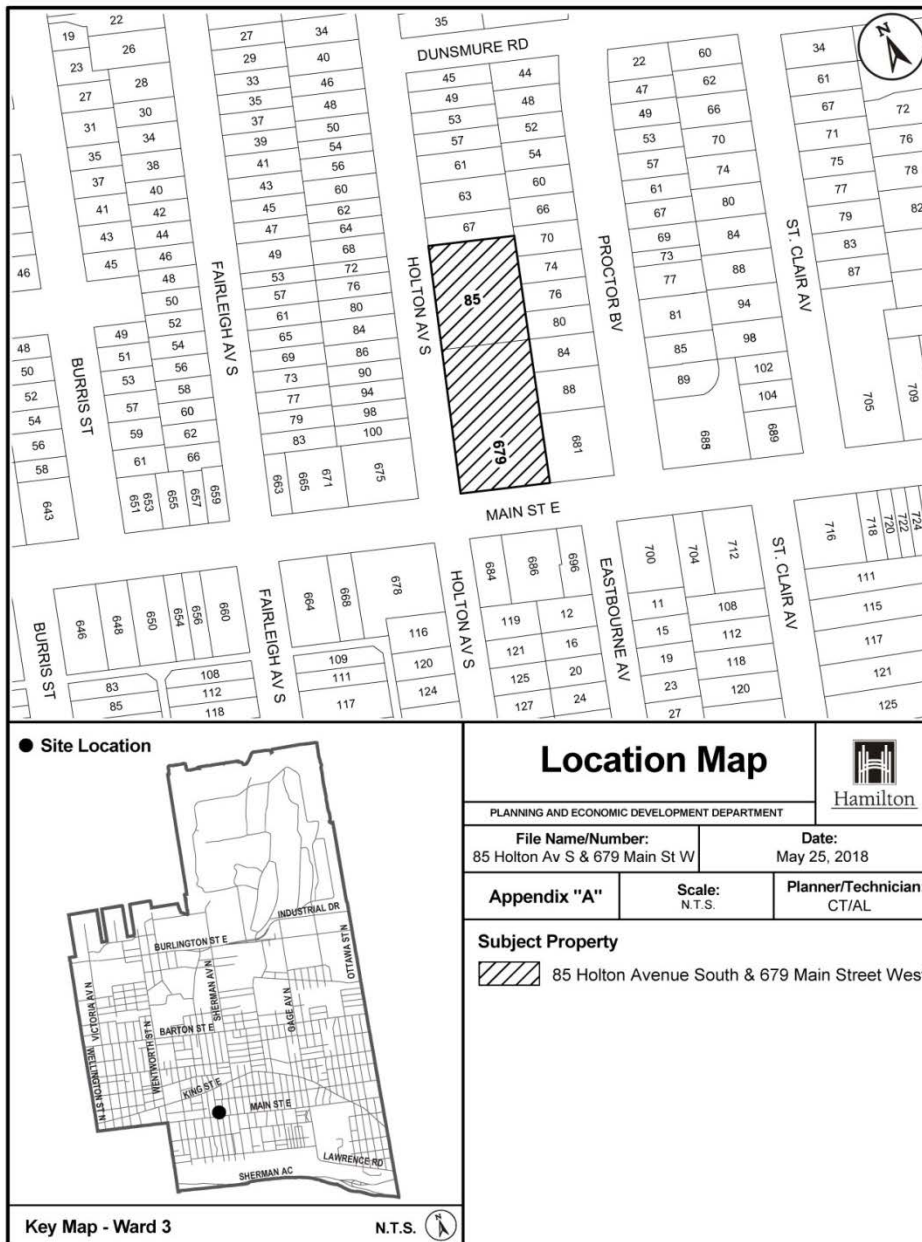




Recommendation to Designate 679 Main Street East and 85 Holton Avenue South, Hamilton (Former St. Giles United Church) Under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act PED18153 (Ward 3)

