2. Designation of the Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act

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Désignation de la maison du Docteur-Robert-Law, située au 190, avenue Laurier Est, aux termes de la partie IV de la Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario

# **Committee Recommendation**

That Council issue a Notice of Intention to designate the Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage* Act according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value, attached as Document 5.

# Recommandation du Comité

Que le Conseil émet un avis d'intention de désigner la maison du Docteur-Robert-Law, située au 190, avenue Laurier Est, aux termes de la partie IV de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, selon la Déclaration de valeur sur le plan du patrimoine culturel reproduite dans le document 5 ci-joint.

#### Documentation/Documentation

1. Acting Manager's report, Right of Way, Heritage and Urban Design Services, Planning, Real Estate and Economic Development Department, dated January 19, 2022 (ACS2022-PIE-RHU-0002)

Rapport du Gestionnaire par intérim, Services des emprises, du patrimoine et du design urbain, Direction générale de la planification, de l'immobilier et du développement économique, daté le 19 janvier 2022 (ACS2022-PIE-RHU-0002)

Le 23 février 2022

2. Extract of draft Minutes, Built Heritage Sub-Committee, February 8, 2022 Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal, Sous-comité du patrimoine bâti, le 8 février 2022

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Subject: Designation of the Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* 

File Number: ACS2022-PIE-RHU-0002

Report to Built Heritage Sub-Committee on 8 February 2022

and Council 23 February 2022

Submitted on January 19, 2022 by Kevin Lamer, Manager, Right of Way, Heritage and Urban Design Services, Planning, Real Estate and Economic Development Department

Contact Person: Adrian van Wyk, Planner I, Heritage Planning Branch

613-580-2424, 21607, Adrian.vanWyk@ottawa.ca

Ward: Rideau-Vanier (12)

Objet : Désignation de la maison du Docteur-Robert-Law, située au 190, avenue Laurier Est, aux termes de la partie IV de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario* 

Dossier: ACS2022-PIE-RHU-0002

Rapport au Sous-comité du patrimoine bâti

le 8 février 2022

et au Conseil le 23 février 2022

Soumis le 19 janvier 2022 par Kevin Lamer, Gestionnaire par intérim, Services des emprises, du patrimoine et du design urbain, Direction générale de la planification, de l'immobilier et du développement économique

Personne ressource: Adrian van Wyk, Urbaniste I, Planification du patrimoine

613-580-2424, 21607, Adrian.vanWyk@ottawa.ca

Quartier : Rideau-Vanier (12)

#### REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Built Heritage Sub-Committee recommend that Council issue a Notice of Intention to designate the Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value, attached as Document 5.

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#### RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que le Sous-comité du patrimoine bâti recommande au Conseil d'émettre un avis d'intention de désigner la maison du Docteur-Robert-Law, située au 190, avenue Laurier Est, aux termes de la partie IV de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, selon la Déclaration de valeur sur le plan du patrimoine culturel reproduite dans le document 5 ci-joint.

#### **BACKGROUND**

This report has been prepared because designation under Part IV of the *Ontario*Heritage Act must be approved by City Council after consultation with the Built Heritage Sub-Committee.

The Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East, is located in Sandy Hill on the south east corner of Laurier Avenue East and King Edward Avenue. This two and one-half storey semi-detached red brick house was constructed c.1886 and designed in the Queen Anne Revival style. Features typical of this style exhibited on the building include its asymmetrical composition, prominent two- and one-half storey gabled bay, truncated hip roof with dormers, and segmental arched window openings with brick voussoirs and stone sills. See photos attached as Document 2.

The building was one of the first houses constructed on the south side of Laurier Avenue and the first on the block between King Edward Avenue and Henderson Street. Typical of Sandy Hill, the property at 190 Laurier Avenue East has a long history of housing members of Ottawa's professional elite – mostly prominent doctors – including Dr. Robert Law, the City's former Medical Officer of Health from 1900 to 1911 and from 1914 to 1919. Dr. Law is credited with assisting in bringing an end to Ottawa's typhoid epidemics in the early 1900s and devising the City's response to the Spanish influenza pandemic of 1918.

