BY-LAW NO. 2010-XXX

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE INTERIOR OF KINGSTON CITY HALL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE TO BE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE AND INTEREST PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT (R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18)

PASSED:

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18 authorizes the Council of a Municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS Council has consulted with its Municipal Heritage Committee and has approved the designation of a property located at 216 Ontario Street (KINGSTON PT LOT 2 MARKET; RESERVE) on XXX, 2010;

AND WHEREAS notice of the designating By-Law was published in The Kingston Whig Standard, which is a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality on December 1, 2009;

AND WHEREAS no notice of the objection to the proposed designation was served to the Clerk of The Corporation of the City of Kingston;

THEREFORE, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Kingston hereby enacts as follows:

1. To designate as being of cultural heritage value and interest the following property in the City of Kingston:

   (a) Interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site, 216 Ontario Street

2. The above mentioned property is more particularly described in Schedule “A” attached hereto.

3. A copy of the designating By-Law shall be registered against the property affected in the proper land registry office. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-Law to be served on the owner of the land described in Schedule “A” hereto and on The Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of the passing of this By-Law to be published in The Kingston Whig Standard.

4. For the purpose of interpretation, 'Maintenance' on this property will include the following works:

   Maintenance is considered routine, cyclical, and non-destructive actions, necessary to slow the deterioration of a historic place. It entails the following actions: periodical inspection; general property cleanup; replacement of glass in broken windows; minor interior repairs; repainting in the same or similar colour; carpet replacement; addition of nails and/or hooks smaller than two inches into the walls; repointing areas of wall space under 1.5 square metres; all works in the West Wing except where there is exposed stonework; and all work within the washrooms.

5. The City reserves the right to install a designated property plaque or interpretive panel.
6. This By-Law shall come into force and take effect on the date of its passing.

GIVEN ALL THREE READINGS AND PASSED

CITY CLERK

MAYOR
Description and Reasons for Designation
Interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site

Civic Address: 216 Ontario Street
Property Number: 101101013003700
Lot/Concession: KINGSTON PT LOT 2 MARKET; RESERVE

Description of Property

Kingston City Hall National Historic Site is located at 216 Ontario Street (KINGSTON PT LOT 2 MARKET; RESERVE). The interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic is valued because of its physical/design attributes, its historical/associative values and its contextual values. Designed by George Browne to be a focal point of community activity, Kingston City Hall was constructed as a multi-use facility. It has physical/design value because of its neo-classical architecture, including the symmetrical arrangement of its interior spaces; its plasterwork, wall surfaces, niches, woodwork, doors, and finishes; interior window shutters, interior windows, lightwell and interior skylight; fireplaces and mantelpieces; the pine staircases with marble treads and risers, heavy naval style balusters and wide handrails; and the surviving wood structural framing. Other notable elements include the basement level remnants of the historic police station and the surviving jail cells, interior stonework and the small storage rooms located underneath the main façade stairs. Main floor attributes include the Sir John A. Macdonald Room; the John Counter Room; the south wing with its corridor “niche arcade,” and calling card ledge; the south-east entrance door and transom; and the north-east entrance door and transom. On the second floor, the attributes include Memorial Hall with its bronze memorial plaques, early paintwork including murals and memorials, and stained glass windows; Ontario Hall (Council Chamber); the Cataraqui Room; and the Queen Elizabeth Room. The third floor is notable for its ruled plaster walls and the niche and skylight in the Councillors’ Lounge. The Victoria Library & Dome, which begins on the fourth floor, is one of the nationally significant features, and includes the clock room with the 1909 Seth Thomas clock and mechanisms that turn the hands on the four exterior faces of the “town clock” and also strike the bell in the cupola; curved glass in windows of the dome; the spiral stairway winding up to the dome with its slender turned balusters, soffits and mouldings, and the lightwell. The historical/associative values related to the interior of City Hall stem from direct associations with a number of notable persons including George Browne; William Coverdale; Joseph Power; Sir John A. Macdonald; Dr. Jenny Trout; numerous Mayors and Councillors for the Corporation of the City of Kingston; and Field Marshal Viscount Byng of Vimy, Governor General of Canada. The historical/associative values also relate to a number of organizations that have direct associations with the history of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site. These include the Corporation of the City of Kingston; the Kingston Police Force; the Bank of British North America; the Star Chamber Saloon; Canada Customs; Canada Post; the Merchant’s Exchange; the Scottish Free Church; the United Church of Canada; the Salvation Army; St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church; St. George’s Cathedral; the Red Cross; the Kingston Frontenac Public Library; the Masonic Lodge; the Orange Lodge; the Kingston Mechanics Institute; the Kingston Women’s Medical College and the history of medicine in Canada; Kingston’s military with its traditions and history; and the historic market. Parts of the interior were also included in the reasons for designation of Kingston City Hall as a National Historic Site. The interior of Kingston City Hall has contextual value as a symbol of the corporate identity of Corporation of the City of Kingston; as
a landmark of the Kingston community and as an important element of Kingston’s civic identity and sense of place.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value/Statement of Significance

The cultural heritage value of the interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic lies in its physical/design attributes, its historical association, and its contextual values.

