

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AMHERSTBURG

BY-LAW NUMBER 2021-072

A By-law to designate the property known as the “Gordon (McLeod) Residence” as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act* authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact By-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS authority was granted by Council to designate the property located municipally at 109 Park Street and known as the “Gordon (McLeod) Residence”, as being of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Gordon (McLeod) Residence is legally described as:

PLAN 3, LOT 5, S/S OF PARK STREET, AMHERSTBURG

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Town of Amherstburg has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as the Gordon (McLeod) Residence and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intent to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intent to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality as required by the Ontario Heritage Act;

AND WHEREAS the property’s cultural heritage value or interest, its important physical heritage attributes, and therefore its reasons for designation are summarized and set out in Schedule “A” to this bylaw;

AND WHEREAS a more fulsome description of the history and cultural heritage value of the Gordon (McLeod) Residence is set out in Schedule “B”;

AND WHEREAS the Gordon (McLeod) Residence is visually represented in Schedule “C”;

AND WHEREAS any future interventions or changes to the property shall follow commonly used heritage-conservation best practices, as set out in Schedule “D”;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Amherstburg hereby enacts as follows:

1. The property at 109 Park Street, known as the Gordon (McLeod) Residence and more particularly described in Schedule “A” is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest, for the reasons set out in Schedules “A” and “B”.


2. Any future interventions or changes to the property shall follow commonly used heritage-conservation best practices, as set out in Schedule “D”.

3. The Town Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered in the proper Land Registry Office against the property located at 109 Park Street and legally described as:

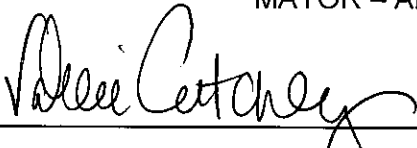
PLAN 3, LOT 5, S/S OF PARK STREET, AMHERSTBURG

4. The Town clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this bylaw to be served upon the owner of the property located at 109 Park Street, and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this bylaw to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Amherstburg as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Read a first, second, and third time and finally passed the 22 day of November, 2021.



MAYOR – ALDO DICARLO



CLERK – VALERIE CRITCHLEY

SCHEDULE "A" - STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST AND HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

Description of Property

109 Park Street, Amherstburg, Ontario

PLAN 3, LOT 5, S/S OF PARK STREET, AMHERSTBURG

known as the "Gordon (McLeod) Residence"

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value of Interest

The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the area. It is integral to contributing to the historic character of the streetscape which comprises similar modest, one- and one-and-one-half-storey houses – most of which also feature front-facing gables. Dating from c. 1855, the house is similar in age to the other five homes on the street which are identified on the Town's Heritage Register, and which date all date from the 1850s, except one from 1878-79. Given that the home was built within the first decade of Park street being laid out in 1851, the home contributes to defining the historic character of the street.

Heritage Attributes

The primary heritage attributes (character-defining elements) of the property are its:

- The current (original) location of the house on the property;
- The c. 1855 and c. 1884 portions of the house;
- The front-gable roof (c.1855 portion) and side-gable roof (c. 1884 portion) of the house;
- The red-brick chimney (c. 1884 portion);
- Classical-Revival-style roof eave returns;
- Classical Revival-style front door and transom-light assembly;
- Fenestration.

SCHEDULE "B" – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Description

Built c. 1855, the Gordon (McLeod) Residence is one-and-one-half-storey, wood-frame house of vernacular design with Classical Revival-style finishes. The house occupies a residential context in Amherstburg's historic core.

Heritage Value

The Gordon (McLeod) Residence has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the area. It is integral to contributing to the historic character of the streetscape which comprises similar modest, one- and one-and-one-half-storey houses – most of which also feature front-facing gables. Dating from c. 1855, the house is similar in age to the other five homes on the street which are identified on the Town's Heritage Register, and which date all date from the 1850s (except one from 1878-79). Given that the

home was built within the first decade of Park street being laid out in 1851 as the Town's southerly boundary, the home contributes to defining the historic character of the street.