Despite the changes that have occurred over time to the neighbourhood and to the use of the building itself from a residential to office use, the Dr. Robert Law House remains one of the last original buildings in this area and its form and integrity remain largely intact. Its architectural style and associated attributes, lot size and layout and generous setbacks contribute to its role as a 19<sup>th</sup> century residence in reinforcing the historic character of the area. The building is a landmark in the area and a gateway to the broader University of Ottawa campus.

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The property at 190 Laurier Avenue East was recommended by the Heritage Planning Branch for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* as part of the Sandy Hill Cultural Heritage Study in December 2015 (<u>ACS2015-PAI-PGM-0172</u>). The property was identified for potential designation through the King Edward Avenue guidelines developed in consultation with the University of Ottawa.

## **DISCUSSION**

#### Recommendation 1

The Official Plan, New Official Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement and the *Ontario Heritage Act* all provide policy direction related to the designation of individual properties under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

#### Official Plan

The Official Plan has policies related to heritage in Section 2.5.5.2, Cultural Heritage Resources. These policies provide for the identification and designation of individual buildings under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Section 2.5.5.2 states that, "Individual buildings, structures and cultural heritage landscapes will be designated as properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*".

#### **New Official Plan**

The New Official Plan has policies related to cultural heritage in Section 4.5, Cultural Heritage and Archaeology. Section 4.5.1(3) provides, "Individual buildings, structures, and sites shall be designated as properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*."

# **Provincial Policy Statement (2020)**

Section 2.6.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) contains the following policy regarding the protection of cultural heritage resources: "Significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved."

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# **Ontario Heritage Act**

Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* provides municipalities with the authority to designate properties of cultural heritage value. Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* 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 shall 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. The Notice of Intention to Designate must be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the community. Document 5 contains the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value for this site.

## **Ontario Regulation 09/06**

Regulation 09/06 (see Document 3) sets out criteria for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act. It states:

"A property may be designated under Section 29 of the *Act* if it meets one or more of the following criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest ... These criteria are organized into three groups; design or physical value, historical or associative value and contextual value."

Through research and evaluation, staff have determined that the Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East meets all three criteria outlined in Ontario Regulation 09/06. A brief analysis of each of the criteria is provided below and more detailed information is attached in the Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form (see Document 4).

# **Design or Physical Value**

The Dr. Robert Law House meets the criterion for design or physical value as a representative example of the Queen Anne Revival style, which was popular in Canada in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and frequently used for homes for the wealthy upper middle class. Constructed c.1886, the building consists of common design elements associated with this style, including its asymmetrical composition, with a prominent two- and onehalf storey gabled bay west of the front entrance, a truncated hipped roof with dormers, and segmental arched window openings with brick voussoirs and stone sills. It is subtly decorated in wood elements, including finials, and brick chimneys, stringcourses and window surrounds. The main entrance porch features a classically inspired pediment and entablature with decorative wooden brackets and dentils supported by fluted columns. The columns sit on stone piers connected to a low balustrade with turned balusters and steps with low stone knee walls. The defining characteristic of the building's Laurier elevation is a distinctive second storey balcony, which sits above a large first-storey bay window. The balcony features a low, panelled wooden balustrade and square columns with open brackets springing from the capitals. The gable end is clad in diagonal clapboard and features a finial and pendant.

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## **Historical Value**

190 Laurier Avenue East meets the historical and associative value criterion for its association with Dr. Robert Law, Ottawa's Medical Officer of Health from 1900 to 1911 and from 1914 to 1919. Dr. Law was a prominent member of the Ottawa medical community and ran an extensive practice from his home office at 190 Laurier Avenue East from 1912 until his retirement in 1948. Dr. Law was a strong advocate for the provision of clean and safe drinking water in Ottawa, vaccination against contagious diseases, and resources for public health units. He is credited with assisting in bringing an end to Ottawa's typhoid epidemics in 1917 and for devising the City's response to the Spanish influenza pandemic.

190 Laurier Avenue East also has historical value for its potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture. The property was one of the first houses built on the south side of Laurier Avenue East (formerly Theodore Street) and the first on the block between King Edward Avenue (formerly King Street) and Henderson Street within the former Colonel By Estate section of Sandy Hill. The

building was expropriated by the City in 1966 to facilitate the widening and connecting of Henderson Avenue with King Edward Avenue to create the proposed King Edward Avenue expressway but was saved from demolition due to rising costs and community opposition.