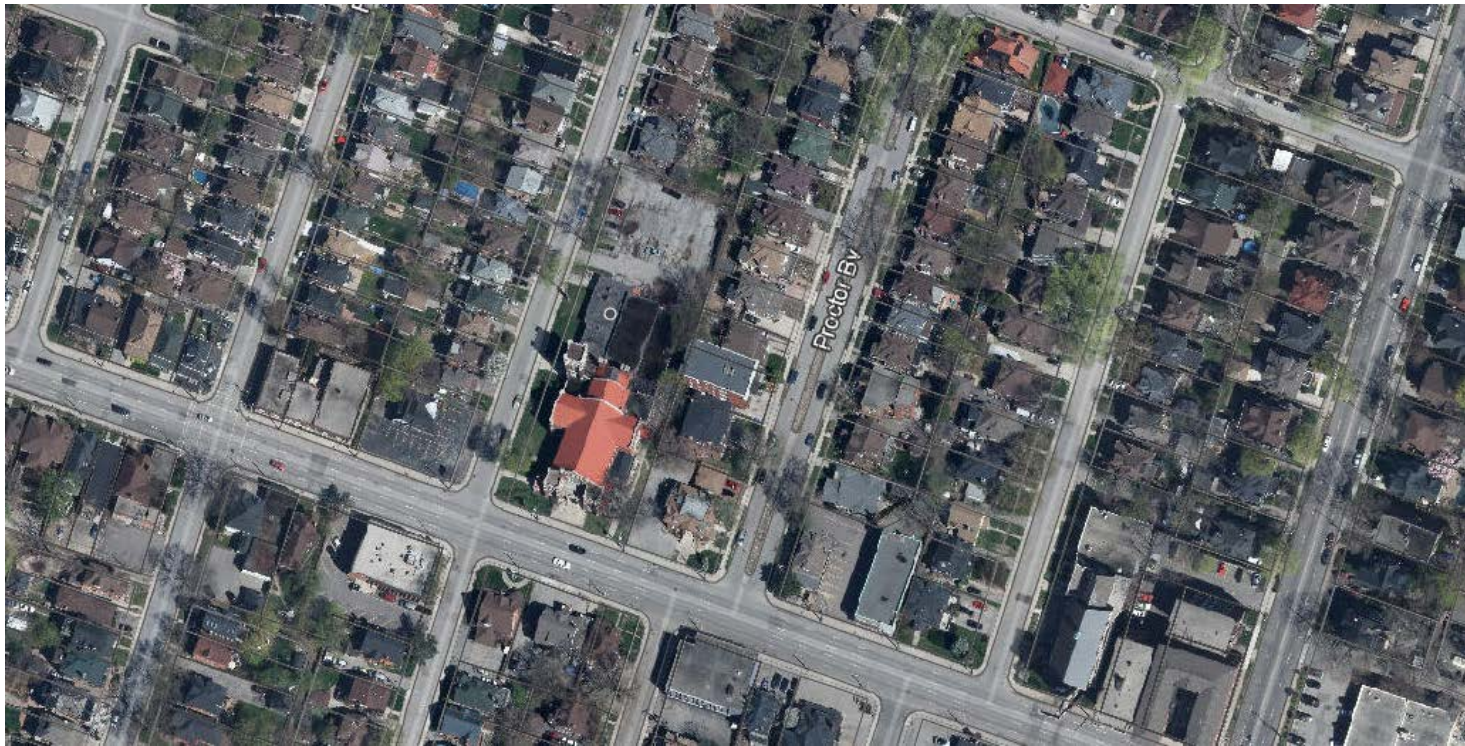
Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee
June 21, 2018

Location



Recent History

- Demolition permit was submitted on April 17, 2018
- The property is currently included on the Inventory of Building of Architectural and/or Historic Interest which provides no protection against demolition
- No planning approvals have been sought or have been granted



