

August 28, 2024

Item 9.1.2
HALIFAX

St Mark's Church (5522 Russell St.)

HRTG-2023-00201 Substantial Alteration

Application

Applicant: WM Fares Architects

Location: St Mark's Church, Halifax (a municipally registered heritage property, constructed in 1920, on a large corner lot fronting Gottingen Street and Russell Street)

Proposal: Substantial alteration to construct a 10 to 12 storey multi-unit residential building on the same property as the church. Rehabilitation of the western exterior wall of the church building, after removal of the western portion of the attached hall. The proposed substantial alteration is essential to support a future planning application.

Site Context



5522 Russell Street



2020 Aerial Image

St Mark's Church Substantial Alteration

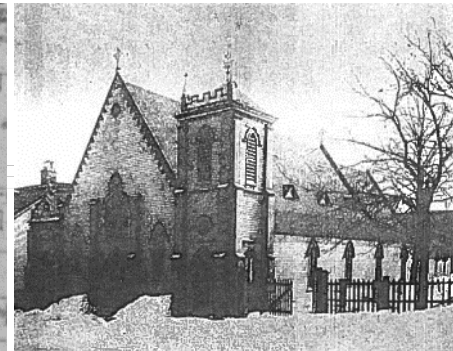
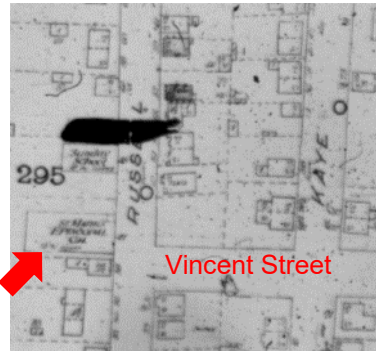
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Heritage Value

- Originally built in 1866 and reconstructed in 1920 following the destruction of the original church in the 1917 Halifax Explosion
- Served as garrison church for the Royal Canadian Regiment and Navy
- Significant Gothic Revival structure, including flanking towers, a large rose window, and lancet windows

1895 Fire Insurance Plan (left)

Original St Mark's Church (right)



St Mark's Church Substantial Alteration

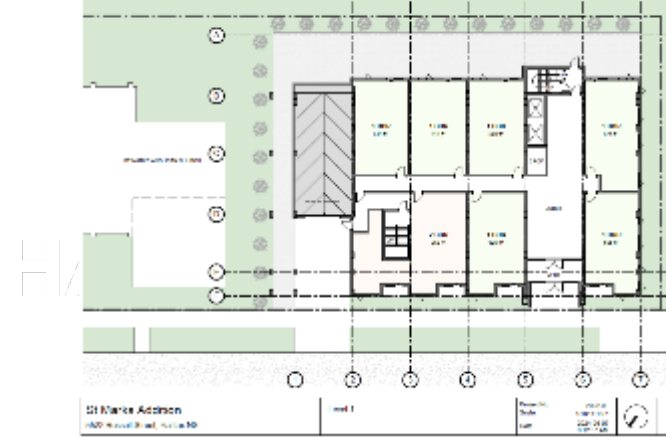
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"substantial alteration" means any action that affects or alters the character-defining elements of a property

"character-defining elements" means the materials, forms, location, spatial configurations, uses and cultural associations or meanings that contribute to heritage value and that must be sustained in order to preserve heritage value

Substantial Alteration Application

- Construction of a 10 to 12 storey multi-unit residential building
- Rehabilitation of the western exterior wall of the church building, after removal of the western portion of the attached hall



HRM Conservation Standards Evaluation

- Reconstruction of Historic Elements
- Maintaining Use and Function of Church
- Community Role



HRM Conservation Standards Evaluation

- Physical Separation
- Compatible Massing
- Architectural Harmony



St Mark's Church Substantial Alteration

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HRM Conservation Standards Evaluation

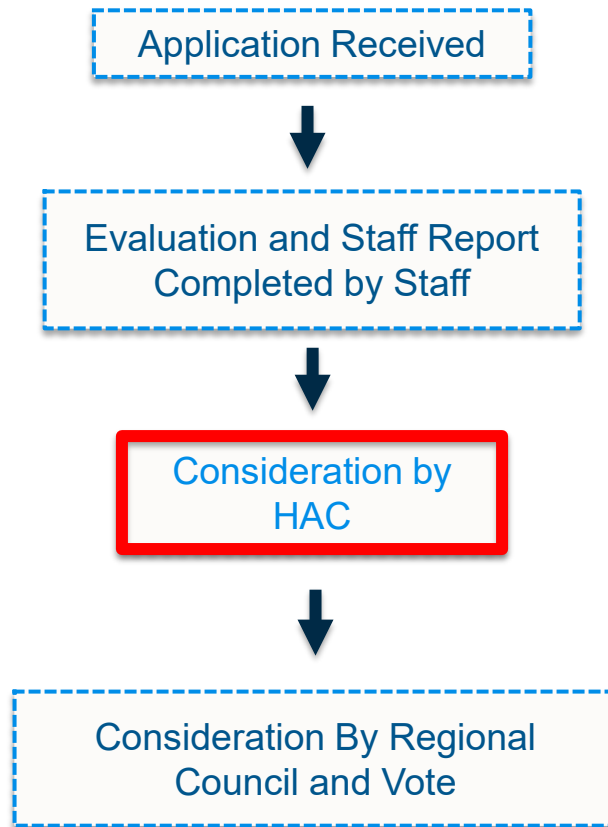
- Distinguishable Design
- Positioning and Visibility
- Historical Significance



HRM Conservation Standards Evaluation



St Mark's Church Substantial Alteration



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Recommendation

It is recommended that the Heritage Advisory Committee recommend that Regional Council approve the proposed substantial alteration to the municipal heritage property at 5522 Russell Street, Halifax, as set out in this report.

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Thank you!

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