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#### **Contextual Value**

The Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East meets the criterion for contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the area, it is physically, functionally and historically linked to its surroundings, and is considered a landmark. As a 19th century residence located on the corner of a key intersection, is important in defining the historic character of Sandy Hill and serves as a transition between the University of Ottawa campus and the historic residential neighbourhood to the south and east. This property is one of the last remaining original buildings around this intersection and stands out as a historic landmark building within a generally non-historic context. It enjoys a considerably deeper setback than adjacent properties.

#### Conclusion

The Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East, meets all three criteria in Ontario Regulation 09/06 for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The building has design value as a representative example of the Queen Anne Revival style, has historical value for its association Dr. Robert Law and the development of this section of Sandy Hill, and has contextual value for its contribution to the area's character, its links to its surroundings, and as a landmark. For these reasons, staff recommend that Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate the property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

#### **RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no rural implications associated with this report.

## **CONSULTATION**

The building is owned by the University of Ottawa, and meetings have been held with University to discuss the designation and its implications. The University has not expressed any concerns with the proposed designation. The University is currently

undertaking a rehabilitation project on the building and Heritage staff have reviewed the building permit and met with the University prior to issuance. Any alterations after the Notice of Intention to Designate is issued would require a Heritage Permit.

Heritage Ottawa were notified of the proposed designation and offered the opportunity to comment.

#### COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendation related to this report.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risks associated with this report.

#### ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications.

#### **ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS**

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this report.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

## **TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

This project addresses the following Term of Council Priority:

HC4 - Support Arts, Heritage and Culture

#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1 Location Map

Document 2 Photos

Document 3 Ontario Regulation 09/06

Document 4 Heritage Survey Form

Document 5 Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

## **DISPOSITION**

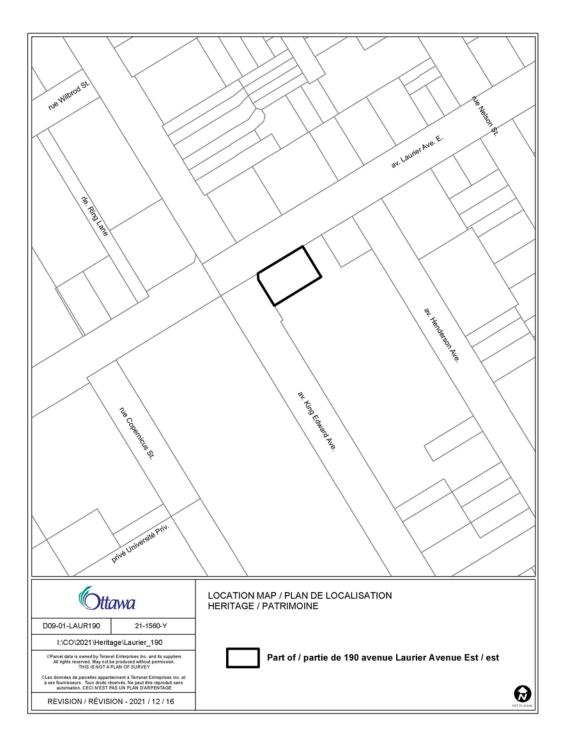
If Council does not approve the recommendation, no further steps are required. If Council proceeds with the issuance of a Notice of Intention to Designate for the property located at 190 Laurier Avenue East, several actions must be taken:

- 1) Heritage Planning Branch, Planning Real Estate and Economic Development 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 190 Laurier Avenue East under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- Heritage Planning Branch, Planning Real Estate and Economic Development
   Department to ensure publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate in the
   newspaper 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, Real Estate and Economic Development 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 as been served, the Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Real Estate and Economic Development 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, Real Estate and Economic Development 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*.