Aerial Image (USDA FSA, Digital Globe, GeoEye, CNES/Airbus DS)

Historical Background

- In 1907 the Presbytery of Hamilton granted permission to establish St. Giles Presbyterian Church
- Early church met in a tent
- November 1908 the Sunday School was completed



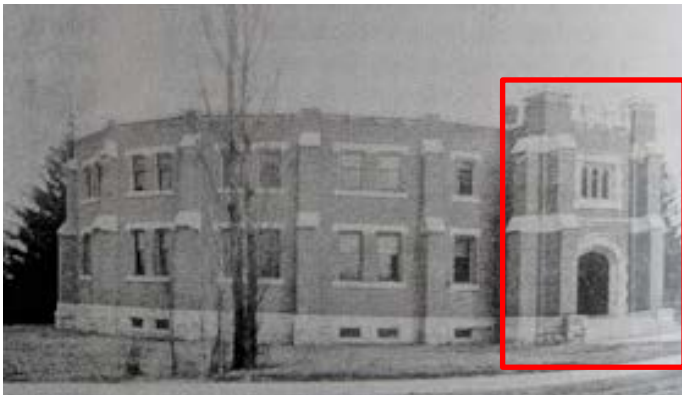
The original Sunday school building, c.1908
(Wee Kirks and Stately Steeples: A History of
the Presbytery of Hamilton, 1990)



Tent Service at St. Giles Presbyterian
Church, 1908 (Wee Kirks and Stately
Steeples: A History of the Presbytery of
Hamilton, 1990)

Historical Background

- 1912-1913 main portion of the church was constructed including a bell tower above the arched entrance on Holton Avenue South
 - Designed by architectural firm Stewart & Witton
- The bells are from the McShame Bell Foundry of Baltimore, Maryland which still exists and has provided bells across the works since 1856
- In 1925 the Church was the first in Hamilton convert to the United Church of Canada.
- C. 1945 the addition on the east side of building was constructed as a memorial to congregation members that fought and died in WW2
- In 1958 most of the original Sunday School building was demolished to make way for a new Christian Education Centre.



The original Sunday school building, c.1908
(Wee Kirks and Stately Steeples: A History of
the Presbytery of Hamilton, 1990)



1958 addition, May 18, 2018

Historical Background

- 1960s St. Giles congregation started making a more concerted effort to get involved in the betterment of the local community
 - Opened doors to a number of organizations:
 - Nursery School serving children with intellectual disabilities began in September 1963
 - In 2003 the church hosted the STARS (Sex Trade Alternative Resources Services) program
- In 2013 St. Giles United Church congregation amalgamated with Centenary United to form New Vision United Church

Relevant Consultation

- Given the emergency nature of this recommendation, the recommendations of this report were not presented to the Inventory and Research working group, as such, this meeting will constitute appropriate consultation with the Municipal Heritage Committee under the *Ontario Heritage Act*
- Staff advised the Ward Councillor of this recommendation to designate and as of the writing of this report, the Councillor has not expressed any concerns
- Staff met with representatives from New Vision United Church on May 31, 2018 to tour the interior of the church

Cultural Heritage Evaluation for Heritage Designation

The property was found to meet eight of the nine criteria in *Ontario Regulation 9/06*.

Design / Physical Value:

- i. The property is a representative example of a Neo-Gothic place of worship. As evidenced by the combination of red-brick and faux stone, large gothic arched windows, gable rooflines with parapets and battlement parapets, and tower feature. Features in the interior include carved wooden details with trefoil arches, and carved corbels.
- ii. The property does display a high degree of craftsmanship which is apparent in the stained glass windows and interior woodwork.
- iii. The property does not appear to demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.



Close up of trefoil detailed caps,
May 18, 2018



Wooden Corbel, May 31, 2018

Cultural Heritage Evaluation for Heritage Designation

The property was found to meet eight of the nine criteria in *Ontario Regulation 9/06*.

