Subject: Designation of 249 Bronson Avenue under Part IV of *Ontario*Heritage Act

File Number: ACS2024-PDB-RHU-0078

Report to Built Heritage Committee on 12 November 2024

and Council 27 November 2024

Submitted on October 31, 2024 by Court Curry, Manager, Right of Way, Heritage, and urban Design Services, Planning, Development and Building Services

Contact Person: Greg MacPherson, Heritage Planner, Heritage Planning Branch

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Ward: Somerset (14)

Objet: Désignation du 249, avenue Bronson en vertu de la partie IV de la *Loi* sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario

Dossier: ACS2024-PDB-RHU-0078

Rapport présenté au Comité du patrimoine bâti

le 12 novembre 2024

et au Conseil le 27 novembre 2024

Soumis le 31 octobre 2024 par Court Curry, Gestionnaire, Services des emprises, du patrimoine, et du design urbain, Direction générale des services de la planification, de l'aménagement et du bâtiment

Personne resource: Greg Macpherson, Urbaniste du patrimoine, Planification du patrimoine

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Quartier: Somerset (14)

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Built Heritage Committee recommend that Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate 249 Bronson Avenue under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value attached as Document 4.

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité du patrimoine bâti recommande au Conseil d'émettre un avis d'intention de désigner le 249, avenue Bronson, aux termes de la partie IV de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, conformément à la Déclaration de la valeur de patrimoine culturel faisant l'objet du document 4 ci-joint.

BACKGROUND

This report has been prepared because designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA) must be approved by City Council.

249 Bronson Avenue contains a red brick church constructed in 1893 as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, which it continues to function as today. The property is located on the western edge of Centretown at the southeast corner of Bronson Avenue and Lisgar Street. The property also includes the adjacent house addressed as 251 Bronson Avenue, which is excluded from the recommendation to designate this property. 249 Bronson Avenue has cultural heritage value for its design, associative, and contextual values. It meets five of the nine criteria for designation under Part IV of the OHA.

This property was listed on the City's Heritage Register in 2020. Changes to the OHA through Bill 23 (2023) and Bill 200 (2024) will result in the removal of this property from the City's Heritage Register if Council does not issue a Notice of Intention to Designate the property by January 1, 2027. Further, Council will not be able to relist the property for five years after this date. Heritage staff completed a review of all non-designated properties listed on the City's Heritage Register in response to Bill 23 in Spring of 2023 and identified this property as a potential candidate for designation.

DISCUSSION

The Official Plan, Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), and the OHA all provide policy direction related to the designation of individual properties under Part IV of the OHA.

Official Plan

The Official Plan has policies related to cultural heritage in Section 4.5, Cultural

Heritage and Archaeology. Section 4.5.1(3) states: "Individual buildings, structures, and sites shall be designated as properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*."

Provincial Planning Statement (2024)

The Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) replaces the former Provincial Policy Statement and came into effect on October 20, 2024. Section 4.6 of the PPS includes the following policy regarding the conservation of heritage resources:

- 4. Planning authorities are encouraged to develop and implement:
- b) proactive strategies for conserving built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes

Policies within the City's Official Plan, as described above, direct the designation of significant properties and comply with this policy.

Should City Council designate the properties outlined in this report, they would be considered "protected heritage property" for the purposes of the PPS 2024. The PPS includes the following policy related to protected heritage property:

1. Protected heritage property, which may contain built heritage resources or cultural heritage landscapes, shall be conserved.

Ontario Heritage Act

Part IV of the OHA provides municipalities with the authority to designate properties of cultural heritage value. Section 29 of the OHA sets out the process for the designation of individual buildings. It requires:

- that Council consult with its municipal heritage committee, and
- that the official Notice of Intention to Designate served on the owner and the
 Ontario Heritage Trust contain a description of the property and its heritage
 attributes, as well as a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest
 of the property and a statement that a notice of objection may be served on the
 clerk within 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention in a
 newspaper.

Per by-law 2002-522, as amended, the Notice of Intention to Designate will be published online on the City's website in both official languages. Document 4 contains the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value for this property.

Ontario Regulation 09/06

Regulation 9/06 (see Document 3) establishes criteria to determine if a property is of cultural heritage value or interest. A property may be designated under Section 29 of the OHA if it meets two or more of the nine criteria set out in the regulation. Through research and evaluation, staff have determined that the property at 249 Bronson Avenue meets five (5) of the nine (9) criteria. Detailed research and analysis are outlined in the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (see Document 5), and a brief analysis of each of the applicable criteria is provided below:

The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue has design value as a unique example of the Queen Anne Revival style with elements of the Romanesque Revival style used in a religious building in Ottawa. The Queen Anne Revival style was frequently used in Canada, and Centretown, in residential architecture for middle and upper-class families in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The church at 249 Bronson Avenue evokes the Queen Anne Revival style through its corner tower, turret, gabled roof, repetitive dormers, and sash and leaded windows. The church at 249 Bronson Avenue also includes elements of the Romanesque Revival style through its rectangular massing and rusticated stone lintels and sills.

The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue has design value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship. The building's craftsmanship is demonstrated through its brick and wooden detailing, and coloured leaded glass windows.

The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue is directly associated with the growth of the Baptist church in Ottawa. It was constructed as the church for the second Baptist congregation in the city. In 1888, 24 members from the First Baptist Church, located at Laurier Avenue West and Elgin Street, established a mission hall in the west part of the city on Bronson Avenue, formerly Concession Street. The congregation formed the Second Baptist Church and was originally located on the west side of Bronson Avenue between Christie and Somerset Streets. Due to the church's early increase in

membership and financial success, the church decided to construct a larger space to accommodate for their growing congregation. The congregation purchased the land at corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue, and the new church opened as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church in December 1893, and was dedicated January 1894.