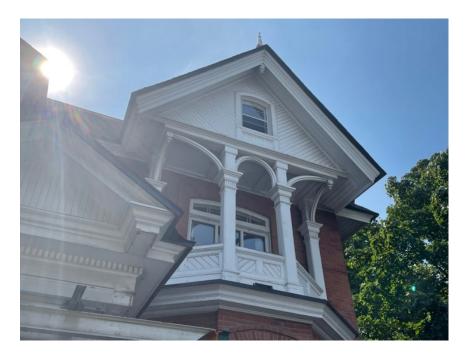
# **Document 1 - Location Map**



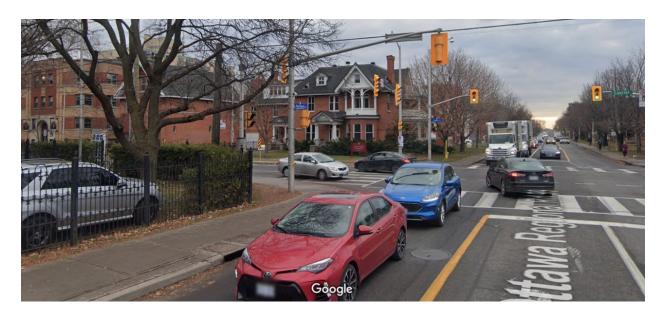
# **Document 2 – Photos**



Front elevation of 190 Laurier Avenue East.



Second storey balcony with decorative wooden elements.



190 Laurier Avenue East viewed from King Edward Avenue looking south (Google Street View, 2020).



Aerial view of 190 Laurier Avenue East (GeoOttawa, 2019).

# Document 3 - Ontario Regulation 09/06

## CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

Consolidation Period: From January 25, 2006 to the e-Laws currency date.

No amendments.

This is the English version of a bilingual regulation.

#### Criteria

- 1. (1) The criteria set out in subsection (2) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 29 (1) (a) of the *Act*. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 1 (1).
  - (2) A property may be designated under section 29 of the *Act* if it meets one or more of the following criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest:
    - 1. The property has design value or physical value because it,
      - i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method,
      - ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or
      - iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
    - 2. 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,
      - ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture, or
      - iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.

- 3. The property has contextual value because it,
  - i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area,
  - ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings, or
  - iii. is a landmark. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 1 (2).

# **Transition**

2. This Regulation does not apply in respect of a property if notice of intention to designate it was given under subsection 29 (1.1) of the *Act* on or before January 24, 2006. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 2.

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# **Document 4 – Heritage Survey Form**

## HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Prepared By: Adrian van Wyk Date: 6 October 2021

**Building Name and Address**: 190 Laurier Avenue East

Construction Date: c.1886

Original Owner: C.O. Dacier



## CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE/ INTEREST

	Yes	No
Design Value		
Historical Value		
Contextual Value		

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A property may be designated under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* if it meets one of more of the above criteria. Ontario Regulation 09/06

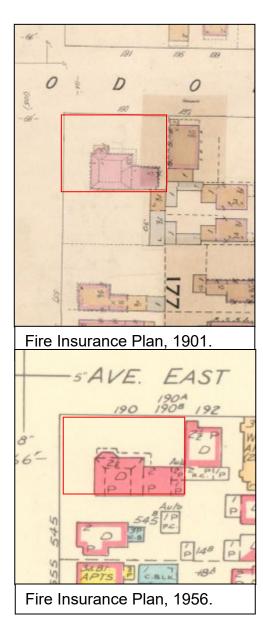
#### **DESIGN OR PHYSICAL VALUE**

#### **Architecture**

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES ⋈ NO □

The building at 190 Laurier Avenue East (previously Theodore Street) was erected circa 1886. It is a two and one-half storey semi-detached red clay brick house, and a representative example of the Queen Anne Revival style, which was popular in Canada in the late 19th century and frequently used for homes for the wealthy upper middle class. Common design elements associated with the Queen Anne Revival style include asymmetry, projecting features, complex rooflines and varied materials. Features typical of the style are exhibited on this building. The home has an asymmetrical composition, with a prominent two- and one-half storey gabled bay west of the front entrance, a truncated hip roof with dormers, and segmental arched window openings with brick voussoirs and stone sills. It is subtly decorated in wood elements, including finials, and brick chimneys, stringcourses and window surrounds. The home sits on a coursed rock-faced stone foundation. It has a non-standard, deep setback with corner lot coverage.

On the easternmost portion of the building is a narrow, attached garage that was added sometime between 1912 and 1948. The building has three front entrances, two of which are used to access the



east portion of the building. This volume is recessed from the principle dwelling and is believed to have contained rental apartments and a doctor's office that were separate from the main home.