Historical / Associative Value:

- i. The property has direct association with an institution that is significant to a community – the St. Giles congregation who made concerted efforts to get involved in the local community through efforts such as games nights, United Church Christian Expo, Festival of Christianity and the Arts, a nursery school, Alcoholics Anonymous, a drop in centre for sex workers, etc.
- ii. The subject property does have potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of local community or culture as the St. Giles was the first United Church in Hamilton. Furthermore, as the building was used extensively by the local community, there may be more information to be yielded about the community and these organizations.

Cultural Heritage Evaluation for Heritage Designation

The property was found to meet eight of the nine criteria in *Ontario Regulation 9/06*.

Historical / Associative Value (continued):

iii. The property is known to reflect the works and ideas of architects Stewart and Witton who are significant to Hamilton. Stewart and Witton formed a partnership in 1904 and worked together until Stewart left to fight in WW1. Examples of their work include: King George School, Central Fire Station, Herkimer Apartments.

The bells in the bell tower are reflective of the work of the McShame Bell Foundry.

The stained glass window on the front façade is the work of Robert McCausland completed in 1959.

*The 1958 addition is not considered to have sufficient cultural heritage value.



Bell ringing apparatus, May 31, 2018

Cultural Heritage Evaluation for Heritage Designation

The property was found to meet eight of the nine criteria in *Ontario Regulation 9/06*.

Contextual Value :

- i. The property is considered important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the area. Furthermore the open space and mature tree on the corner of a Main Street East and Holton Avenue South contribute to the historic character of the area.
- ii. The property is historically linked to its surroundings. Located in the heart of the community, the former St. Giles congregation has served the area for a hundred years.
- iii. The property is considered a local landmark.



Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the property at 85 Holton Avenue South and 679 Main Street East, Hamilton that display its cultural heritage value are limited to the 1908, 1912-1913 building and include:

Front Façade (including all elevations of the two storey projections flanking the entrance):

- Symmetrical three-bay façade with vertical massing;
- Red-brick, rough-cast stone foundation, concrete banding, wall niche, concrete capping and parapet features, and all decorative concrete details such as trefoil patterns;
- Varied roofline including gable shape, and parapet details;



Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the property at 85 Holton Avenue South and 679 Main Street East, Hamilton that display its cultural heritage value are limited to the 1908, 1912-1913 building and include:

Front Façade (including all elevations of the two storey projections flanking the entrance) (continued):

- All wood windows including window surrounds, drip moulds, frames, and leaded and stained glass;
- Symmetrical front entrance feature including:
 - All smooth concrete and decorative concrete details (parapet, drip moulds, window surrounds, etc);
 - Windows including wood frames and stained glass;
 - Door opening and stained glass transom window;
 - Concrete steps; and,
 - Light fixtures.



Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

West Elevation (including all elevations of: side entrance, transept and bell tower):

- Red-brick, rough-cast stone foundation, concrete banding, wall niches, concrete capping and parapet features, and all decorative concrete stone details such as trefoil patterns;
- All wood windows including window surrounds, drip moulds, frames, leaded and stained glass;
- Projecting side entrance including:
 - One storey massing;
 - Gable shaped parapet;
 - Red-brick, buttresses and rough cast stone foundation;
 - Open wood window frames with concrete window surrounds;
 - Concrete entrance surround; and,
 - Wall niche.



West Elevation and West Transept, May 18, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

West Elevation (including all elevations of: side entrance, transept and bell tower) (continued):

- Bell tower including:
 - Red-brick, buttresses, concrete banding, concrete capping, decorative concrete details, and battlement parapet;
 - All wood windows including window surrounds, drip moulds, frames, leaded and stained glass; and,
 - Louvered windows.