The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue has contextual value because it is important in defining and maintaining the character of the west area of Centretown and Bronson Avenue, which defines the edge of the neighbourhood. The building is located on Bronson Avenue, which experienced an early wave of development in the late 19th century by Ottawa's elite and lumber barons. The west area of Centretown is largely characterized by red brick residential buildings with Queen Anne Revival influence from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Constructed in 1893, the church at 249 Bronson Avenue maintains the historic character of the street and defines the character of area through its red brick construction, its distinct Queen Anne Revival architectural style, and its prominent location on Bronson Avenue.

The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue has contextual value because it is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. The growth of this area of Centretown in the late 19th and early 20th centuries contributed to Bronson Avenue's development as a hub for institutional buildings, including the Bronson Centre (formerly Immaculata School), the landmark Peace Tower Church (formerly the Erskine Presbyterian Church), the Saint-Vincent hospital, and Centennial Public School. As a place of worship, the church at 249 Bronson Avenue is historically and functionally linked to the institutional character of this area of Centretown.

Conclusion

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue meets five of the nine criteria for designation outlined in Ontario Regulation 9/06 for designation under Part IV of the OHA. Staff recommend that Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate the property under Part IV of the OHA.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications associated with implementing the report recommendation.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendations of this report.

CONSULTATION

The property owner was notified of the proposed designation by letter on October 1, 2024. The letter included information about the designation process, instructions on how to participate and an offer to meet with staff to discuss and answer any questions.

The Centretown Community Association and Heritage Ottawa have also both been notified of this proposed designation.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

The designation of these properties under the *Ontario Heritage Act* does not impact the physical fabric of the buildings. While alterations to designated properties, including renovations to remove barriers for people with disabilities, require a heritage permit, the fees for these permits are waived and staff work with property owners to allow for accessibility retrofits.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no rural implications.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1 Location Map

Document 2 Photos

Document 3 Ontario Regulation 9/06

Document 4 Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Document 5 Cultural Heritage Evaluation Reporth

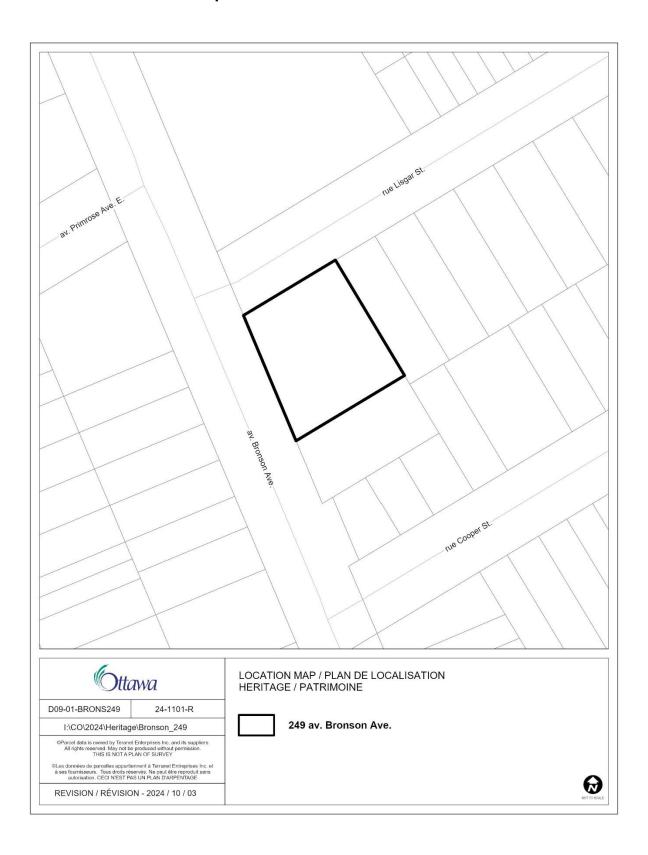
DISPOSITION

If Council does not carry the recommendation, no further steps are required. If Council proceeds with the issuance of a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property located at 249 Bronson Avenue, several actions must be taken:

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- 1) Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department, to prepare the Notice of Intention to Designate. Office of the City Clerk, Council and Committee Services to notify the property owner and the Ontario Heritage Trust (10 Adelaide Street East, 3rd Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1J3) of Council's decision to issue a Notice of Intention to Designate the property at 249 Bronson Avenue under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- 2) Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department, to ensure publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate according to the requirements of Section 29 the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- 3) If the City Clerk receives a Notice of Objection under Section 29(5) of the Ontario Heritage Act within thirty days of the publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, the Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department, is to prepare a report regarding the objection for consideration by Council within 90 days after conclusion of the objection period, according to Section 29 (6) of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- 4) If the City Clerk does not receive any Notice of Objection under Section 29 (5) of the Ontario Heritage Act within thirty days of the publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, or if City Council decides not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property after an objection has been served, the Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department, is to prepare the designation by-law, under the authority of the approval of this report and Legal Services to submit to City Council for enactment within 120 days of the publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate as prescribed in Section 29(8) of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- 5) Office of the City Clerk, Council and Committee Services to cause a copy of the by-law together with a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and a description of the heritage attributes of the property, to be served on the owner of the property and on the Trust according to the requirements of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department, to ensure publication of the notice of the by-law in the newspaper according to the requirements Section 29(8)(4) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Document 1 - Location Map



Document 2 - Photos



Bronson Avenue elevation (Staff Photo, 2024)



Exterior of the subject property from the corner of Bronson Avenue and Lisgar Streets (*Google Maps*, 2022).