Physical/Design Values

The interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site is valued because of its physical/design attributes. The property has design/physical value because it is a rare and unique representative of neo-classical architectural designs expressed in limestone and where interior features remain, it displays a high degree of craftsmanship in its expression, finishes, and details. Designated as a National Historic Site in 1961, Kingston City Hall has been described as “one of the most ambitious examples of nineteenth century Canadian municipal architecture,” and as an outstanding example of neo-classical architecture in Canada. It has also been called, “one of British North America’s most important and influential early Victorian buildings.”

There are a number of attributes that express the physical/design value of the interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site. The structure was built to a neo-classical architectural design, and this included the symmetrical nature of the interior spaces. The detailed expression of this architectural style along with examples of high quality work can be found in the following: the plasterwork throughout the interior including cornices, decorative ornamentation, and ceiling medallions; the wall surfaces; the original and reconstructed woodwork and doors; the interior window shutters; and the interior windows, skylight and lightwell; the fireplaces and mantelpieces; the faux painting on woodwork; the interior stonework and surviving wood structural framing; and the pine staircases with marble treads and risers, heavy naval-style balusters and wide handrails all attest to the quality of construction and craftsmanship.

Many of the areas within Kingston City Hall National Historic Site also have unique attributes beyond the aforementioned general attributes. Within the basement, the remnant of the historic police station and the jail cells along with the small storage rooms located underneath the main façade stairs speak to the historic uses of the structure. On the main floor, the Sir John A. Room; the John Counter Room; and the main floor south wing with its “niche arcade,” calling card ledge and both the south-east and north-east entrance doors and transoms are also character defining elements. The second floor with Memorial Hall with its bronze memorial plaques, early paintwork including mural and memorials, and Robert McCausland stained glass windows; Ontario Hall; the Cataraqui Room and the Queen Elizabeth Room all reflect the neoclassical influence of the building. On the 3rd floor, the Councillors’ Lounge retains its ruled plaster walls, niche and skylight. Starting on the fourth floor, the Victoria Library & Dome including the clock room is a significant character defining element, and has already been recognized to be of National Significance. Of note is the curved glass in the dome windows and the spiral stairway winding up to the cupola with its slender turned balusters, soffits and mouldings, and the lightwell. The clock room contains a 1909 Seth Thomas clock that drives a crown and pinion mechanism for the arbors that turn the hands on the four exterior faces of the “town clock” as well as the strike mechanism for the bell in the cupola. A weight case and pendulum case extend to the floor below.
Historical/Associative Values

The interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site is of historical/associative value because it has direct associations with events, persons, activities, organizations and institutions that are significant to the community; it yields information that contributes to an understanding of the City of Kingston and its history; and it demonstrates the work of architects George Browne, William Coverdale and Joseph Power.

Three prominent Kingston architects were involved in the design and construction of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site: George Browne, William Coverdale and Joseph Power. George Browne spent three years in Kingston during which time he carried out both domestic and commercial work including the Kingston Town Hall and Market Building. This project was described by J. Douglas Stewart as “the greatest project of his career.” Browne won the commission to design the town hall in 1842. The structure which was one of the largest in North America included two great halls; a library and reading-room; and a large market. As Stewart notes, “Despite two fires and additions, the city hall... remains one of the finest pieces of 19th-century architecture in Canada.” Browne would later move to Montreal and design a number of prominent buildings there. William Coverdale was a prominent Kingston carpenter and architect. He became the “master builder” of the Kingston Penitentiary in 1834, holding the post for 14 years. In 1859 Coverdale also became the architect of Kingston’s Provincial Asylum. In 1844 Coverdale became the supervisor for the construction of Kingston City Hall. When the rear wing burned in 1865, he prepared plans for its rebuilding, which were carried out after his death by his son, William Miles Coverdale. Joseph Power, who rebuilt the dome on City Hall following a fire in 1908, was an associate of the Royal Canadian Academy, President of the Ontario Association of Architects, a fellow of the Architectural institute of Canada and superintending architect for the Department of Public Works and Department of Defence.

Dr. Jenny Kidd Gowanlock, known as Dr. Jenny Trout, was one of the first female doctors in Canada. In 1883, Dr. Trout became involved with efforts to establish a women’s medical college in Canada, and starting working in Kingston at organizing a school in affiliation with Queen’s College. “After the founding of the Women’s Medical College was approved at a public meeting in Kingston on 8 June 1883, Trout became not only one of its trustees but also its principal benefactor, promising $200 a year for the next five years.” This college was housed in Kingston City Hall National Historic Site, and as a result, it has a direct association with the Kingston Women’s Medical College and the history of medicine in Canada.

