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THE CITY OF WINDSOR

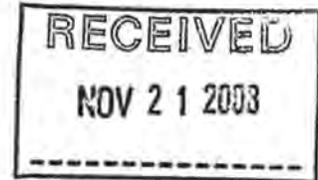
COUNCIL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

VALERIE CRITCHLEY
CITY CLERK

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER

TO OUR FILE NO. MBA/10029

REGISTERED MAIL



November 13, 2008

Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide St. E., 3rd Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3

Dear Sirs:

Re: Designation of 681 McEwan Avenue

Council, for the Corporation of the City of Windsor, at its meeting held August 5, 2008 passed By-law Number 140-2008 to designate **681 McEwan Avenue** as a property of architectural and/or historic significance under the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act.

- * A copy of the by-law outlining the reasons for designation is attached. Notice of the designating By-law will be published in the Windsor Star on November 22, 2008.

Yours very truly,

Steve Vlachodimos

Manager of Council & Committee Services / Deputy Clerk

KK/de

attachments

BY - LAW NUMBER 140-2008

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE LANDS AND PREMISES SITUATE WITHIN THE CITY OF WINDSOR, MUNICIPALLY KNOWN AS 681 MCEWAN AVENUE, TO BE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.18, AS AMENDED, IN THE CITY OF WINDSOR

Passed the 5th day of August, 2008.

WHEREAS by virtue of the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, as amended, the Council of a municipality may, by by-law, designate a property within the municipality to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

AND WHEREAS upon consideration of the recommendation of the Windsor Heritage Committee, The Corporation of the City of Windsor deems it desirable and expedient to designate the lands municipally known as 681 *McEwan Avenue*, more particularly described in Schedule "A" annexed hereto and forming part of this by-law (the subject lands), to be of cultural heritage value or interest, for the reasons stated in Schedule "B" annexed hereto and forming part of this by-law.

AND WHEREAS notice of intention to so designate the subject lands, was served on the owner(s) of the said subject lands and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and such notice was published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality, on *Saturday, June 7, 2008*.

AND WHEREAS no Notice of Objection has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality within thirty (30) days after the date of publication of the Notice of Intention in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality.

THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the City of Windsor enacts as follows:

1. That the lands municipally known as 681 *McEwan Avenue*, more particularly described in said Schedule "A" annexed hereto, be and the same is hereby designated to be of cultural heritage value or interest, for the reasons stated in said Schedule "B" annexed hereto.
2. This by-law shall come into force and take effect after the final passing thereof on the day upon which it is electronically registered in the Land Registry Office for the County of Essex (No. 12).

ACTING MAYOR

ACTING CLERK

First Reading - August 5, 2008
Second Reading - August 5, 2008
Third Reading - August 5, 2008

SCHEDULE "A"

Part Park Lot 8, Plan 58; Windsor

P.I.N. 01226-0188 LT

City of Windsor, County of Essex

SCHEDULE "B"

Statement of Significance/Reasons for DesignationDescription of Historic Place

The Holy Name of Mary Church, originally called Our Lady of Prompt Succour, is located at 681 McEwan Avenue, south of Wyandotte Street in the core of the Central West portion of the City of Windsor. Constructed in 1927, it is a well-preserved formal cut-stone English Gothic Revival Church with an octagonal belfry.

Heritage ValueHistoric Value

The Holy Name of Mary Church is historically significant because of its ties to the Catholic Ministry of the early Twentieth Century in Windsor.

Holy Name of Mary is associated with the language issues of the early 20th Century, which gave rise to the Ford City Riots of 1917. The ability of this church to separate itself from the language issues of the time makes it especially distinct.

The association of Holy Name of Mary Church to Monsignor John Alphonse Rooney is most notable. Monsignor Rooney was an honoured and influential man of Windsor during his 57 years as a Catholic Priest in Windsor. He had led his people through two world wars, the bitter debate for bilingual education, the depression, and the early years of the post-Vatican II church. Fifty-one of his years as a priest were as Pastor of Holy Name of Mary Parish. He has had both a school and a street named after him.

Architectural Value

The building style is a formal cut-stone example of English Gothic Revival style architecture. Among many features, most notable are the flying buttresses supporting the main walls of the nave and the octagonal belfry.

Contextual Value

Holy Name of Mary is a landmark along McEwan Avenue and visible from Campbell Avenue and Wyandotte Street West, since the bell tower and roof ridge still stand visible above the prevailing tree line. It is located approximately three hundred feet south of Wyandotte Street on the west side of McEwan Avenue. Also, its location adjacent to other community institutions such as the Adie Knox Community Centre, a seniors centre, a public school, and the Major John Richardson Building (which is designated a heritage building under the *Ontario Heritage Act*) make Holy Name of Mary an important part of the Windsor community.