Document 3 – Ontario Regulation 9/06

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

Consolidation Period: From January 1, 2023 to the e-Laws currency date.

Last amendment: <u>569/22</u>.

This is the English version of a bilingual regulation.

Criteria, s. 27 (3) (b) of the Act

- **1.** (1) The criteria set out in subsection (2) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 27 (3) (b) of the Act. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.
- (2) Property that has not been designated under Part IV of the Act may be included in the register referred to in subsection 27 (1) of the Act on and after the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force if the property meets one or more of the following criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest:
 - The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.
 - 2. The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.
 - 3. The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
 - 4. The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.
 - 5. The property has historical value or associative value because it yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.
 - The property has historical value or associative value because it demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
 - 7. The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.
 - 8. The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.
 - 9. The property has contextual value because it is a landmark. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.
- (3) For clarity, subsection (2) does not apply in respect of a property that has not been designated under Part IV but was included in the register as of the day subsection 3 (2)

of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

Criteria, s. 29 (1) (a) of the Act

- **2.** (1) The criteria set out in subsections (2) and (3) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 29 (1) (a) of the Act. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.
- (2) Section 1, as it read immediately before the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022 comes into force, continues to apply in respect of a property for which a notice of intention to designate it was given under subsection 29 (1.1) of the Act after January 24, 2006 and before the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022 comes into force. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.
- (3) In respect of a property for which a notice of intention to designate it is given under subsection 29 (1.1) of the Act on or after the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force, the property may be designated under section 29 of the Act if it meets two or more of the criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest set out in paragraphs 1 to 9 of subsection 1 (2). O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

Criteria, s. 41 (1) (b) of the Act

- **3.** (1) The criteria set out in subsection (2) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 41 (1) (b) of the Act. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), in the case of a by-law passed under subsection 41 (1) of the Act on or after the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force, a municipality or any defined area or areas of it may be designated by such a by-law as a heritage conservation district under subsection 41 (1) of the Act if the municipality or the defined area or areas of it meets the following criteria:
 - 1. At least 25 per cent of the properties within the municipality or defined area or areas satisfy two or more of the following:
- The properties have design value or physical value because they are rare, unique, representative or early examples of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.
- ii. The properties have design value or physical value because they display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.
- iii. The properties have design value or physical value because they demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.

- iv. The properties have historical value or associative value because they have a direct association with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.
- v. The properties have historical value or associative value because they yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.
- vi. The properties have historical value or associative value because they demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
- vii. The properties have contextual value because they define, maintain or support the character of the district.
- viii. The properties have contextual value because they are physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to each other.
- ix. The properties have contextual value because they are defined by, planned around or are themselves a landmark. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.
 - (3) Subsection (2) does not apply in respect of a by-law passed under subsection 41 (1) of the Act on or after the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022 comes into force if a notice of a public meeting required to be held for the purposes of the by-law under subsection 41.1 (7) of the Act was given before the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022 comes into force. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.
 - (4) For clarity, the requirement set out in subsection 41.1 (5.1) of the Act,
 - (a) does not apply in respect of a by-law under subsection 41 (1) of the Act that is passed before the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act*, 2022 comes into force; and
 - (b) does not apply in respect of a by-law under subsection 41.1 (2) of the Act. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

Document 4 – Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Description of Property

McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, 249 Bronson Avenue, is a red brick church constructed in 1893. The property includes two buildings, 249 and 251 Bronson Avenue and is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Bronson Avenue and Lisgar Street.

The building at 251 Bronson Avenue is excluded from the designation.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

McPhail Memorial Baptist Church., 249 Bronson Avenue is a unique example of the Queen Anne Revival style with elements of the Romanesque Revival style used in a religious building in Ottawa. The Queen Anne Revival style was frequently used in Canada, and Centretown, in residential architecture for middle and upper-class families in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The church evokes the Queen Anne Revival style through its corner tower, turret, gabled roof, repetitive dormers, and sash and leaded windows. It also includes elements of the Romanesque Revival style through its rectangular massing and rusticated stone lintels and sills.

The church has design value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship. The building's craftsmanship is demonstrated through its brick and wooden detailing, and coloured leaded glass windows.

The property is directly associated with the growth of the Baptist church in Ottawa. It was constructed as the church for the second Baptist congregation in the city. In 1888, 24 members from the First Baptist Church, located at Laurier Avenue West and Elgin Street, established a mission hall in the west part of the city on Bronson Avenue, formerly Concession Street. The congregation formed the Second Baptist Church and was originally located on the west side of Bronson Avenue between Christie and Somerset Streets. Due to the church's early increase in membership and financial success, the church decided to construct a larger space to accommodate for their growing congregation. The congregation purchased the land at corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue, and the new church opened as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church in December 1893, and was dedicated January 1894.

McPhail Memorial Baptist Church has contextual value because it is important in defining and maintaining the character of the west area of Centretown and Bronson Avenue, which defines the edge of the neighbourhood. The building is located on Bronson Avenue, which experienced an early wave of development in the late 19th century by Ottawa's elite and lumber barons. The west area of Centretown is largely characterized by red brick residential buildings with Queen Anne Revival influence from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Constructed in 1893, the church maintains the historic character of the street and defines the character of area through its red brick

construction, its distinct Queen Anne Revival architectural style, and its prominent location on Bronson Avenue.