There are two porches on Laurier Avenue. The main entrance porch features a classically inspired pediment and entablature with decorative wooden brackets and dentils supported by fluted columns. The columns sit on stone piers connected to a low balustrade with turned balusters and steps with low stone knee walls. The secondary porch, to the east of the main entrance, is a simpler version of the main entrance and includes fluted columns on stone piers, a pediment and entablature with dentils, and turned wood balusters.

The defining characteristic of the building's Laurier elevation is a distinctive second storey balcony, which sits above a large first-storey bay window. The balcony features a low, panelled wooden balustrade and square columns with open brackets springing from the capitals. The gable end is clad in diagonal clapboard and features a finial and pendant.

There is a three-storey balcony on the King Edward facing elevation, the second storey of which was once enclosed. This porch features simple, square columns and balustrades.



Second floor balcony above first storey bay window (left), and recessed side entrance and porch viewed from Laurier Avenue E. (right).

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# **Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit**

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit?				
YES □ NO ⊠				
190 Laurier Avenue East is a representative example of a Queen Anne Revival residence, which were built in Canada throughout the late 19 <sup>th</sup> and early 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries. It has been well-maintained and appears to have retained a high level of integrity. While the use of the building has changed over time, the exterior of the building appears to be largely unaltered. It was constructed using common materials associated with residential buildings in the area.				
Technical/Scientific Merit				
Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?				
YES □ NO □				
There are no known technical or scientific achievements associated with this property.				
HISTORICAL AND ASSOCIATIVE VALUE				
Date of Construction: c. 1886				
Historical Associations				
Does the property have direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity organization or institution that is significant to a community?				
YES NO				

Typical of Sandy Hill, the property at 190 Laurier Avenue East a long history of housing members of Ottawa's professional elite – mostly prominent doctors. The earliest known residents at this property were C.O. Dacier, a druggist, from 1886 to 1889, and Frank Beard, clerk at the Department of Railways and Canals, from 1890 to 1891. Sir Henri-Elzéar Taschereau, the fourth Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada, resided in



Dr. Robert Law (Source: Ottawa Journal, 1918)

the home from 1890 to 1892. Thereafter the house was occupied for many years by the Bradley family (Alexander P. Bradley from 1893 to 1901, and his son, William Inglis Bradley, a physician, from 1899 to 1911).

Perhaps the most well-known resident of 190 Laurier Avenue East was Dr. Robert Law, Ottawa's former Medical Officer of Health – a position he occupied from 1900 to 1911 during the city's first typhoid outbreak. Dr. Law was a prominent member of the Ottawa medical community and ran an extensive practice from his home office at 190 Laurier Avenue East from 1912 until his retirement in 1948. In 1914 Dr. Law was again appointed Medical Officer of Health (in an acting capacity) until 1919, after the end of the First World War. During this

time, he advocated strongly for the provision of clean and safe drinking water in Ottawa, vaccination against contagious diseases, and resources for public health units, and was often met with fierce public and political opposition. Dr. Law is credited with assisting in bringing an end to Ottawa's typhoid epidemics in 1917, by which time typhoid cases and deaths in Ottawa had decreased dramatically. Not long after, in 1918, Dr. Law would become responsible for devising the City's response to the Spanish influenza pandemic, working closely alongside civic leader Lillian Freiman and Mayor Harold Fisher.

Dr. Law's medical practice at 190 Laurier Avenue East was taken over by his son, Dr. William B. Law, from about 1948 to the mid-1960s. In 1966 the City of Ottawa expropriated the property to facilitate the widening of Henderson Avenue – a project that was soon after abandoned. In 1967 the property was converted to an office building and leased to the University of Ottawa. The University purchased the building from the City in 1982 for \$125,000. It remains in the University's portfolio to the present day.

# **Community History**

Does the property yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture? YES  $\boxtimes$  NO  $\square$ 



King Edward Avenue looking north, 1908.

