

THE CITY OF VAUGHAN

BY-LAW

BY-LAW NUMBER 137-2024

A By-law to designate 11511 Weston Road, in the City of Vaughan, in the Regional Municipality of York, Province of Ontario, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O 1990, c.O.18.

WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, as amended, the council of a municipality is authorized to enact a by-law to designate real property within the municipality, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS section 29(1.1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 requires the Council of a municipality to cause notice of intention to designate a property to be given by the Clerk of the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the property described in Schedule "A" to this By-Law, municipally known as 11511 Weston Road is deemed to contain cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS section 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 requires a notice of intent to designate to be served on the Property Owner, on the Ontario Heritage Trust, and to be published in a newspaper;

AND WHEREAS, on January 30, 2024, the Council of the City of Vaughan caused notice of intention to designate 11511 Weston Road as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, with the notice served to the Ontario Heritage Trust and to the owners of 11511 Weston Road;

AND WHEREAS section 270 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25 requires a municipality to adopt and maintain policies with respect to the specific form and manner of the provision of notices;

AND WHEREAS sections 26(4) and 39.1(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18 permit a municipality to publish notices in accordance with a policy adopted by the municipality under section 270 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25;

AND WHEREAS the City of Vaughan enacted By-law 021-2024 on January 30, 2024 pursuant to section 270 of the *Municipal Act, 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25 which allows for

notice to be provided by way of the City's website;

AND WHEREAS on March 13, 2024, the City of Vaughan published a notice of intention to designate 11511 Weston Road on the City of Vaughan's website in accordance with By-law 021-2024;

AND WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation was served within the thirty-day timeline prescribed by section 29(5) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18, on the Clerk of the City of Vaughan;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the City of Vaughan ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. That pursuant to Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the property located at 11511 Weston Road (the "Property"), in the City of Vaughan, in the Regional Municipality of York, Province of Ontario, being more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this By-law, shall be and is hereby designated as a property of cultural heritage value or interest.
2. That the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest for the Property explaining the reasons the Property is of cultural heritage value or interest is attached hereto in Schedule "B" and forms a part of this By-law.
3. That the City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law and its Schedules to be registered against the title to the Property in the proper land registry office.
4. That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law and its Schedules to be served on the Property Owner and on the Ontario Heritage Trust.
5. That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to publish notice of this By-law on the City of Vaughan's municipal website.

Voted in favour by City of Vaughan Council this 25th day of June 2024.

Steven Del Duca, Mayor

Todd Coles, City Clerk

DRAFT

Authorized by Item No.17 of Report No.1 of the Committee of the Whole.
Adopted by Vaughan City Council on January 30, 2024.
City Council voted in favour of this by-law on June 25, 2024.

SCHEDULE "A" FOR BYLAW 137-2024

Description of Lands

PIN: 03345-0117

Legal Description:

Part of Lot 30, Concession 5 Vaughan as in R730971; together with VA41743;
City of Vaughan

DRAFT

CONTEXT MAP

*Subject
Lands*

KIRBY ROAD

WESTON ROAD



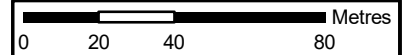
11511 Weston Road

KIRBY ROAD

WESTON ROAD

11511


11475



Location Map To By-law 137-2024

Legal Address: 11511 Weston Road

Legal Description: Part of Lot 30, Concession 5 Vaughan as in R730971; together with VA41743;
City of Vaughan

 Subject Lands

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE

DESCRIPTION

Municipal Address: 11511 Weston Road

Legal Description: Part of Lot 30, Concession 5 Vaughan as in R730971; together with VA41743;

Brief Description: 1-1/2 storey former school built in Gothic Revival

OVERVIEW

The cultural heritage value of the property known as 11511 Weston Road meets the criteria set out by the *Ontario Heritage Act* under Province of Ontario Regulation 9/06 for the categories of design/physical, historical/associative and contextual value.

Name: Formally Known as the Bryson School

Date Built: c.1860

Condition: The building is in good to fair physical condition

DESIGN OR PHYSICAL VALUE

The subject property at 11511 Weston Road is a former school. Built in c. 1860 using a L-shaped plan, the building is an example of a structure constructed in the Gothic Revival style. While the Gothic Revival style was initially used for religious buildings when it first arrived in Canada, it would also be adapted to other types of buildings including homes, schools, and government buildings. One of the indicators of the style is the pointed-arched windows, which can be seen at the subject property. The former school is built with red brick and comprises of buff-brick quoins and voussoirs. Viewing the property from Weston Road there are two pointed-arched windows, one on either side of a brick chimney, and a horizontal bi-colour brick pattern can be seen near the roofline. Also from this view, an entrance into the building is visible, and there is a pointed-arched motif above the doorframe. The view of the elevations from Kirby Road showcases a mixture of rectangular shaped and pointed-arched windows. In addition, there are blind arches above some of the windows. The bi-colour brick pattern band near the roofline, has also been incorporated to the elevations that can be seen from Kirby Road as well. These elements help to demonstrate the structures excellent craftsmanship. The windows located in the gables facing Kirby Road were later additions, along with the balcony. An article from *The Liberal* from 1965 described the removal and placement of a new belfry. The old belfry had to be removed due to dry rot. It was also noted in the article that sixteen months prior, the schoolhouse was purchased by Rev. B. F. Andrews, who was a Presbyterian, and Mrs. Andrews, and converted into a residence. The building's transition from a school to a residence serves as a prime example of adaptive reuse in Vaughan.