The property is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. The growth of this area of Centretown in the late 19th and early 20th centuries contributed to Bronson Avenue's development as a hub for institutional buildings, including the Bronson Centre (formerly Immaculata School), the landmark Peace Tower Church (formerly the Erskine Presbyterian Church), the Saint-Vincent hospital, and Centennial Public School. As a place of worship, the church at is historically and functionally linked to the institutional character of this area of Centretown.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of 249 Bronson Avenue as a unique example of a church designed in the Queen Anne Revival style include:

- Red brick cladding
- Exposed stone foundation
- Gabled roof
- Gabled dormers on roof
- Rectangular window openings with stone lintels and sills.
- Decorative brick work including stringcourses and banding.
- The west façade facing Bronson Avenue including:
 - Bracketed wood soffits
 - half-round rose window with coloured glass, multiple lights, stone sill, and brick voussoir.
 - Date stone inscribed with "McPhail Memorial 1893"
 - Raised main entrance with coloured glass transom, brick surround and drip edge, flanked by rectangular windows with coloured leaded glass.
 - o Rectangular tower at the building's northwest corner, including:
 - Square hip roof with steep gable dormers featuring wood bargeboard and scalloped wood shingles.
 - Wood cornice with bracketed soffits.
 - Rounded arch windows with coloured leaded glass and stone sills.
 - Projecting cylindrical turret at building's southwest corner, including:
 - Conical roof with finial and bracketed soffit.
- The building's north and south facades, including:
 - Regularly spaced window bays.
 - Coloured leaded glass windows.
- This designation excludes the entrance addition at the base of the north tower.

This designation only pertains to the church at 249 Bronson Avenue and excludes the building on the south portion of the parcel with the civic address 251 Bronson Avenue. The designation also excludes the interior of the church.

Document 5 - Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Assessment

249 Bronson Avenue September 2024

Prepared by: Heritage Staff



Executive Summary

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue is a red brick church at the intersection of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue. The building was constructed in 1893 as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, which it continues to function as today. The church was the second Baptist church in Ottawa and represents the expansion of the denomination in Centretown. The church is a unique example of the Queen Anne Revival style used in a religious building in Ottawa and has design value for its craftsmanship in its brick and wooden detailing, and leaded and coloured glass windows. The property maintains and defines the west area of Centretown, which is characterized largely by red brick residential, commercial, and institutional buildings from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, frequently using the Queen Anne Revival style. As a place of worship with prominent frontage on Bronson Avenue, the property is historically and functionally linked to the institutional character of this area of Centretown.

The property has cultural heritage value for its design, associative and contextual values. It meets five of the nine criteria for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Criterion 1

The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.

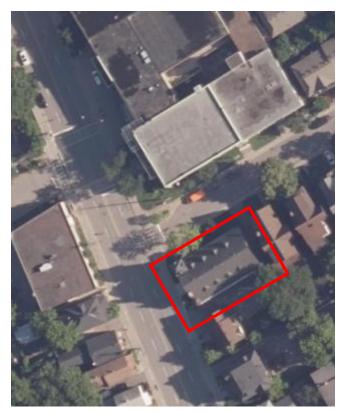
Yes

Response to Criterion

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue has design value as a unique example of the Queen Anne Revival style with elements of the Romanesque Revival style used in a religious building in Ottawa. The Queen Anne Revival style was frequently used in Canada and Ottawa in residential architecture for middle- and upper-class families. The style became popular in North America in the final decades of the 19th century, but its popularity faded after the First World War. The church at 249 Bronson Avenue evokes the Queen Anne Revival style through its corner tower, turret, gabled roof, repetitive dormers, and sash and leaded windows. The church at 249 Bronson Avenue also includes elements of the Romanesque Revival style through its heavy and rectangular massing, as well as through its rusticated stone window lintels and sills.

Supporting Details

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue is a red brick church constructed in the Queen Anne Revival style, with elements of the Romanesque Revival style. It is located on the southeast corner of the intersection of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue. The church was constructed in 1893 as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church.



The McPhail Memorial Baptist Church on the southeast corner of the intersection of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue. *GeoOttawa*, 2021.

Description of Building

- Red brick church with rectangular massing and an asymmetrical façade
- Exposed stone foundation
- Gabled roof with asphalt shingles
- The principal façade facing Bronson Avenue features:
 - A central gabled bay with a decorative half-round rose window, featuring multiple lights and coloured glass. The window is topped with brick voussoirs that extend into a brick stringcourse.
 - o "McPhail Memorial 1893" date stone in central bay
 - Decorated wood soffits at the roofline
 - A raised main entrance with coloured glass transom, brick surround and drip edge, flanked by rectangular windows with coloured leaded glass.
 - A rectangular front corner tower on the building's northwest corner. The tower is topped with a square hip roof. The roof features steeply gabled dormers with decorative wood bargeboard and scalloped wood shingles. Each of the tower's facades features two bays of rounded lancet windows with leaded and coloured glass on the top storey, and rectangular sash windows with rusticated stone lintels and sills on the first storey. The tower is topped with a finial.
 - A projecting cylindrical turret with a conical roof on the building's southwest corner. The turret extends to the building's south façade. The turret has two rectangular sash windows with leaded coloured glass. The windows also feature rusticated stone lintels and sills. The turret is also topped with a finial.
- The building's north and south facades feature four bays, each with large rectangular windows with rusticated stone lintels and sills. These facades also feature repetitive gabled dormers.
- The building's north façade includes a small addition with a side entrance.



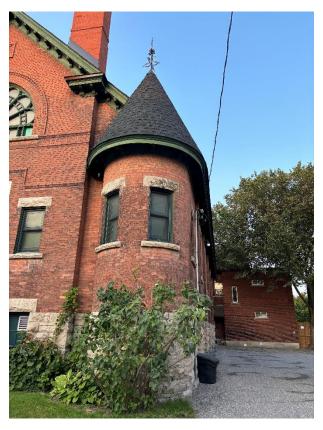
The McPhail Memorial Baptist Church at the corner of Bronson Avenue and Lisgar Streets. *Google Maps*, 2022.