The property located at 190 Laurier
Avenue East was one of the first houses
built on the south side of that street and
the first on the block between King
Edward Avenue (formerly King Street)
and Henderson Street. The area of Sandy
Hill in which the property is located was
originally part of Colonel By's Estate. In
the early 1830s the lands were surveyed
and laid out into lots. Although
development was initially slow, after
Ottawa became the capital city of the

United Canadas in 1857 the pace of development increased with the influx of civil servants to the city. In 1876 a partnership between James MacLaren, Charles Magee and Robert Blackburn resulted in the resurveying of the land, and by 1901 there was new construction on every street in the former By Estate. Streetcar maps from as early as 1895 show a line running down Theodore Street that serviced the south section of Sandy Hill. The continual expansion of the streetcar system brought about the expansion of development in the area, bolstered by a rapid increase in Ottawa's population. Although the original grid street pattern in Sandy Hill has remained relatively intact, the expansion of the University of Ottawa campus dramatically altered the original character of the neighbourhood.

The Ottawa-Hull Transportation Study of 1965 recommended a network of freeways throughout the National Capital Region, including a north-south King Edward Avenue expressway. Alongside the University of Ottawa's expansion plans, the proposal would have required the expropriation of several properties in Sandy Hill to facilitate the widening and connecting of Henderson Avenue with King Edward Avenue. At the same time, Doctor William Law applied to demolish the house at 190 Laurier Avenue East and replace it with a 10-storey medical office building. In anticipation of the potentially exorbitant cost to expropriate a building of that size, and because the City



Laurier Avenue East, west of King Edward Avenue, 1938 (Source: Ross Dunn, 2015).

had no legal right to deny the building permit application, City Council voted in favour of expropriating the property in 1966 before the new building could be constructed. The City continued to expropriate surrounding properties, including the Panet House across the street, but due to rising costs and community opposition, the City's street realignment plans were abandoned.

## **Representative Work**

Does the property demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, a	rtist,
building, designer or theorist who is significant to a community?	

YES ☐ NO ⊠

The architect and builder for this property are unknown.

## **CONTEXTUAL VALUE**

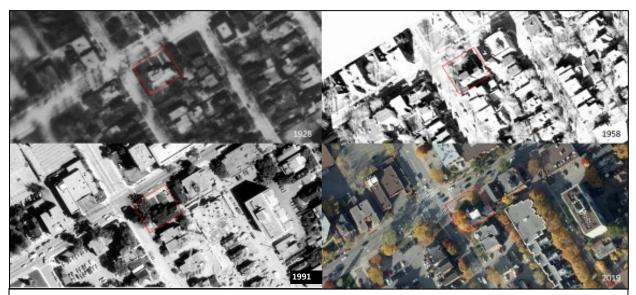


Aerial view of 190 Laurier Avenue East (circled) on the corner of Laurier Avenue and King Edward Avenue showing surrounding properties (Source: Google Earth).

# **Community Character**

Is the property important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area? YES  $\bowtie$  NO  $\bigcap$ 

The property is located on the south-east corner of King Edward Avenue and Laurier Avenue East at a key intersection and gateway to the University of Ottawa campus. The property is located within the Sandy Hill Cultural Heritage Character Area near its western boundary and at the intersection of several heritage areas. Across the street from the property, on the north-east corner of King Edward Avenue and Laurier Avenue East, is the south-east boundary of the King Edward Avenue Heritage Conservation District. On the north-west corner of the intersection is part of the Sandy Hill West Heritage Conservation District.



Satellite imaging of 190 Laurier Avenue E (outlined in red) and surrounds from 1928 to 2019.

190 Laurier Avenue East, as a 19th century residence located on the corner of a key intersection, is important in defining the historic character of Sandy Hill and serves as a transition between the University of Ottawa campus and the historic residential neighbourhood to the south and east. Laurier Avenue East is the main artery running through this neighbourhood and is characterized in this section of Sandy Hill by grand historic houses set on large lots and modern multi-unit residential buildings. A number of significant landmarks are located on this street, including the Laurier House, Panet House and All Saints Anglican Church. The broader neighbourhood features rich and diverse architecture from all periods of development, including those popular in Canada at the end of the 19th century such as the Queen Anne Revival style. The rapid expansion of the University of Ottawa to the west of the site in the 20th century has resulted in the conversion and replacement of many large homes to multi-unit dwellings. Despite the changes that have occurred over time to the neighbourhood and to the use of the building itself from a residential to office use, 190 Laurier Avenue East remains one of the last original buildings in this area and its form and integrity remain largely intact. Its architectural style and associated attributes, lot size and layout and generous setbacks contribute to its role as a 19th century residence in reinforcing the historic character of the area.