HISTORICAL/ASSOCIATIVE VALUE

The property at 11511 Weston Road, was once known as Bryson School; alternatively, it was also known as British School No. 10, or School Section No.10 (S.S. No.10). Prior to the new construction, the old school building was built from logs. When the new school building was constructed, c. 1860, it cost \$2,200. It could hold up to fifty students and was heated by a stove located in the center of the room. It is understood that Neil Malloy wanted a good bell for the building, and in turn a bell was ordered from a company in Chicago for \$50. An insurance policy for \$1,200 was also taken out for the property.

A minute book from 1869 indicates that the students attending the school paid six cents per week. With regards to attendance, older boys would only attend during the winter months because they would assist with the farming during the other times of the year when it was busier. The Bryson School held events in which the students would participate. A 1953 article in *The Liberal* newspaper reported on a Valentines concert, which would involve Drills, a play, recitations, and other elements. To attend the concert adults paid twenty-five cents, while the cost for children was fifteen cents. The event demonstrates that the school served not only as a place for education, but also played a role in community engagement.

The trustees of the school (Neil Malloy, Alexander Cameron, and Isaac Murray) purchased the corner lot from Robert Phillips for \$100. Trustee Alex Cameron and his family were known to be active in the community. For instance, not only was Alex Cameron and his wife Barbara members of the Woodbridge Presbyterian church, his wife was also a member of the Woodbridge Women's Institute. Alex's son, James Cameron, would later go on to become warden of York County in 1914. The last local trustees were Stewart Diceman, Roy Bowen, and Gordon Burbidge. Vaughan Township would later assume responsibility of the building in 1960.

There have been several landowners over the years. The 1860 map indicates that the western portion of the lot belonged to P. Peterman, while the eastern portion of the lot belonged to A. Cameron. *The Tremaine* map of 1878 indicates Tho. Phillips was the owner of the western portion of the lot, while Alex (Alexander) Cameron was located on the eastern portion of the lot. The 1918 map indicates Mrs. R. Phillips as the owner on the western portion of the lot, while J.A. Cameron, who was as a Deputy Reeve for Vaughan Council, occupies the eastern portion of the lot.

Lot 30, Concession 5 is also often associated with Donald Cameron (1819-1858) and the Cameron family. Donald Cameron left Baramolach, Argyllshire, Scotland for Canada in 1819 with his wife Christine McLeven. Initially living in Caledon, Donald and Christine had two children together: Agnes and Sarah. After the death of his first wife, he married Elizabeth Armour, moved to Vaughan, and settled on Lot 30, Concession 5 (east half of the lot). While he had some hardships in Caledon, he had more success in Vaughan. Not only did he become a successful farmer, but he would also go on to serve as a Councillor for Vaughan Township from 1853 to 1856. He was also a trustee for St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Maple. In his memoir, *Memoir of the Life of Donald Cameron*, he discusses adjusting to his move to Canada and building a life in a new country. Donald's son, Archibald, also contributes to the memoir. Donald's other son Alex, whose name appears on the 1878 map, would also serve as trustee for the Bryson school. A *Times and Guide* article from 1936 discusses a Cameron family reunion, which honoured the memory of Donald and his three brothers: William, Archibald, and Hector. Although Donald's brothers settled in Middlesex County, the four brothers were pioneers of the Cameron family in Canada, having left their home in Scotland for a new life. These progressions of events help to give insight into the life of new settlers in Vaughan, showcase the Cameron family as famers, and as well as their involvement in their community.

CONTEXTUAL VALUE

11511 Weston Road structure and lot are significant in establishing and maintaining the cultural heritage aesthetic and the history of the mid-19th century history of Vaughan. Located on the northwest corner of Lot 30, Concession 5, the property holds contextual value as it is a

longstanding feature, and historically linked to its surroundings. Being a fixture that can be seen near the corner of Weston Road and Kirby Road, it could be understood that it was an identifiable structure and marker within its community. The trustees of the school, Neil Malloy, Alexander Cameron, and Isaac Murray came together to help build the former school, and this building reflects both their individual success in having the ability to support the endeavour, as well as their commitment to contribute to the development of their community. It is here that the merit of the structure lies, just as much as in the architectural value.

SUMMARY OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE

Architectural Attributes

- Pointed-arched windows
- Red brick, with buff-brick quoins and voussoirs
- belfry was custom ordered from Chicago
- Brick chimney
- Horizontal bi-colour brick pattern near the roofline
- L-plan
- Blind arches

Historical Attributes

- Bryson School, a.k.a. British School #10
- Trustees included resident/owner of 11151 Weston Road
- property owned by early Councillor of Vaughan Township

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES

City of Vaughan Archives

Cook, H. A. (2011). *Some of Vaughan's pictorial past*. Hugh A. Cook.

Kalman, H. (2000). *A Concise History of Canadian Architecture*. Oxford University Press.

Reaman, G. E. (1971). *A History of Vaughan Township: Two centuries of life in the township*. Vaughan Township Historical Society.

Plander, B. (1975). *Old Buildings in the Town of Vaughan*.

A Real Sky Hook. (1965). *The Liberal*. Retrieved from <https://history.rhpl.ca/3216175/page/14?q=bryson+school&docid=OOI.3216175>

Coming events. (1953, February 5). *The Liberal*. Retrieved from <https://history.rhpl.ca/3215518/page/2?n=>

Cameron family gathers for reunion at Vellore. (1936, June 19). *Times and Guide*. Retrieved from <https://vitacollections.ca/westonnews/3555048/page/3867684?q=donald+cameron>.

Building styles. Gothic Revival. (n.d.).

<http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/gothicrevival.html#gothicwestern>