The McPhail Memorial Baptist Church's front façade on Bronson Street. City of Ottawa, 2024.



The church's rectangular tower viewed from the north façade. *City of Ottawa*, 2024.



The church's turret on the west façade. *City of Ottawa*, 2024.

Description of Architectural Style

The church at 249 Bronson Avenue is designed in the Queen Anne Revival style with some elements of Romanesque Revival architecture. The Queen Anne Revival style originated in England in the 1860s and 1870s by architects tasked with designing large, comfortable houses for middle- and upper-class clients. The style became popular in North America in the final decades of the 19th century, but its popularity faded after World War I.²

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The Queen Anne Revival style is playful, eclectic, and subtly balanced. It blends architectural motifs from the medieval and classical eras through its use of Tudor windows, corner towers, as well as columns, sash windows, pediments, and stringcourses.³ These elements are combined with asymmetrical elevations, irregular rooflines with lots of dormers, and front-facing gables.⁴ The Queen Anne Revival styles

¹ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucsker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 110.

² Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucsker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 110.

³ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucsker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 110.

[&]quot;Queen Anne Revival," *Ontario Heritage Trust*, accessed September 2024, https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/placeof-worship/places-of-worship-database/architecture/architectural-style?id=44.

⁴ "Queen Anne Revival," *Ontario Heritage Trust,* accessed September 2024, https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/placeof-worship/places-of-worship-database/architecture/architectural-style?id=44.

uses a variety of materials including wood, brick, terra cotta, and stone.⁵ The church at 249 Bronson Avenue evokes the Queen Anne Revival style through its corner tower, turret, gabled roof, repetitive dormers, and sash and leaded windows. Another characteristic of the Queen Anne Revival style is the use of rich and striking colours, which the church achieves through the uses of a deep green paint on wooden trim and accents.⁶

The church includes some elements of Romanesque Revival architecture. The Romanesque Revival style first appeared in Canada as early as the 1840s and was popular throughout the 19th century.⁷ The key characteristics of Romanesque Revival style buildings include a heavy massing, brick or rusticated stone cladding, square towers, hipped and gabled roofs, and medieval-inspired classical detailing like corbel tables and elaborate capitals.⁸ The church at 249 Bronson Avenue uses the Romanesque Revival style through its heavy and rectangular massing, as well as through its rusticated stone window lintels and sills.

Local and National Context

In Canada, the Queen Anne Revival style was mostly used for residential and, occasionally, commercial architecture. The style was most often used in residential designs for middle- and upper-class families in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.⁹ Through its fanciful and excessive designs, the Queen Anne Revival style was meant to suggest success and wealth.¹⁰ Nationally, Ontario is the province with the most Queen Anne Revival style residences, reflecting the 19th century prosperity of the province.¹¹ Most of Ontario's Queen Anne Revival style residences are constructed of red brick and feature contrasting trim, much like the building at 249 Bronson Avenue.

In Ottawa, the Queen Anne Revival style is prominent in residential architecture, particularly in Centretown. An elaborate example the Queen Anne Revival style in Centretown is 252 Metcalfe Street—the John R. Booth Residence, National Historic Site of Canada, constructed in 1909.¹² The Central Chambers at 40-46 Elgin Street, also a

⁵ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucsker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 107.

⁶ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 106.

⁷ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucker, A *Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 93.

⁸ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 93.

⁹ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 93.

[&]quot;The Queen Anne Revival Style," *Canada's Historic Places*, accessed September 2024, https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/pages/32_queen_anne.aspx.

¹⁰ "Queen Anne Revival Style (1870-1910)," www.OntarioArchitecture.com, accessed September 2024, http://ontarioarchitecture.com/QueenAnne.htm.

¹¹ Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 106.

¹² Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles – Second Edition* (Canada: Broadview Press, 2004), 105.

National Historic Site of Canada, is an example of the Queen Anne Revival style is used in for a commercial building.¹³



The John R. Booth Residence at 252 Metcalfe Street, constructed in 1909, is an example of a high-style 19th century mansion constructed in the Queen Anne Revival Style. The property is a National Historic Site of Canada and designated under Part IV and V of the *Ontario Heritage Act. Doors Open Ontario*, accessed September 2024.

[&]quot;John R. Booth Residence National Historic Site of Canada," *Canada's Historic Places*, accessed September 2024, https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=12018.

¹³ "Central Chambers National Historic Site of Canada," *Canada's Historic Places – Parks Canada*, accessed September 2024, https://www.historicplaces.ca/en/rep-reg/place-lieu.aspx?id=2857.

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Central Chambers at 40-46 Elgin Street, an example of the Queen Anne Revival style used in a commercial building in Ottawa. The property is a National Historic Site of Canada and designated under Part IV and V of the *Ontario Heritage Act. City of Ottawa*, 2019.

The church at 249 Bronson Avenue is a unique example of the Queen Anne Revival style used in a religious building in Ottawa. Most churches in the city are constructed in the Gothic Revival style. The Queen Anne Revival style is used in two other churches in Ottawa—Glebe-St. James United Church at 269 First Avenue (constructed 1905), and in a rural setting, the Ashton United Church in Ashton-Munster (constructed in 1899).¹⁴

¹⁴ "Places of Worship Inventory," *Ontario Heritage Trust*, accessed September 2024, https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/places-of-worship/places-of-worship-database.



Glebe-St. James United Church at 269 First Avenue, Google Maps, 2019.



Ashton United Church in Ashton-Munster, Ontario Heritage Trust, accessed September 2024.

