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City of
Ville d' **Ottawa**

February 10, 1999

ACS1998-PW-PLN-0029

REGISTERED

Ms. Lesley Lewis
Executive Director
Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide St. East
3rd Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3

Dear Ms. Lewis:

Subject: Designation of First Avenue Public School

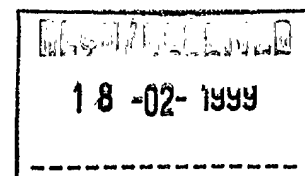
The Council of the Corporation of the City of Ottawa on the 3rd day of February, 1999, established its Intention to Designate the property known municipally as 73 First Avenue, in the City of Ottawa, pursuant to the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990. c. 0.18.

Enclosed herewith is the Notice of Intention to Designate served according to the act.

Yours truly,


P.G. Pagé
Director of Council and Statutory Services & City Clerk
Council and Statutory Services

Heritdes 73 First Ave.wpd



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IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT.

The Corporation of the City of Ottawa on the 3rd day of February, 1999, established its intention to designate the following heritage property for its architectural and historical value.

73 First Avenue

Statement of Reason for Designation

First Avenue Public School is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for historical and architectural reasons.

First Avenue Public School, completed in 1898, was one of seven elementary schools constructed in Ottawa in the 1890s. Of these schools, only two others, Mutchmor Public School (1895) and Osgoode Street School (1897, now Ecole Franco-Jeunesse,) remain standing. These schools were built when Ottawa's population was growing very rapidly and they are important visual reminders of this era of growth and prosperity in the city when schools were a source of considerable civic pride and served as the symbols of Ottawa's growing neighbourhoods.

First Avenue Public School was designed by local architect E.L. Horwood, who also designed the other remaining 19th century schools. In 1907, the Board of Education architect, W.B. Garvock designed an addition which consisted of a third storey and a gymnasium extension to the rear of the building.

First Avenue Public School is a three storey, flat-roofed, red brick structure with a rusticated stone foundation, stringcourse, window sills and lintels. The principal (south) facade is distinguished by a three storey frontispiece with a centrally placed round-arch entrance and a recessed door. The entrance is further embellished by elaborate terra cotta impostes from which the brick voussoirs spring and a terra cotta keystone with a carved date stone above. Each bay of the building's original section is divided by brick pilasters that are topped by terra cotta capitals: the 1907 extension repeats the pilasters, but not the terra cotta work. First Avenue School is further distinguished by its fine brickwork which is coursed between the foundation and the lintels of the second floor windows, corbelled at the cornice, and features the lightly tinted mortar popular at the time. The building's window openings are large in order to bring the maximum amount of light into the classrooms, but the windows themselves were replaced in 1981. The building also features a simple cornice with regularly spaced brackets.

First Avenue Public School has elements of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, a variation of the Romanesque Revival style that was popular in the 1880s and 1890s. Named after American architect H.H. Richardson who popularized it in the United States, Richardsonian Romanesque buildings typically feature heavy rusticated stone foundations and trim, few, carefully chosen decorative motifs and the extensive use of the round arch, especially for elaborate entrances.

Any surviving pre 1908 interior architectural elements in the First Avenue Public School would also be designated.

The interior of the school and the 1981 addition are not included in this designation.

OBJECTIONS

Any person wishing to object to this designation may do so by letter, outlining reasons for the objections and other relevant information. These must be received by the Clerk of the City of Ottawa either by registered mail or personally delivered by the 15th day of March, 1999.

DATED at Ottawa this 12th day of February, 1999.

P.G. Pagé
City Clerk