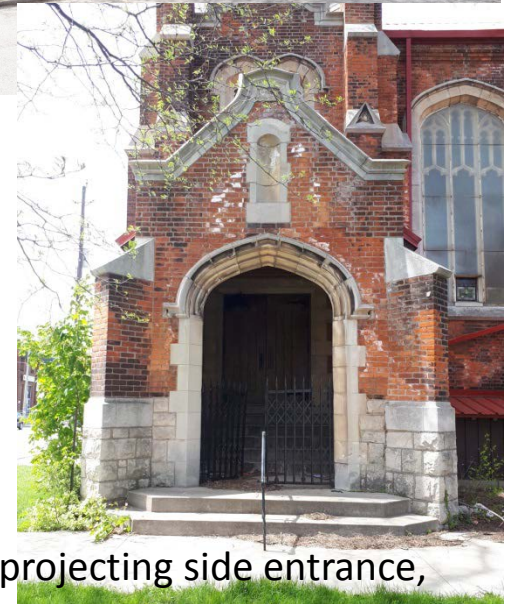
Bell Tower, May 18, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

East Elevation (including all elevations of: side entrance, transept, and memorial addition):

- Red-brick, rough-cast stone foundation, concrete banding, wall niches, concrete capping and parapet features, and all decorative concrete stone details such as trefoil patterns;
- All windows including concrete window surrounds, dripmoulds, frames, leaded and stained glass;
- Projecting side entrance including:
 - One storey massing;
 - Gable shaped parapet;
 - Red-brick, buttresses and rough cast stone foundation;
 - Open wood window frames with concrete window surrounds;
 - Concrete entrance surround; and,
 - Wall niche.



East elevation and projecting side entrance,
May 18, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

East Elevation (including all elevations of: side entrance, transept, and memorial addition):

- Memorial addition (c.1945):
 - One storey massing;
 - Gable roofline with concrete parapet;
 - Red-brick, buttresses, rough cast stone foundation, wall niche and concrete capping;
 - All windows including concrete window surrounds, frames, leaded and stained glass.



c. 1945 memorial addition, May 18, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

North Elevation (excluding 1958 addition):

- Red brick
- Varied roofline, including gable shape, and battlement.

Landscape:

- Open space along Main Street East and Holton Avenue South;
- Mature maple tree on Holton Avenue; and,
- WWI cairn.



North Elevation, May 18, 2018



Open Space and mature maple tree, May 18, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes

Interior Features:

- Chancel including:
 - Interior window including frame, and stained glass; and,
 - All carved wooden features.
- Second floor balconies in sanctuary, east and west transepts including all carved wooden features and stairs;
- Wooden trusses including decorative wooden corbels in sanctuary;
- Trefoil carvings in wooden pews in sanctuary;
- Wooden pendant lights with stained glass in sanctuary;
- Wooden staircases on either side of the front entrance leading to the sanctuary balcony; and,
- The bells including the bell ringing apparatus.



Chancel, May 31, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes



Wooden trusses, May 31, 2018



Close up of balcony in sanctuary, May 31, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes



West transept, May 31, 2018



Trefoil pattern in sanctuary pews, May 31, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes



Close up of wooden light fixture with stained glass,
May 31, 2018



Stairs on east side of front entrance, May
31, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes



Interior window (left view from room behind Chancel, right view from Sanctuary looking at Chancel), May 31, 2018

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Heritage Attributes



Bell ringing apparatus, May 31, 2018



Recommendation to Designate 679 Main Street East and 85 Holton Avenue South (Former St. Giles United Church) Under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act PED18153 (Ward 3)

Conclusion:

- Subject property meets eight of nine criteria for designation under Ontario Regulation 9/06
- As such, staff recommend the subject property be designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*
- Designation will allow the City to thoughtfully consider any alterations to the attributes identified as having cultural heritage value.

Recommendation to Designate 679 Main Street East and 85 Holton Avenue South (Former St. Giles United Church) Under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act PED18153 (Ward 3)

Thank you.