The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.

Yes

Response to Criterion

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue has design value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship. The building's craftsmanship is demonstrated through its brick and wooden detailing, and coloured leaded glass windows.

Supporting Details

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue has design value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship through its brick and wooden detailing, and leaded and coloured glass windows. The building uses decorative brick detailing in a continuous brick stringcourse over the half-round windows on the front façade and north tower, and decorative brick banding underneath the rusticated sills.

The building's artistry is evident is its decorative wood detailing in its soffits, and wooden tracery in the half round windows on the front façade. The building's unique use of wooden craftsmanship extends to the north tower's roof, which features steeply gabled dormers with decorative wood bargeboard and scalloped cedar shake shingles. The building's artistry is also evident in the use of coloured leaded glass windows.



The church's front façade featuring a decorative brick stringcourses and bandings, a half-round rose window with wooden tracery and coloured glass, date stone, and decorative wooden soffits. *City of Ottawa*, 2024.



Coloured and leaded glass, and wooden detailing on the church's north tower roof. City of Ottawa, 2024.



Coloured glass above the church's front entrance. City of Ottawa, 2024.

Criterion 3	
The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a	No
high degree of technical or scientific achievement.	NO

Response to Criterion

Heritage staff have compared the building to others of similar age or typology and consulted relevant secondary sources including newspaper articles and architectural history books. Staff's review concluded that this property exemplifies typical construction methods for buildings of its type. The property does not meet this criterion.

Criterion 4

The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.

Yes

Response to Criterion

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue is directly associated with the growth of the Baptist church in Ottawa. It was constructed as the church for the second Baptist congregation in the city. In 1888, 24 members from the First Baptist Church, located at Laurier Avenue West and Elgin Street, established a mission hall in the west part of the city on Bronson Avenue, formerly Concession Street. The congregation formed the Second Baptist Church and was originally located on the west side of Bronson Avenue between Christie and Somerset Streets. Due to the church's early increase in membership and financial success, the church decided to construct a larger space to accommodate for their growing congregation. The congregation purchased the land at corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue, and the new church opened as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church in December 1893, and was dedicated January 1894.

Supporting Details

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue is directly associated with the growth of the early Baptist community in Ottawa. It was constructed as the church for the second Baptist congregation in Ottawa. The Baptist church is a Protestant denomination, with roots in Scotland and England, and educates through missionary work and evangelism. The original Baptist churches in Canada were formed in the Atlantic provinces in the 1760s. By the 1790s, Baptist churches in Ontario and Quebec were established. In 1815, Scottish immigrants in the Ottawa Valley introduced the revivalist tradition—which had conflicting beliefs with the already established Baptist churches in the region. In 1888, the two entities united to form the Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec—the main Baptist association for these provinces. The McPhail Memorial Baptist Church is part of this association.

The first Baptist congregation in Ottawa was established in 1857. By 1877, the congregation had expanded significantly and constructed its church at Laurier and Elgin Streets, known as the First Baptist Church. In 1888, the First Baptist Church dismissed 24 members to establish a mission hall in the west part of the city on Bronson

¹⁵ Christopher Killacky, "Baptists in Canada," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, accessed September 2024. https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/baptists

¹⁶ Christopher Killacky, "Baptists in Canada," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, accessed September 2024. https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/baptists

¹⁷ "McPhail Memorial Baptist Church," *McPhail Memorial Baptist Church*, accessed September 2024, https://mcphailbaptist.weebly.com/.

¹⁸ "The First Baptist Church Celebrates Anniversary," *The Ottawa Journal*, October 16, 1903.

Avenue, formerly Concession Street.¹⁹ The congregation formed the Second Baptist Church and was originally located on the west side of Bronson Avenue between Christie and Somerset Streets.²⁰ In their first year, under the pastorate of the church's first minister, Reverand W.T. Graham, the congregation rapidly grew to over 200 members.²¹

In 1892, the church's second minister, Reverand A.N. Frith, was ordained as pastor of the Second Baptist Church. Under his pastorate, the church continued to grow. Due to the church's early increase in membership and financial success, the church decided to construct a larger space to accommodate for their growing congregation. In 1893, the church purchased the land at corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue.²² The building was designed to accommodate 400 people and include a Sunday School in the basement. The new church opened as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church in December 1893, and was dedicated January 1894.²³ After the erection of the new church, the McPhail Memorial Church continued to grow—reaching over 400 active members in 1914.²⁴



McPhail Memorial Baptist Church, n.d. Canada Department of Public Works 1979-140 NPC, RV1 036 4169709, *Library and Archives Canada*.

¹⁹ "McPhail Memorial Baptist Congregation is the Second of That Denomination in Ottawa," *The Ottawa Journal*, June 27, 1914.

²⁰ "The First Baptist Church Celebrates Anniversary," *The Ottawa Journal*, October 16, 1903.

²¹ "Second Baptist," The Ottawa Journal, October 14, 1889.

²² "McPhail Memorial Baptist Congregation is the Second of That Denomination in Ottawa," *The Ottawa Journal*, June 27, 1914.

²³ "Dedicated to Worship. The McPhail Memorial Baptist Church Opened.," *The Ottawa Journal*, January 8, 2024.

²⁴ "McPhail Memorial Baptist Congregation is the Second of That Denomination in Ottawa," *The Ottawa Journal*, June 27, 1914.

In 1914, the congregation commissioned architects William James Abra and Hugh A. Richards, who designed multiple Baptists churches in Ottawa including the French Baptist Church on King Edward Avenue and the Eastview Baptist Church on Olmstead Street in Vanier, to design a larger church and replace the existing church at the corner of Lisgar Street and Bronson Avenue. This church was never constructed, and the original church remains standing today.

