

Bill No. 74
2022

By-law No. L.S.P.- _____ - ____

A by-law to designate 370 South Street (War Memorial Children's Hospital) to be of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18*, the Council of a municipality may by by-law designate a property including buildings and structures thereon to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS notice of intention to so designate the property known as 1903 Avalon Street has been duly published and served and no notice of objection to such designation has been received;

NOW THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. The real property at 370 South Street, known as the War Memorial Children's Hospital, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto, is designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto.
2. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered upon the title to the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this by-law to be published once in a newspaper of general circulation in The City of London, to the satisfaction of the City Clerk, and to enter the description of the aforesaid property, the name and address of its registered owner, and designation statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and a description of the heritage attributes of the property in the Register of all properties designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
4. This by-law shall come into force and be deemed to come into force in accordance with Section 29(12) and 29(18) of the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990*.

PASSED in Open Council on January 25, 2022.

Ed Holder
Mayor

Michael Schulthess
City Clerk

First Reading – January 25, 2022
Second Reading – January 25, 2022
Third Reading – January 25, 2022

SCHEDULE “A”
To By-law No. L.S.P.- _____

Legal Description

Lots 6, 7 and 8 South of Hill Street East and Lots 6, 7 and 8 North of South Street East on Crown Plan 30, Lots 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 37, 40 and Part of Lots 36, 38 and 39 on Registered Plan 172(E), designated as Parts 1 and 2 on Plan 33R-17942 Save and Except Parts 1, 2, 3 and 4 on Plan 33R-20703, BEING ALL OF PIN 08329-0197 and PART OF PIN 08329-0198, in the City of London and County of Middlesex.

SCHEDULE “B”
To By-law No. L.S.P.- _____

Description of Property

The War Memorial Children’s Hospital located at 370 South Street, is located on the north side of South Street, west of the intersection of Colborne Street. The property includes the War Memorial Children’s Hospital, a building associated with the former Victoria Hospital.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Built between 1921-1922, the War Memorial Children’s Hospital on the Old Victoria Hospital Lands property is a representative example of the Neoclassical style, used in the design of a hospital building. The design expresses its commemorative function, including its wide main façade, as well as its main frontispiece inclusive of its framed entranceway, flagpole rising from the broken pediment, four tall pilasters, decorative urns, and triumphal wreaths. Additional design details including its rounded arch brick lintels, carved inscription reading “WAR MEMORIAL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL”; and entryways flanking the stone frontispiece with stone surround and Classical entablature with brackets and dentils all contribute to its architectural style and its representation of the Neoclassical architectural style in an institutional building.

The concentration of decorative stone design details included on the frontispiece of the War Memorial Children’s Hospital contribute to the expression and function of the building as commemorative building in its Neoclassical architectural style. As a result, the property displays a high degree of craftsmanship and artistic merit.

The War Memorial Children’s Hospital is historically associated with the commemorative measures and activities that were undertaken in London shortly after the end of the First World War. As a memorial hospital, extensive fund-raising efforts were undertaken and specific design elements were incorporated into the building to memorialize those who lost their lives during the First World War.

In addition, the London Municipal Chapter of the IODE was heavily involved in raising funds for the hospital as well as championing the pursuit of a memorial hospital for children.

Further, in 1951, the War Memorial Children’s Hospital was the first facility in the world to use the Cobalt-60 Beam Therapy Unit in the treatment of a cancer patient. The successful use of the Cobalt-60 Beam Therapy Unit allowed gamma rays to be focussed directly on cancer cells and initiated the use of more powerful radiation therapy that transformed cancer treatment.

The War Memorial Children’s Hospital demonstrates the work of the architectural firm of Watt & Blackwell, a prolific architectural partnership between John M. Watt and Victor J. Blackwell. Under this partnership, the firm designed several institutional and industrial buildings in the Neoclassical style, including the Ruggles Truck Company building, and the now-demolished Gartshore Nurses Residence. The War Memorial Children’s Hospital is one of the few remaining Neoclassical Revival institutional buildings designed by Watt & Blackwell in London.

The property played a key role on this portion of South Street as one of three structures in a “remarkably well integrated, unique, and handsome streetscape.” Although only two of the three structures now remain, the War Memorial Children’s Hospital located at the corner of South Street and Colborne Street is important in maintaining the character of this portion of South Street as the location of the Old Victoria Hospital in London.

The War Memorial Children's Hospital is visually and historically linked to its surroundings in that it is one of three remaining buildings on the Old Victoria Hospital Lands that convey the historic connection to the former medical uses of the property. As a children's hospital, the property is historically connected to the Old Victoria Hospital, and it is visually connected with the two other remaining structures within the area, the Health Services Building and the Colborne Building. Formerly, the War Memorial Children's Hospital also had functional connections to the Health Services Building and the Colborne Building through their shared functioning in the overall operation of the Old Victoria Hospital.

The War Memorial Children's Hospital is one of three remaining hospital buildings associated with the Old Victoria Hospital, and is locally recognized as a landmark in London.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes which support and contribute to the cultural heritage value or interest of this property include:

- The form, scale, and massing of the three-storey War Memorial Children's Hospital and its details including:
 - High, ashlar stone foundation, consisting of five courses of ashlar-cut stone, with the top two courses slightly projecting;
 - Flat roof;
 - Red tapestry brick exterior cladding;
 - Elaborate frontispiece on the South Street facade including:
 - Elevated main entry set in ashlar stone, framed by pilasters with Classical entablature;
 - Stone facing of the first storey;
 - Broken pediment constructed of stone over the main doorway;
 - Entablature detailing;
 - Four tall pilasters rising above the first storey entranceway;
 - Four three-foot tall garlanded urns;
 - Triumphal wreaths carved into the stone blind transoms of second floor windows;
 - Blind stone balustrade of the parapet;
 - Rounded arch brick lintels above second storey windows with stone keystones;
 - Carved inscription reading , "WAR MEMORIAL CHILDRENS HOSPITAL" in the stone entablature, flanked by decorative stone poppies;
 - Metal cornice and stringcourse;
 - Sash-style wood windows with four-light transoms throughout the building; the sash windows in the frontispiece are eight-over-eight divided light windows and the remainder of the windows in the War Memorial Children's Hospital are undivided sash windows;
 - Secondary entryways, flanking the frontispiece, with stone surround and Classical entablature with brackets and dentils;
 - Pavilion-style wings at the east and west ends of the War Memorial Children's Hospital building with broad window openings set between pilaster-like brick-clad structural members and a strong metal cornice at its cap;
 - Soldier course brick lintels above first, second, and third storey windows
 - Setback of the building on the property;
- Spatial relationship with the Health Services Building and the Colborne Building
- Interior heritage attributes including:
 - Terrazzo flooring in the mail hall corridors.