The property was built by John McLeod one of Amherstburg's leading businessmen. McLeod was a successful merchant, a ship builder and owner, and Member of the Parliament of Canada for Essex 1858-61. At the time the house was built, he was also the president of the local building society. McLeod owned the property until 1877 although it seems that he may not have occupied it.

The original tenants of the house were the Gordon family who resided there from c. 1855 - c. 1864-65. James Gordon was an engineer, tug-boat captain/owner and carpenter who resided in the house with his mother Anne and sister Jean (Mrs. Francis Hackett).

By 1881, Captain Henry Hackett, a prominent and widely known mariner on the Great Lakes, and his wife Ida, had acquired the house. Hackett commanded numerous Great Lakes and Detroit River vessels throughout his career. With his brother, Captain Robert Hackett, he also built and owned several vessels, including the *Colin Campbell* - the first large iron ore steamship of its kind on the Great Lakes, and which revolutionized the freight trade on the lakes. In 1867 the Hackett brothers formed the North-Western Transportation Co., said to be one of the most enterprising marine corporations on the Great Lakes. Prior to the great financial panic of 1873 Hackett was also a leading Detroit businessman.

Vernacular in design, the house displays modest Classical Revival-style influences such as the cornice returns on its front gable and other surviving historical features such as a transom light above the main door. In 1884 the Hacketts added the extension to the west; it contains long verandah windows, dropped to ground level, to access a picturesque front verandah (later removed).

SCHEDULE "C" – IMAGES OF THE GORDON (MCLEOD) RESIDENCE



Historic view of north (front) façade, Nov. 1, 1920 (Marsh Collection P2011)



View of north façade, Oct. 7, 2021



View of east façade, Oct. 7, 2021



View of west façade, Oct. 7, 2021

SCHEDULE “D” – “THE STANDARDS”

(Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada, Parks Canada, 2010)

General Standards for Preservation, Rehabilitation and Restoration

1. Conserve the heritage value of an historic place. Do not remove, replace or substantially alter its intact or repairable character-defining elements. Do not move a part of an historic place if its current location is a character-defining element.
2. Conserve changes to an historic place that, over time, have become character-defining elements in their own right.
3. Conserve heritage value by adopting an approach calling for minimal intervention.
4. Recognize each historic place as a physical record of its time, place and use. Do not create a false sense of historical development by adding elements from other historic places or other properties, or by combining features of the same property that never coexisted.
5. Find a use for an historic place that requires minimal or no change to its character-defining elements.
6. Protect and, if necessary, stabilize an historic place until any subsequent intervention is undertaken. Protect and preserve archaeological resources in place. Where there is potential for disturbing archaeological resources, take mitigation measures to limit damage and loss of information.
7. Evaluate the existing condition of character-defining elements to determine the appropriate intervention needed. Use the gentlest means possible for any intervention. Respect heritage value when undertaking an intervention.
8. Maintain character-defining elements on an ongoing basis. Repair character-defining elements by reinforcing their materials using recognized conservation methods. Replace in kind any extensively deteriorated or missing parts of character-defining elements, where there are surviving prototypes.
9. Make any intervention needed to preserve character-defining elements physically and visually compatible with the historic place and identifiable on close inspection. Document any intervention for future reference.

Additional Standards Relating to Rehabilitation

10. Repair rather than replace character-defining elements. Where character-defining elements are too severely deteriorated to repair, and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace

them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements. Where there is insufficient physical evidence, make the form, material and detailing of the new elements compatible with the character of the historic place.

11. Conserve the heritage value and character-defining elements when creating any new additions to an historic place or any related new construction. Make the new work physically and visually compatible with, subordinate to and distinguishable from the historic place.

12. Create any new additions or related new construction so that the essential form and integrity of an historic place will not be impaired if the new work is removed in the future.

Additional Standards Relating to Restoration

13. Repair rather than replace character-defining elements from the restoration period. Where character-defining elements are too severely deteriorated to repair and where sufficient physical evidence exists, replace them with new elements that match the forms, materials and detailing of sound versions of the same elements.

14. Replace missing features from the restoration period with new features whose forms, materials and detailing are based on sufficient physical, documentary and/or oral evidence.