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Architectural rendering for the new McPhail Memorial Baptist Church that was never constructed, *The Ottawa Journal*, January 16, 1914.

The church was named the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church after the well-known early Baptist missionary and minister, Reverand Daniel McPhail. McPhail was born in Scotland in 1811, and he arrived in Canada with his family in 1820. He began his missionary work in Osgoode in 1839 and founded Baptist churches in the Ottawa Valley including in South Gower, Winchester, Kenmore, and Ormond. From 1865 to 1870, McPhail was a pastor at the First Baptist Church.²⁵ During his pastorate at the First Baptist Church, the church experienced a large increase in membership, which is credited to McPhail's service.²⁶

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue continues to function as the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church today.

²⁵ "Our History," *McPhail Memorial Baptist Church*, accessed September 2024, https://mcphailbaptist.weebly.com/welcome.html.

²⁶ "The First Baptist Church Celebrates Anniversary," *The Ottawa Journal*, October 16, 1903.

Criterion 5

The property has historical or associative value because it yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.

No

Response to Criterion

Based on research conducted by Heritage Staff, the property does not yield information that contributes to the understanding of a community or culture. The property does not meet this criterion.

Criterion 6

The property has historical value or associative value because it demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.

No

Response to Criterion

While the adherence to the Queen Anne Revival style in the building's design would indicate that the property was designed by an architect—contract records, newspaper records, and other reference materials did not reveal that this property is representative of the work of a known or significant architect, builder, designer or theorist. The property does not meet this criterion.

Criterion 7

The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.

Yes

Response to Criterion

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue has contextual value because it is important in defining and maintaining the character of the west area of Centretown and Bronson Avenue. The building is located on Bronson Avenue, which experienced an early wave of development in the late 19th century by Ottawa's elite and lumber barons, in the west area of Centretown. The west area of Centretown is largely characterized by residential buildings from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Constructed in 1893, the church at 249 Bronson Avenue maintains the historic character of the street and defines the character of area through its red brick construction, its distinct Queen Anne Revival architectural style, and its prominent location on Bronson Avenue.

Supporting Details

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue has contextual value because it is important in maintaining and defining the character of the west area of Centretown and Bronson Avenue. Ottawa's Centretown neighbourhood is bounded by the Ottawa River to the north, Highway 417 to the south, Queen Elizabeth Drive and the Rideau Canal to the east, and Bronson Avenue to the west. The subject building is in the west area of Centretown—in the area between Bank Street and Bronson Avenue.

Early development in Centretown was shaped by the 19th century lumber trade and, later, by the introduction of the British colonial government.²⁷ In the 1870s, Bronson Avenue was slowly being developed by members of Ottawa's upper class or lumber

²⁷ "Centretown," Neighbourhood Heritage Statement, City of Ottawa, 2020.

barons and their families. Bronson Avenue was an original concession line in Ottawa, offered sizable lots for families to construct large stone or brick houses along the street.²⁸

Examples include the property at 176 Bronson Avenue, known as the Cheney House and 190 Bronson Avenue, known as the Davidson House (both now designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*). Constructed in 1893, during the early wave of development on Bronson Avenue, the church at 249 Bronson Avenue maintains the historic character of the street.



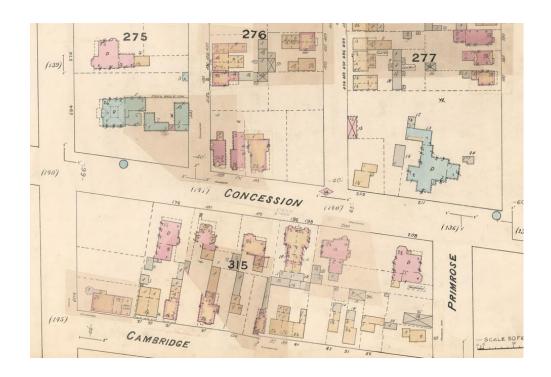
The Cheney House at 176 Bronson Avenue, designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, *City of Ottawa*, 2019.

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²⁸ ERA Architects, *Centretown Heritage Inventory*, 2020, 38.

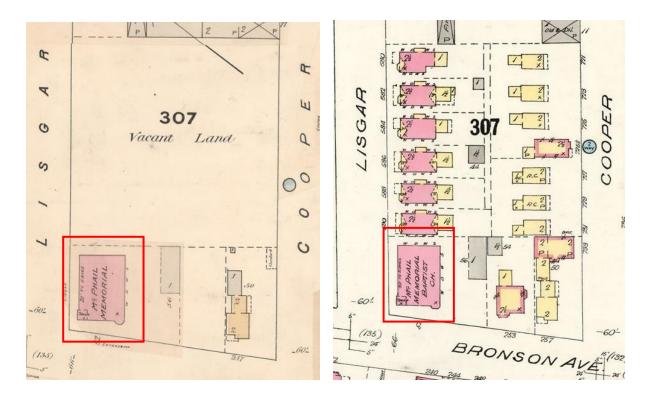


The Davidson House at 190 Bronson Avenue, designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, *City of Ottawa*, 2019.



1901 Fire Insurance Plan showing large brick and stone residential buildings along Bronson Avenue.

Ottawa Fire Insurance Plan, 1888 rev. 1901, sheet 50.