Memorial Hall reflects Kingston’s military traditions and history, and has a direct association with Field Marshal Viscount Byng of Vimy, Governor General of Canada. In 1921, Memorial Hall was dedicated to the men and women of Kingston who served in World War One. Viscount Byng officially unveiled the stained glass windows, which were designed by Robert McCausland.

In addition, the interior of City Hall has been associated with a number of prominent Kingstonians who have served as Mayors and Councillors since the 1840s to the present. This includes Sir John A. Macdonald, Canada’s First Prime Minister, who maintained a law office in City Hall, served as a City Councillor, and who laid in state in Memorial Hall.

There are also a number of organizations which have or continue to occupy Kingston City Hall National Historic Site, and thus have a direct association with it. These include the Corporation of the City of Kingston; the Kingston Police Force; the Bank of British North America; the Star Chamber Saloon; the...
Sons of Temperance; Canada Customs; Canada Post; the Merchant’s Exchange; the Scottish Free Church; the United Church of Canada; the Salvation Army; St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church; St. George’s Cathedral; the Red Cross; the Kingston Frontenac Public Library; the Masonic Lodge; the Orange Lodge; the Kingston Mechanics Institute and the historic market.

Contextual Values
The interior of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site has contextual value because it is important in defining the character of an area; it is physically and historically linked to its surroundings; and it is a landmark. The interior of Kingston City Hall has contextual value as a symbol of the corporate identity of Corporation of the City of Kingston; as a landmark of the Kingston community; and serves as an important element of Kingston’s civic identity and sense of place.

Character Defining Elements/Heritage Attributes

Physical/Design Attributes

General
- Neo-classical architectural designs, including the symmetrical nature of interior spaces
- Plasterwork throughout the interior including cornices, decorative ornamentation, and ceiling medallions
- Wall surfaces and coverings
- Original and reconstructed woodwork, doors and casings
- Interior window shutters
- Interior windows skylight and lightwell
- Fireplaces and mantelpieces
- Faux painting on woodwork
- Interior stonework and surviving wood structural framing
- Pine staircases with marble treads and risers, heavy naval-style balusters and wide handrails

Basement
- Remnants of the historic police station and the jail cells
- Small storage rooms under the main façade stairs
- Exposed stonework

Main Floor
- Sir John A. Macdonald Room
- John Counter Room
- South wing “niche arcade” and calling card ledge
- South-east entrance door and transom
- North-east entrance door and transom

2nd Floor
- Memorial Hall
- Bronze memorial plaques, early paintwork including mural and memorials, Robert McCausland stained glass windows
- Ontario Hall (Council Chamber)
- Cataraqui Room
- Queen Elizabeth Room

**3rd floor**
- Ruled plaster walls
- Niche and skylight in the Councillors’ Lounge

**4th floor and above**
- Victoria Library & Dome including the clock room
- 1909 Seth Thomas clock, weight and pendulum cases and mechanisms to operate the four exterior clock faces and strike for the bell
- Curved glass in dome windows
- Spiral stairway winding up to the cupola with its slender turned balusters, soffits and mouldings

**Historical/Associative Attributes**

*Persons associated with the history of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site*
- George Browne
- William Coverdale
- Joseph Power
- Sir John A. Macdonald
- Dr. Jenny Trout
- Field Marshal Viscount Byng of Vimy, Governor General of Canada

*Organizations associated with the history of Kingston City Hall National Historic Site*
- Corporation of the City of Kingston
- Kingston Police Force
- Bank of British North America
- Star Chamber Saloon
- Sons of Temperance
- Canada Customs
- Canada Post
- Merchant’s Exchange
- Scottish Free Church
- United Church of Canada
- Salvation Army
- St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church
- St. George’s Cathedral
- Red Cross
- Kingston Frontenac Library
- Masonic Lodge
- Orange Lodge
• Kingston Mechanics Institute  
• Kingston Women’s Medical College and the history of medicine in Canada.  
• Kingston’s military with its traditions and history, notably expressed by Memorial Hall  
• Historic market

Previous Recognition  
• Designation as a National Historic Site

Contextual Attributes

• The interior of City Hall is symbolic of the corporate identity of Corporation of the City of Kingston  
• The interior of City Hall is a landmark of the Kingston community, and serves as an important element of Kingston’s civic identity and sense of place

Figure 1: Location of Real Property containing Kingston City Hall National Historic Site
Figure 2: Storage Areas in Basement
Figure 3: Historic Cells in Basement

Figure 4: Exposed Stonework in Basement
Figure 5: First Floor Niches

Figure 6: Example of Plasterwork
Figure 7: Staircase

Figure 8: Decorative Detailing
Figure 9: Memorial Hall

Figure 10: Example of stained glass window in Memorial Hall
Figure 11: Councillors’ Lounge

Figure 12: Councillors’ Lounge
Figure 13: The Victoria Library and Dome Gallery

Figure 14: Faux Painted Curved Door
Figure 15: Clock Room and Ceiling Detail in the Victoria Library and Dome Gallery

Figure 16: 1909 Seth Thomas clock