



July 22, 2021

Druh Farrell
Councillor for Ward 7

City of Calgary
PO Box 2100 Stn M
Calgary, AB T2P 2M5

Dear Councillor Farrell:

Subject: 8.1.10 Policy Amendment and Land Use Amendment in Hillhurst (Ward 7) at multiple addresses, LOC2020-0122, CPC2021-0873

Heritage Calgary, in accordance with our role to advise Council and Administration on heritage matters in the City of Calgary, would like to take this opportunity to support the designation of the Hillhurst Baptist Church as a municipal historic resource.

Built in 1907 the church is historically significant for its style, landmark, and symbolic values.

The Hillhurst Baptist Church displays elements of the Gothic Revival style such as its gabled roof, corner tower and pointed arch windows. (Style Value)

A highly visible building situated on an unusual triangular lot set back off the commercial street of 10 ST NW, the building is well known in the community of Hillhurst. (Landmark Value)

The church is symbolic of the early development of the neighbourhood of Hillhurst. It is one of the community's remaining churches from Calgary's boom period (1906-13) (Symbolic Value)

The early 20th century were boom years for the city of Calgary and the community of Hillhurst. Built in 1907 the Hillhurst Baptist Church is representative of the city's development boom years. The church was formerly known as the Morleyville Road Baptist Church when 10 ST NW was known as Morleyville Road. It is one of the few remaining buildings from this time period.

The community was incorporated into the city in 1907. The neighbourhood's expansion was in part due to the newly built Louise Bridge in 1906, connecting the north side of the Bow River with the city centre, as well as the expanding streetcar system which, in 1909, was extended across the Bow River to Hillhurst. The church is situated at a highly visible location in the neighbourhood, set back off 10 ST NW, one of the community's main commercial corridors.

The spiritual life of Hillhurst was made up of several denominations, including a Baptist congregation. Prior to the construction of the Louise Bridge, it was difficult for residents of Hillhurst to travel to church. Therefore in 1907, a small wooden structure was built by parish volunteers in to accommodate this need. At the time of construction, there were 31 charter members, led by Reverend A.D. Gunn. By 1914 this congregation had grown enough to warrant an expansion of the church to its present day form.

Gothic Revival is a style of architecture that started in the United States reminiscent of European Gothic architecture. The Hillhurst Baptist Church is an example of a more modest version of Gothic Revival, sometimes referred to as Carpenter Gothic. The wood-frame building has retained several stylistic elements representative of the Gothic Revival style such as the pitched roof with centered gables, corner entrance tower, pointed arch windows, as well as decorative elements such as eave brackets, a finial topping the corner tower and slightly projecting eaves. The building is clad with beveled wood lap and shingle cedar siding. In addition, the building sits on an unusual triangular shaped lot, and this prominent site on Gladstone Road enhances its position as a landmark in the community.

In closing Heritage Calgary very much supports the designation of the Hillhurst Baptist Church through a density transfer which is supported by the Area Redevelopment Plan. Density transfers are an important planning tools when it comes to preserving our heritage buildings.

Sincerely,



Josh Traptow
Executive Director
Heritage Calgary