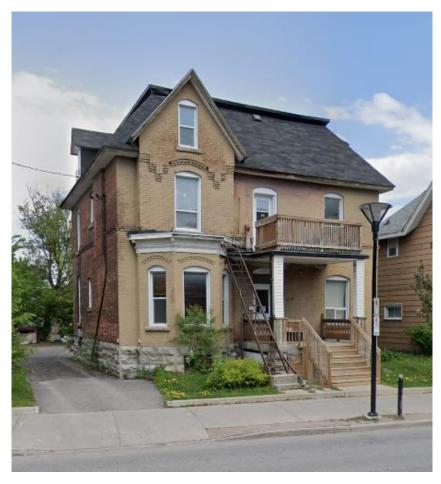
1901 and 1912 Fire Insurance Plans showing early residential development in the area surrounding the subject property. *Ottawa Fire Insurance Plan*, 1888 rev. 1901 sheet 58 and *Ottawa Fire Insurance Plan* 1912, sheet 58.

The west area of Centretown is characterized largely by residential buildings from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.²⁹ Many of these buildings are constructed of red brick, a common material seen in large high-style mansions, apartment, and commercial buildings in Centretown, and are designed with Edwardian, Victorian, and Queen Anne Revival architectural styles.³⁰ The subject property maintains and defines the character of area through its red brick construction, its distinct Queen Anne Revival architectural style, and its prominent location on Bronson Avenue.³¹

²⁹ ERA Architects, *Centretown Heritage Inventory*, 2020, 41-42.

³⁰ ERA Architects, Centretown Heritage Inventory, 2020, 17.

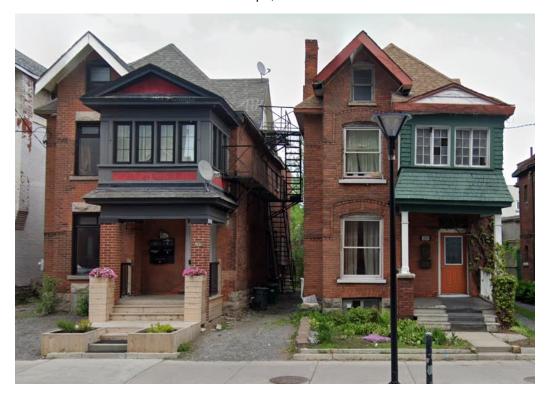
³¹ ERA Architects, Centretown Heritage Inventory, 2020, 41-42.



253 Bronson Avenue, a vernacular Queen Anne Revival building constructed c. 1898. *Google Maps*, 2019.



271 Bronson Avenue, a vernacular Queen Anne Revival residential building constructed c. 1892. *Google Maps*. 2019.



279 and 281 Bronson Avenue, both vernacular Queen Anne Revival residential buildings constructed c. 1900. *Google Maps*, 2019.

Criterion 8

The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.

Yes

Response to Criterion

The property at 249 Bronson Avenue has contextual value because it is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. The growth of this area of Centretown in the late 19th and early 20th centuries contributed to Bronson Avenue's development as a hub for 19th and 20th century institutional and religious buildings. As a place of worship, the church at 249 Bronson Avenue is historically and functionally linked to the institutional character of this area of Centretown.

Supporting Details

The building at 249 Bronson Avenue has contextual value because it is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. The McPhail Memorial Baptist Church's has significant frontage on the corner of Bronson Avenue—an early thoroughfare street at the west edge of Centretown.³²

Constructed in 1893, the subject property is historically connected to the period of early development in Centretown.³³ At the time of the subject property's construction, Bronson Avenue was developing as a residential area. The area's early development as

³² ERA Architects, Centretown Heritage Inventory, 2020, 20.

³³ ERA Architects, "Appendix A, Map 11: Property Classifications," *Centretown Heritage Inventory*, 2020.

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a residential area created the demand for a Baptist church, and other institutional, civic, and religious buildings, in this part of Centretown.



Looking east from the intersection of Bronson Avenue and Lisgar Streets, the Bronson Centre (formerly the Immaculata High School) and the McPhail Memorial Baptist Church located on either side of the street. n.d. Canada Department of Public Works 1979-140 NPC, RV1 038 4170116, *Library and Archives Canada*.

Today, as a core north-south street in Centretown, Bronson Avenue and its surrounding area, can be characterized by its mix of residential, commercial, and institutional building types.³⁴ Many institutional buildings are found on or near Centretown's stretch of Bronson Avenue, including the Bronson Centre (formerly Immaculata School), the landmark Peace Tower Church (formerly the Erskine Presbyterian Church), the Saint-Vincent hospital, and Centennial Public School. As a place of worship, the church at 249 Bronson Avenue is functionally linked to the institutional character of this area of Centretown.

³⁴ ERA Architects, "Appendix A, Map 11: Property Classifications," *Centretown Heritage Inventory*, 2020.



The Bronson Centre, formerly Immaculata High School, on the northeast corner of Bronson Avenue and Lisgar Streets. *City of Ottawa,* 2016.



Peace Tower Church (former Erskine Presbyterian Church), constructed in 1905. City of Ottawa, 2018.



Saint-Vincent Hospital at 60 Cambridge Street North, constructed c. 1900. *Ottawa Citizen*, October 7, 2020.



Looking south on Bronson Avenue with various red brick 19th and 20th century residential building's surrounding the church, and the spire of the Peace Tower Church on Bronson Street visible. *Google Maps*, 2020.



Looking north on Bronson Avenue with various red brick 19th and 20th century residential building and the Bronson Centre surrounding the church. *Google Maps*, 2020.

Criterion 9	
The property has contextual value because it is a landmark	No
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Response to Criterion

The subject property is distinct on the streetscape, however due to its proximity to other landmarks including the Bronson Centre and the Peace Tower Church (formerly the Erskine Presbyterian Church), the property is not considered a landmark on Bronson Avenue. The property does not meet this criterion.

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