

CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ALMONTE

BY-LAW #29-1991

BEING a By-law to designate the premises known municipally as 249 Country Street, as being of architectural and historical value and interest.

WHEREAS the Ontario Heritage Foundation Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337, authorizes the Council of a Municipality to enact By-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon to be of architectural value or interest; and

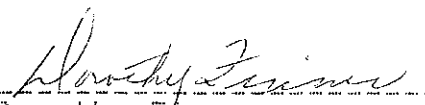
WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Almonte has caused to be served on the owner of the building situated on Part Lot 53 and 54 Church Street Plan 6262, Town of Almonte and upon The Ontario Heritage Foundation notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and have caused such notice of intention to so designate, to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality, once a week for three consecutive weeks; and

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality;

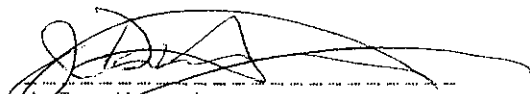
THEREFORE, the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Almonte enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of architectural and historical value and interest, the real property known as 249 Country Street, on Part lots 53 and 54, Plan 6262 Town of Almonte.
2. The municipal Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described, in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a copy of this By-law be served upon the owner of the property and The Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause the passing of this By-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality, once a week for three consecutive weeks.
4. That Schedule "A" hereto attached shall form part of this By-law.

READ a first, second and third time and finally passed this 19th. day of November 1991.



Dorothy Finner
Mayor



J.D. Houston
Clerk Treasurer

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SCHEDULE "A"

SHORT STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED DESIGNATION

This was the home of the internationally known Almonte native Robert Tait McKenzie from the age of nine until manhood. It was built by members of the Presbyterian Church, and subsequently served as the Baptist manse.

Detailed Description:

History:

The house was built in 1876, apparently by well known Almonte contractor Robert Cameron and members of the Presbyterian Church and the community, for the bereaved family of Rev. William McKenzie, in appreciation of his ministry at St. John's Presbyterian Church. He was the church's first minister.

William McKenzie was the father of one of Almonte's most famous sons, the internationally known sculptor, surgeon and physical educator Robert Tait McKenzie, who was born in 1867 in the Free Church manse on the 8th line. R. Tait McKenzie and his brother William lived with James Naismith's family for a short time after his father's death until moving into the new home being built for his family. He lived here from the age of nine until manhood.

The home remained the McKenzie family home until 1913. It was subsequently the Baptist manse until the late 1940's. Since that time it has had several owners. The current owners, Daniel and Elizabeth Vice, purchased the house in 1982.

A plaque with bronze medallion commemorating the 100th anniversary of the birth of R. Tait McKenzie, along with a description of his achievements was prepared by Almonte resident Major Leys in 1967 and remains on display in the home.

Architecture:

The home is a one and a half story, double brick with stone foundation and a glass enclosed white front porch. It has sweep out hatches which are still in use. The date of construction of the porch is unknown.

The house has been extensively renovated over the years. A sympathetic kitchen, in a similar brick was added to the original house in 1891. In 1984 a shed roof, family room and bathroom in a different style and brick was added at the rear of the house.

There are two dormer windows on the roof, and the roof is covered in asphalt shingle. Recent renovations have added aluminum soffits and fascias. An opening on the street side, just below the peak of the roof may originally have been an attic vent. However, this was closed in a number of years ago in a brick similar to the original.

The interior of the home has been extensively renovated and modernized. Original oak flooring and pine baseboard and window mouldings are to be found in the living and dining rooms, and an original butternut stair railing remains.

Upstairs bedrooms have been refinished to expose the original maple plan and pine flooring.

Site:

The house is located very close to the street. There is a large lawn at the rear, and a number of mature trees surround the house.