### **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.
  - Decorative brick work including stringcourses and banding.
  - 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.



BY-LAW NO. 2025 - 38

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A by-law of the City of Ottawa to designate  
McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249  
Bronson Avenue, to be of cultural heritage  
value or interest.

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Enacted by City Council at its meeting of  
January 29, 2025.

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LEGAL SERVICES  
LCE/hnm

COUNCIL AUTHORITY:  
City Council November 27, 2024  
Agenda Item 13.1.2  
(Built Heritage Committee Report No. 19)