



April 20, 2023

Aaron Murnaghan  
Principal Heritage Planner  
Planning and Development  
Halifax Regional Municipality  
P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3A5

Dear Aaron,

**Re: 1259 South Park Street  
Holy Cross Cemetery Caretaker's House**

The Archdiocese of Halifax-Yarmouth, the owner of Holy Cross Cemetery, wishes to apply to HRM for permission to demolish the Cemetery Caretaker's House, situated at the entrance to Holy Cross Cemetery.

Holy Cross Cemetery has its origins within "**An Act in further addition to and amendment of the several Acts now in force concerning Cemeteries or Burial Grounds in the Town of Halifax.-Passed the 29<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1843**" (See attached Document #1). Within this Act, the origin of the Cemetery land is described in part as the conveyance, by the Officers of her Majesty's Ordnance Department at Halifax, "to the Commissioners of the Public Cemeteries in Halifax, a certain piece of Land bounded on the east by Fort Massey, extending westwardly across the Brook running from the Common to Fresh Water Bridge ..... and the object of this Act, that said piece of Land should be conveyed to and vested in, the City of Halifax".

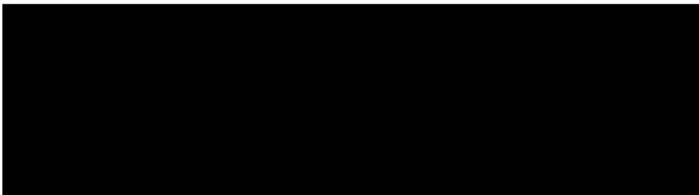
Further, it is stated "it shall and may be lawful for the said City of Halifax, by Deed, signed by the Mayor, under the Seal of the said City, to convey and assure to Trustees on behalf of the Roman Catholic population of the said City, for the exclusive purpose of a Cemetery, so much as shall be adequate and satisfactory of the said land lying between the said Military Burial Ground and a certain Brook to the westward running through the said land, not exceeding four and a half acres... ". In addition, following within the Act, there is a specific "Proviso": "Provided always, That the said portion of the land

aforesaid so to assigned to the Trustees as aforesaid, shall not be used for any other purpose than as a Cemetery or Bur.YID.g Ground as aforesaid ....".

Given this "Proviso", and in the face of the current extremely dilapidated condition of the Cemetery's Caretaker's House, which you will see described when reviewing the Attached Document #2, "Condition Report - Holy Cross Caretaker's House - South Park Street", it is understandable that the Archdiocese would wish to have the Caretaker's House removed. As the Engineer, who conducted the survey of this property in August, 2017, concluded on page 5 of the report, "that the only rational course of action would be to tear the existing structure down .....". As well, since the condition of the property has further deteriorated over these past six years, we contend that this gives further credence to the request by the Archdiocese for permission to demolish this building.

In agreeing to this submission, HRM will enable the Archdiocese to provide a site for a future Columbarium, and so return this historically significant Holy Cross Cemetery to its intended state, as described in the Act of March, 1843, "for the exclusive purpose of a Cemetery or Burying Ground". It is our hope that Halifax Regional Municipality recognizes the significance of Holy Cross Cemetery to the City of Halifax, and we request your support for this submission so as to ensure the continued historic significance of Holy Cross Cemetery for years to come.

We look forward to your response,



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