



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

Ce document est tiré du registre aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

CITY OF ST. THOMAS

BY-LAW NO. 26 - 89

A by-law to designate the City Hall at 545 Talbot Street, in the City of St. Thomas of historic and architectural value.

WHEREAS pursuant to The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, the Council of a municipality may by by-law designate a property including buildings and structures thereon to be of historic or architectural value or interest.

AND WHEREAS notice of intention to so designate the property known as the City Hall at 545 Talbot Street, St. Thomas, Ontario, having been duly published and served, no notice of objection was received to such designation;

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS, AS FOLLOWS:

1. There is designated as being of historic and architectural value or interest the real property, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto, known as the City Hall at 545 Talbot Street, in the City of St. Thomas, for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" hereto.
2. The City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered upon the title to the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in The St. Thomas Times Journal, and to enter the description of the aforesaid property, the name and address of its registered owner, and short reasons for its designation in the Register of all properties designated under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, 1980.
4. This by-law comes into force on the day it is finally passed.

READ a First and Second time this 20th day of February, 1989.

READ a Third time and Finally passed this 20th day of February, 1989.


City Clerk


Mayor

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 26-89

Commencing at the South Westerly angle of said Lot number Eighteen, thence Easterly along the Northerly limit of Talbot Street One hundred and twenty-four feet, thence Northerly parallel to Mondamin Street One hundred and ten feet more or less to a certain alley laid out and extending from Catherine Street to Mondamin Street, thence Westerly along the Southerly limit of the said alley, One hundred and twenty-four feet to the Easterly limit of Mondamin Street, thence Southerly along the Easterly limit of Mondamin Street, One hundred and ten feet more or less to the place of beginning.

SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW 26-89ST. THOMAS CITY HALL

St. Thomas City Hall, designed 1898-1899 by Neil R. Darrach, is an outstanding example of a city hall designed in the late Richardsonian Romanesque.

Exterior

The compact massing of the buff-coloured brick and Ohio sandstone building is effectively broken by the prominent, asymmetrically placed clock tower. Single and clustered windows (both square and round arch headed), wall dormers with side turrets, emphatic string courses, and a boldly articulated modillion cornice in metal further enliven the multiple hipped roofed structure. Sandstone entranceways on both the south and west elevations feature massive arches that open onto recessed double leaf entrance doors. Balconies with pierced balustrades and turrets complete the entranceways. The tower is distinguished by turrets, gables with clock faces, and a polygonal roof. The roofs of both the tower and the main building are covered with dark grey slate.

Carved sandstone decorations, suggesting acanthus leaves and more generalized foliated patterns, are found on both the entranceways and on the main block of the building. The upper string course on the main building is composed of terra-cotta in the egg and dart pattern. Embedded in the tower is a panel in the rustic style that identifies the building and its date of construction. The west side of the north elevation will be excluded from designation.

Interior

The first and second floors are distinguished by wide corridors with striking staircases, oak dadoes, eared door surrounds, handsome window trim, and plaster cornices. Multiple paneled doors with glass panels of what is called chipped plate are frequently found. The third floor corridor is distinguished by a stained glass skylight. There have been modifications to some of these elements. Anticipated renovations will respect the original features as much as possible given contemporary requirements.

The original mayor's office on the first floor retains all of its original features (entrance door with surround, baseboard, window trim, and plaster cornice). An additional door has been let into the east wall for functional reasons. Anticipated renovations will respect the original features wherever possible given contemporary requirements.

The original public reading room on the second floor retains most of its original features (door surrounds, baseboard, window trim, plaster cornice, and cast iron column). Anticipated renovations will respect these features as much as possible given contemporary requirements.

The original council chamber (with its gallery) on the second and third floors retains many of its original features (north and east walls of the present council chamber and plaster beamed ceiling with its plaster framed opening for a stained glass skylight). The council chamber will be restored as fully as possible.