Character Defining Elements

Items that contribute to the historical value of the Holy Name of Mary Church include:

- Its association with John R. Boyde, Architect from J.C. Pennington and Boyde
- Its association with the Catholic Ministry in Windsor.
- Its association with the life of Monsignor Rooney.
- Its continuous Catholic Church presence in the West Windsor community since 1917 and from its present location since 1927.
- Its association to the language issues in the early part of the Twentieth Century.

Exterior features that contribute to the architectural value of the Holy Name of Mary Church include:

OVERALL

- The overall style of the building is English Gothic Revival Style.
- The building is constructed of sandstone, consisting of variegated colours of grey, yellows and reds, while the entrances and windows are trimmed with variegated limestone.
- The structure is laid out in cruciform plan.
- Eighty-two of the structure's recessed window openings contain the one hundred-twenty stained glass window panels. In addition to these, the remaining wooden doors still hold six more coloured glass windows. Seventy-one of these windows contain the names of their donors, representing a record of many of the founding families of the church.

EAST FAÇADE (Front)

- The peak of the roof above the main sanctuary rises to a height of almost 70 feet. A Latin cross stands on the peak of the front façade.
- An octagonal belfry sits in the northeast corner, where originally a copper-covered spire once extended.
- The East front portal is housed high in a deep recess constructed entirely of limestone elevated by steps from the public sidewalk. This entrance of limestone is framed in this recess by two angled jambs supporting a multi-banded archivolt.
- This entrance houses two sets of double doors. These heavy doors are of oak panels of pyramidal relief finished in clear varnish and a small stain glass window.
- Two gothic stylized angels are carved in relief on the main front wall where the archivolt intersects the jambs.
- One statuary tabernacle with recesses and baldachins frame each side of the front portal with sculptures of the *Crowned Virgin Mary* on the left and *Christ the King* on the right.
- There is a triple-tiered buttress on each side of the entranceway, each tier moving back in relief to frame the entry. A triangular shaped stone pinnacle caps the first two levels, with the second level having carvings representing the two founding nationalities of the Church. The third level is capped with octagonal shaped pinnacles.
- Central above the portal is the massive main window of the front of the Church. It is a large vertical rectangle topped by a suppressed gothic arch. Stained glass panels are framed with ornate stone tracery.
- Left and right of the front (East) wall, the secondary walls of the façade are set back and each contain two lancet recessed openings housing a double lancet stained glass window with a third cruciform window between their gothic peaks. Above these in the second level is a single lancet stained glass window lighting the Choir loft and belfry on the inside.
- The square Northeast bell tower transitions to an octagonal shape. Four square pinnacles are placed at the corners of the tower. Each square pinnacle's base is of sandstone while the ornate steep pyramidal cap is again of limestone. The belfry is framed on each side by deeply recessed lancet arched screened openings. Eight limestone pinnacles project upward from the top of the belfry. Each pinnacle is octagonal in shape topped by a similarly shaped sharp pointed pyramid.

NORTH AND SOUTH FACADES

- The exterior of the nave is supported by eight flying buttresses along each side.
- At the northeast entrance of the bell tower, the original oak door planks are held in place with three wrought iron strap hinges and contain a four-light coloured glass window.
- Octagonal protrusions jutting out from the north wall providing a space for the Baptismal Alcove on the inside.
- One remaining original exterior light above the northeast entranceway.
- Both North and South rear side entrance doors are still covered by the original wood pediment canopies supported by their wooden brackets.
- Stone chimney with limestone relief in the northeast corner.

Interior features that contribute to the architectural value of the Holy Name of Mary Church include:

- The public space is laid out in a cruciform plan.
- Vaulted ceilings of the narthex.
- The exposed ornate wooden arched-braced and hammer beams trusses. These trusses are varnished and accented in gold, red and green. Each hammer beam truss is decorated with carved cutout Greek crosses.
- The columns and segmented arches supporting the clerestory section of the nave.
- The vaulted ceilings of the aisle way.
- The transepts with their alcoves, chapels and vaulted ceilings.
- The chapels with their niches and vaulted ceilings.
- The chancel arch and octagonal sanctuary walls/ceiling beyond.
- The ornate, carved wooden screen and baldachins at the rear of the Sanctuary.
- The leather covered doors leading from the Sanctuary to the sacristy.
- The statuary tabernacles with their ornate bases and octagonal baldachins.
- The hanging, ornate wrought iron lantern style lights of the interior.
- The double set of original paneled oak doors at the center main entrance to the nave from the narthex with their panel leaded glass windows.
- The two original paneled oak doors at the entrance from the narthex the side aisles.
- The two original paneled oak doors to the side entrances from the transepts.
- Mosaic tile floors throughout the Church.
- The marble floors of the sanctuary and chapels. The inlaid tiles of the sanctuary.

Characteristics that contribute to the contextual value of the Holy Name of Mary Church include:

- Its location facing McEwan Avenue and its visibility from Wyandotte Street West and Campbell Avenue contribute to its landmark status.
- Its central location within the core of the central part of West Windsor.
- Its location adjacent to other community institutions and the Major John Richardson Building, which is a designated heritage property.