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OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

City of  
HAMILTON

71 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 3T4  
Tel. (905) 546-2700 / Fax (905) 546-2095

**REGISTERED**

1996 October 8

The Ontario Heritage Foundation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Dear Sir:

Re: Notification of Passing of By-law

Attached for your information is a copy of By-law No. 96-148 respecting 137 Strathcona Avenue North (10 Tom Street), Hamilton, Ontario, adopted by City Council at its meeting held 1996 September 24.

Yours truly,

J. J. Schatz  
City Clerk

JJS/bc  
att.

c.c. V. J. Abraham, Director of Local Planning  
Attention: Nina Chapple, Architectural Historian

A. Zuidema, Law Department

C. Touzel, Secretary, L.A.C.A.C.



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The Corporation of the City of Hamilton

BY-LAW NO. 96- 148

To Designate:

**THE PROPERTY KNOWN AS ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
AND SUNDAY SCHOOL  
LAND LOCATED AT MUNICIPAL NO. 137 STRATHCONA AVENUE NORTH  
(10 TOM STREET)**

As Property of:

**HISTORIC AND ARCHITECTURAL VALUE AND INTEREST**

**WHEREAS** the Council of The Corporation of the City of Hamilton did give notice of its intention to designate the property mentioned in section 1 of this by-law in accordance with subsection 29(3) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18;

**AND WHEREAS** the Conservation Review Board made a report as required by the said Act;

**AND WHEREAS** it is desired to designate the property mentioned in section 1 of this by-law in accordance with clause 29(14)(a) of the said Act.

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of The Corporation of the City of Hamilton enacts as follows:

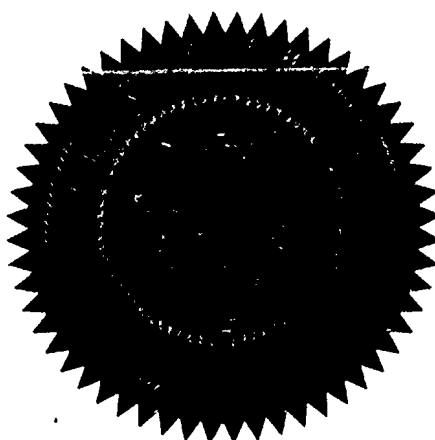
1. The property known as St. George's Anglican Church and Sunday School, located at Municipal No. 137 Strathcona Avenue (10 Tom Street) and more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto annexed and forming part of this by-law, is hereby designated as property of historic and architectural value and interest.
2. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this by-law, together with reasons for the designation set out in Schedule "B" hereto annexed and forming part of this by-law, to be registered against the property affected in the proper registry office.
3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized and directed,
  - (i) to cause a copy of this by-law, together with reasons for the designation, to be served on the owner and The Ontario Heritage Foundation by personal service or by registered mail;
  - (ii) to publish a notice of this by-law once in a newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality of the City of Hamilton.

**PASSED** this      24<sup>th</sup>      day of      September

A.D. 1996



CITY CLERK



MAYOR

Schedule "A"

To

By-law No. 96- 148

St. George's Anglican Church and Sunday School  
137 Strathcona Avenue (10 Tom Street), Hamilton, Ontario

In the City of Hamilton, in the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth  
and being composed of:

**FIRSTLY:** Part of Lots 42 and 43 fronting on the west side of Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street) in the block bounded by Tom, Davenport, York and Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street) in Sir Allan Napier MacNab's Survey in the said City of Hamilton, and which may be more particularly described as follows, that is to say:

**COMMENCING** at a point on the west limit of Strathcona Avenue distant 79 feet northerly from the south-east angle of Lot 41 in the said survey;

**THENCE** northerly along west limit of Strathcona Avenue, 36 feet to a point;

**THENCE** westerly parallel to the southerly limit of said Lot 41, 100 feet more or less to a point 50 feet easterly from the west limit of said Lot 43, which point is on the boundary of St. George's Church property acquired by Deed No. 69393;

**THENCE** southerly parallel to the west limit of Strathcona Avenue, 36 feet more or less to the lands now owned by St. George's Church as deeded to them by No. 106670 N.S. which point is distant 79 feet from the north limit of Tom Street.

**THENCE** easterly and parallel to the northerly limit of Tom Street, 100 feet ore or less to the place of beginning;

**SECONDLY:** Parts of Lots Numbers 41 and 42 fronting on the west side of Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street) in the block bounded by Tom, Davenport, York and Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street) in Sir Allan Napier MacNab's Survey and which may be more particularly described as follows, that is to say:

**COMMENCING** at a point on the west limit of Strathcona Avenue distant 50 feet northerly from the south-east angle of said Lot 41;

**THENCE** northerly along the west limit of Strathcona Avenue, 29 feet more or less to a point;

**THENCE** westerly parallel to the southerly limit of said Lot 41, 100 feet more or less to a point 50 feet more or less easterly from the west limit of said Lot 42, and which point is on the boundary of St. George's Church property acquired by Deed No. 69393;

**THENCE** southerly parallel to the west limit of Strathcona Avenue, 29 feet more or less to the lands now owned by St. George's Church as deeded to them by No. 44837; which point is distant 50 feet more or less from the north limit of Tom Street;

**THENCE** easterly and parallel to the northerly limit of Tom Street, 100 feet more or less to the place of beginning.

**THIRDLY:** Part of Lots Number 41, 42 and 43 fronting on Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street) in the block bounded by Tom, Davenport and York Streets, more particularly described as follows:

