

City of Hamilton - Heritage Permit Application Note Sheet

Addresses: 115 Hunter Street West, Hamilton (Magnolia Hall, Part IV)

Permit Number: HP2024-041

Owner: City of Hamilton

Applicant/Agent: Jarrett Zacharko, Heritage Project Specialist

Description of proposed alterations:

- Installation of a card reader and electric strike on an exterior tower wooden door and jamb, including a new historically-appropriate exterior pull.

Reasons for proposed alterations:

- The existing door has an existing mortise lock (know interior side only), so this hardware will be an upgrade to the existing system.
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Documentation submitted with application:

- Heritage Permit application form
 - Description of new and existing hardware
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Draft Conditions for Consideration:

- That any minor changes to the plans and elevations following approval shall be submitted, to the satisfaction and approval of the Director of Planning and Chief Planner, prior to submission as part of any application for a Building Permit and / or the commencement of any alterations; and
- That implementation / installation of the alteration(s), in accordance with this approval, shall be completed no later than December 31, 2026. If the alteration(s) are not completed by December 31, 2026, then this approval expires as of that date and no alterations shall be undertaken without a new approval issued by the City of Hamilton.

Excerpt from Reasons for Designation (By-law No. 95-13)

In 1877, construction of St. Mark's Anglican Church began at the southwest corner of Bay Street South and Hunter Street West. By January 1878, the church had its first service. Subsequently, a corner bell tower was erected on its Bay Street facade and, in 1925, the Sunday school was added to the west end of the sanctuary. The grounds in front of St. Mark's traditionally have been landscaped, creating a park-like setting for the church.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The church and Sunday school together create a single storey, L-shaped structure with an attached three-storey tower. It is the fifth Anglican church to be erected in Hamilton and the first to be constructed in brick. As originally built in 1878, St Mark's was a typical parish church building, designed in the vernacular Gothic Revival tradition. Characteristic of this late 19th-century version is the rectangular, one-storey, brick structure with gable roof, buttresses, belfry, and pointed arched windows. St. Mark's Church is distinguished in the use of brick corbelling and sets of triple arched windows which formerly contained stained glass. A bell tower, built later, adds a strong architectural feature to the east facade, while the gothic Sunday school and entrance porch of 1925 blend harmoniously with the original design of the church.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The parish of St. Mark's was founded in 1877 by The Reverend R.G. Sutherland as the first "free pew" Anglican church in the city. St. Mark's is said to be the first Anglican church in Hamilton to introduce "advanced ritual" or high church service, daily service, Gregorian music, as well as many other innovations. After over a hundred years of serving the Anglican community, the church was closed and disestablished in 1989.

DESIGNATED FEATURES

Of particular importance to the preservation of the former St. Mark's Church are the original features of the east, north, and south facades; the original window openings and doors; the Sunday School addition; the bell tower and the entrance porch. Also important to the site is the retention of the open green space which provides the church with a unique setting among the city's downtown churches.

Photographs



Figure 1: Magnolia Hall



Figure 2: Interior (*left*) and exterior (*right*) images of heritage door proposed to have electronic card reader installed