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## Context

Is the property physically, fund	ctionally, visually o	r historically linked	to its surroundings?
		YES 🔀	NO 🗌

The property is most visible from King Edward Avenue looking south. The surrounding streetscapes have been heavily altered over time, including the streets themselves and neighbouring buildings. This property is, however, one of the last remaining original buildings around this intersection. As such, the building at 190 Laurier Avenue East stands out as a historic building within a generally non-historic context. Its presence is reinforced by the Panet House immediately across the street at 189 Laurier Avenue East, which together form defining features of the streetscape. Most surrounding buildings in this area are of similar height and scale to these properties.

## Landmark

Is the property a landmark?	YES 🖂	NO 🗌
is the property a landmark?	I E O	NO L

This property is at a prominent location on the corner of two busy streets, Laurier Avenue and King Edward Avenue, which is regarded as a gateway to the University of Ottawa main campus. It is considered a landmark as it stands out architecturally from its surroundings and enjoys a considerably deeper setback than adjacent properties. 190 Laurier Avenue East is one of few remaining original buildings in this area and therefore stands out for its age in relation to surrounding buildings.

## SOURCES

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# **Document 5 – Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East

# **Description of Property**

The Dr. Robert Law House, 190 Laurier Avenue East is a two- and one-half storey, semi-detached, red brick house constructed circa 1886. The property is located on the south east corner of Laurier Avenue East and King Edward Avenue in the Sandy Hill neighbourhood of Ottawa.

# **Cultural Heritage Value**

The Dr. Robert Law House has cultural heritage value as a representative example of the Queen Anne Revival style, for its associations with Dr. Robert Law, and the early development of the former By Estate in Sandy Hill. The property is a landmark at the corner of Laurier Avenue East and King Edward Avenue

The Law House has design value as a representative example of the Queen Anne Revival style which was popular in Canada in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and frequently used for wealthy upper middle-class houses. Features typical of this style exhibited on this house include its asymmetrical composition, prominent front porches, segmental arched window openings, and decorative wood and brick elements including a distinctive second storey balcony

The Law House is associated with the early development of the former By Estate of Sandy Hill, located south of Laurier Avenue and was one of the first to be developed on the south side of Laurier Avenue East. 190 Laurier Avenue East is historically associated Ottawa's former Medical Officer of Health Dr. Robert Law, who was a prominent public health figure during the city's typhoid epidemics of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and the 1918-19 Spanish influenza pandemic. Dr. Law is credited with assisting in advancing public health in Ottawa and devising the City's responses to multiple public health emergencies. Dr. Law resided in this house from 1912 to 1948 and practised medicine from his home office, until his retirement.

The Dr. Robert Law House has contextual value in defining the character of this section of Sandy Hill, it is one of the only remaining historic buildings in the immediate vicinity. The house also has contextual value as a landmark due to its location at a prominent

intersection, across the street from the Panet House, 189 Laurier Avenue East, its deep setback and expansive front yard and its role as a gateway to the Sandy Hill neighbourhood and University of Ottawa campus.

## **Heritage Attributes**

The key exterior elements that contribute to the design or physical value of 190 Laurier Avenue East as a representative example of the Queen Anne Revival style include its:

- Two- and one-half storey, irregular massing,
- Stone foundation,
- Truncated hipped roof with dormers,
- Red brick construction with decorative brick detailing and chimneys,
- Segmental arched window openings with brick voussoirs and stone sills,
- Segmental arched wooden casement and sash windows in various styles,
- Decorative wood elements including finials and pendants,
- Wooden porches on Laurier and King Edward Avenues including elements such as:
  - Classically inspired pediments and entablatures,
  - Decorative wood brackets and dentils,
  - Fluted columns,
  - Stone piers, and
  - Low, turned balusters and stone knee walls,
- First storey bay window and distinctive second storey balcony above including the following architectural details:
  - Low, panelled wooden balustrade,

- o Square columns,
- o Open brackets springing from capitals,
- o Diagonal clapboard gable end, and
- Decorative finial and pendant,

The key exterior elements that contribute to the contextual value of 190 Laurier Avenue East as a landmark include its:

- Corner lot coverage and deep setbacks,
- Expansive open front lawn and mature street trees, that visually distinguish this building from its surroundings.

The interior of the building and the attached garage are excluded from the designation.