**COMMENCING** at a point in the northerly margin of Tom Street which point is distant 100 feet more or less westerly from the north-west corner of Sophia and Tom Street;

**THENCE** northerly parallel with Sophia Street, 150 feet more or less to the northerly boundary of said Lot 43;

**THENCE** westerly along the northerly boundary of said Lot 43, 50 feet more or less to the north-west angle of said Lot 43;

**THENCE** southerly along the westerly boundary of said Lots 41, 42 and 43, 150 feet more or less to Tom Street;

**THENCE** easterly along the northerly margin of Tom Street, 50 feet more or less to the place of beginning;

**FOURTHLY:** the southerly part of Lot Number 41 in the block bounded by Tom, Davenport, York and Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street) according to the plan of survey made for Sir Allan N. McNab more particularly described as follows:

**COMMENCING** on the south easterly corner of the said Lot;

**THENCE** northerly along the westerly boundary of Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street), 50 feet to a post;

**THENCE** westerly parallel to Tom Street, 100 feet to a post;

**THENCE** southerly parallel to Strathcona Avenue (formerly Sophia Street), 50 feet to the northerly margin of Tom Street;

**THENCE** easterly along Tom Street to the place of beginning;

All as described in Instrument No. VM211074.

## **Schedule "B"**

to

**By-law No. 96- 148**

### **Former St. George's Anglican Church and Sunday School**

**137 Strathcona Avenue North**  
**(10 Tom Street, Hamilton)**

#### **Context**

Built in 1890, St. George's Anglican Church is situated at the north-west corner of Tom Street and Strathcona Avenue North between Victoria Park and Dundurn Park. This attractive, unpretentious Gothic Revival church and its adjacent Sunday school fit comfortably into the surrounding late 19th/early 20th century residential neighbourhood, with its pleasant mix of modest one-storey frame houses and larger two-storey brick dwellings. The low-rise character of the church setting is interrupted only by the apartment tower to the south-east of St. George's, built on the large site of the former Semmens & Evel Casket Company.

#### **Architecture**

Built in the Gothic Revival style, St. George's is typical of the Anglican parish churches erected in the late 19th century to serve Hamilton's expanding neighbourhoods. The characteristic steeply-pitched roof, belfry, buttressed brick facade, and pointed-arched windows of St. George's can also be found in St. Luke's in the north end (1889); St. Mark's (1878) and St. John the Evangelist (1892) in the south end; and St. Matthew's (1887, demolished) and St. Peter's (1892, later rebuilt) in the east end. Although simple and unadorned, this form of the gothic parish church has its roots in the rich tradition of English church architecture.

Credited to Hamilton architect J. H. Young, the church was constructed in 1890 and extended easterly by two bays in 1902, creating a new facade on Strathcona North with corbelled brick decoration and a triple gothic window. The interior sanctuary consists of one, entirely open space, featuring exposed roof trusses, and some fine stained-glass windows. In 1925, the entrance vestibule was added to the front facade. Taken altogether, the pleasing simplicity of design and the balance of proportions make St. George's an architecturally distinguished neighbourhood landmark.

In 1911, the Reverend Frederick E. Howitt, noted both locally and internationally for his work in religious education, undertook the construction next door of a major Sunday school. Set back from Tom Street, the Sunday school building is a tall, brick structure comparable to the church in height and scale. Its exterior treatment is unusual with elaborate brick corbelling on the gable front and widely spaced Tudor-arched windows; the interior Sunday school layout consists of a large, two-storey open room containing classrooms and a mezzanine on three sides. Although the church schoolhouse was a popular addition in the 1890's, St. George's example is unusually large for the size of the church; as a free-standing church school, it is a relatively rare building type today. Formerly accommodating as many as 900 children, the school stands as a testimony to the value that St. George's parish placed on education.

These two brick buildings, church and school, are situated at right angles to each other around a grassed forecourt. Together, they form an interesting architectural complex which enhances the urban character of the neighbourhood.

### History

Opened as St. George's Chapel of Ease, the church was built to serve parishioners in the west end of the Parish of All Saints. Only three years later, St. George's became a separate parish, defined as the area westward from Locke and Locomotive (Ray, north of York) Streets to the Ascension (Hamilton) Cemetery and from Main Street to the harbour. By the turn of the century, St. George's Church was an important institution within the thriving West End neighbourhood.

The period of major expansion for St. George's Church and Parish corresponds to the thirty-one year ministry of its third rector, Reverend Frederick E. Howitt, appointed in 1895 and made a canon in 1914. St. George's prominence within Hamilton's Anglican community may be largely attributed to his dedicated and inspirational service. As a gifted preacher and teacher, Canon Howitt attracted large audiences to regular services at St. George's and gave religious instruction to classes throughout the city. Moreover, Howitt's influence extended far beyond the local Anglican community through his work as a missionary and speaker across Canada and the United States.

Another prominent figure in the history of St. George's was its sixth rector, the Reverend Donald H. MacLennan (1941-1966), who made a substantial contribution to the missionary and religious education work begun by Canon Howitt and subsequently associated with St. George's.

### Designated Features

Important to the preservation of St. George's Anglican Church are the original features of all four facades of the church, including the brick masonry walls and stone foundation, buttresses, belfry, pointed-arched windows with stone sills, the stained glass windows, doors; the interior sanctuary, including the walls, windows, interior roof trusses and original wood panelling; and all four exterior facades of the adjacent Sunday school, including walls, windows, and the interior open space with its classrooms and mezzanine.