



THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ERIN

By-Law # 20 - 03

A By-law to designate a property as being of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Whereas to Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* authorizes the council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all the buildings and structures located thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

And whereas the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Erin has consulted with the Town of Erin Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee with the respect to the designation of 155 Main Street as being of cultural heritage value or interest;

And whereas the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Erin has caused to be served upon the owners of the lands municipally known as 155 Main Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to Designate the foregoing property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*;

And whereas the statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest or interest of the property and a description of the heritage attributes of the property are set out in Schedule "B" of this By-law;

And whereas no notice of objection to the proposed designation of the foregoing property has been served on the Clerk for the Corporation of the Town of Erin;

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Erin hereby enacts as follows:

1. **That** the property known as the former Burns Presbyterian Church, municipally known as 155 Main Street, including lands and buildings, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached to this By-law, is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value of interest under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 as amended;
2. **That** the Town solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the properties described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office; and,
3. **That** the Clerk of the Corporation of the Town of Erin is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served upon the owners of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, and to cause notice of this By-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Corporation of the Town of Erin as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*;
4. **That** Schedules "A" and "B" form an integral part of this By-law.

Passed in Open Council on February 4, 2020



Mayor, Allan Ails



Clerk, Lisa Campion

Schedule "A" of By-Law # 20 - 03

In the Town of Erin in the County of Wellington, property descriptions as follows:

LOT 1, PLAN 102, VILLAGE OF ERIN

Schedule "B" of By-Law # 20 - 03

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (CHVI)

The former Burns Presbyterian Church is recognized for its design, physical, historical, associative and contextual values and meets the Ontario Regulation 9/06, the provincial criteria prescribed for municipal designation.

Physical/ Design Value

The former Burns Presbyterian Church has design or physical value as a representative example of a Gothic Revival church in the Town of Erin which displays a high degree of craftsmanship and artistic merit. Typical Gothic Revival features found on the front elevation include dichromatic brick, lancet/ pointed windows and main door opening with yellow, double brick header voussoirs and stone sills. Other features include a set of four (4) angled buttresses forming pinnacles with wood singles and finial tops. At each storey of the angled buttress, there is a narrow recessed niches which reveals yellow brick. The main façade also includes a circular attic vent in the nave roof centrally placed above the main central window and oval commemorative stone placed centrally upon the façade. The high-pitched roofline is detailed by a double, horizontal, dichromatic brick banding. The roofline on either side of the front façade is finished with stone corbelling.

Side elevations include four (4) windows with one, yellow brick header voussoirs on the ground level and four (4) lancet windows at the second level with yellow, double brick voussoirs and stone sills separated by angled brick buttresses capped with stone. The rear end of either side elevation has a stone corbel at the level of the roofline. The symmetry used in the placement of original windows on the front and side elevations are part of the overall design intent. A paired trefoil stained glass design is above the main door lintel divided by a circle which is encased in the iconic peaked arch. The stained glass windows are important features of the church and commemorate long-supporters of the church. The front and side facades include stained glass windows within lancet arched frames; the largest being displayed centrally on the front façade displaying Jesus Christ as the Shepherd and symbolically the sacrificial lamb. A circular stained glass window on the rear elevation depicting Jesus Christ with the iconic gesture of blessing, kingly crown and holding a sacred heart is situated above the main altar in the nave of the church as a central feature within the interior.

Historical/ Associative Value

The historic or associative values of the former Burns Presbyterian Church relate to its direct association with Presbyterianism in the 19th and 20th century in Ontario and establishment of Presbyterian churches throughout south western Ontario as its namesake is Rev. Dr. Robert Burns whose mission was to establish Presbyterian Churches in rural areas. Additionally, its association with the McMillan family (who established the first mills in the Town of Erin) whom sold the land and were regular attendees of the church. The church was historically a social hub in the Town of Erin community including: local baptisms, weddings, funerals, choir practice and concerts, Sunday school picnics, garden parties, afternoon teas, women's groups, young people's events, Christmas Concerts, fundraising fowl and roast beef dinners and silent auctions. The church also served as a registry and archives for people in the local community protecting records pertaining to baptisms, marriages, deaths and wills. The church yields information relative to the historical transition of the Presbyterian Church to the United Church uniting Presbyterian and Methodist congregations. In 1925, the church voted to remain Presbyterian. The building reflects the design of Gothic Revival churches popular in the mid to late 19th century and in particular in Ontario and inspired by designs for Presbyterian churches by John. G. Howard in York (later Toronto).

Contextual Value

The former Burns Presbyterian church is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the historic character of the downtown core of the Town of Erin and is physically, visually and historically linked to its surroundings and is considered a landmark in the community.

Heritage Attributes

Key exterior heritage attributes that embody the design or physical values of the former Burns Presbyterian Church as a representative example of a Gothic Revival style church in the Town of Erin include:

Front and side elevations (excludes rear elevation) and associated exterior features including:

- Dichromatic brick walls including angled buttresses with recessed niches (front façade), pinnacles with brick banding;
- Existing window openings, sills, lintels and brick voussoirs;
- Central, circular vent on front façade;
- Main front door opening and lintel;
- High-pitched roof and roofline with stone corbels and brick banding;
- Basement level stone foundation;
- Oval commemorative stone inlay;
- Wood shingles placed on top of pinnacles and associated finials.

All elevations:

- All stained glass windows with memorial plaques including:
 - Memorial window to Lois Brett Barbour displaying Jesus Christ as a shepherd;
 - Paired trefoil stained glass window above main door lintel;
 - Circular stained glass window to the rear of the church displaying Jesus Christ with the iconic gesture of blessing, kingly crown and holding a sacred heart;
 - Lancet stained glass windows on either side of the front doors;
 - Memorial window to Mr. & Mrs. Alex McKinney, Mr. and Mrs. James Binnie, Robert and Annie McEney, Pioneers of Burns, George and Mary Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. T.C. Foster, Mr. & Mrs. John Wilson, McGill Family, Mr. & Mrs. Elmer McMillan, Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Overland.
 - Views of the above mentioned stained glass windows shall not be obstructed from the exterior or interior as they are significant to the overall cultural heritage value of the building.

Key heritage attributes that embody the contextual value of the Burns Presbyterian Church include:

- Location on Main Street.