

December 3, 2024

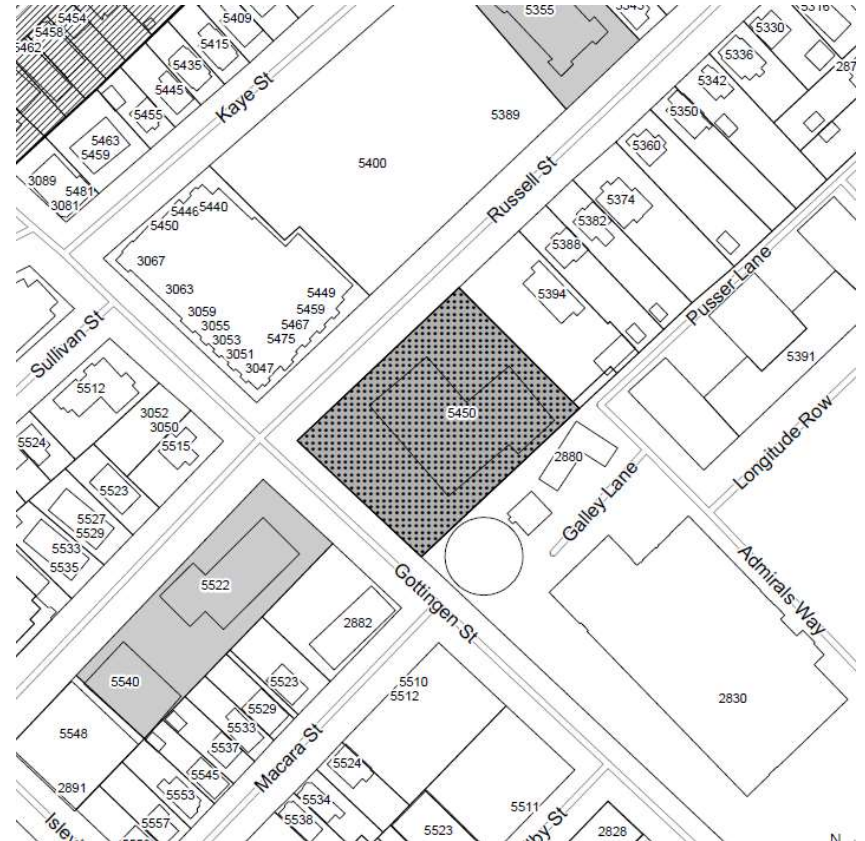
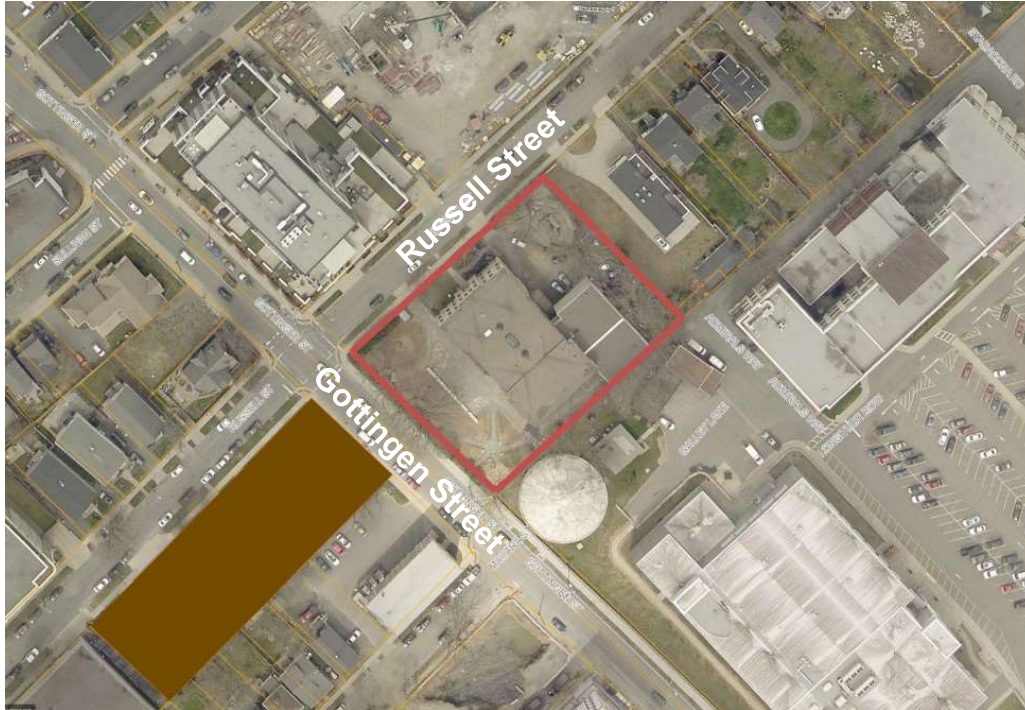
Re: Item No. 12.2

HALIFAX

**HRTG-2024-00692 –
5450 Russell Street, Halifax**

Request to Include Property in the Registry of
Heritage Property for the Halifax Regional
Municipality

Location



HRTG-2024-00692 – 5450 Russell Street

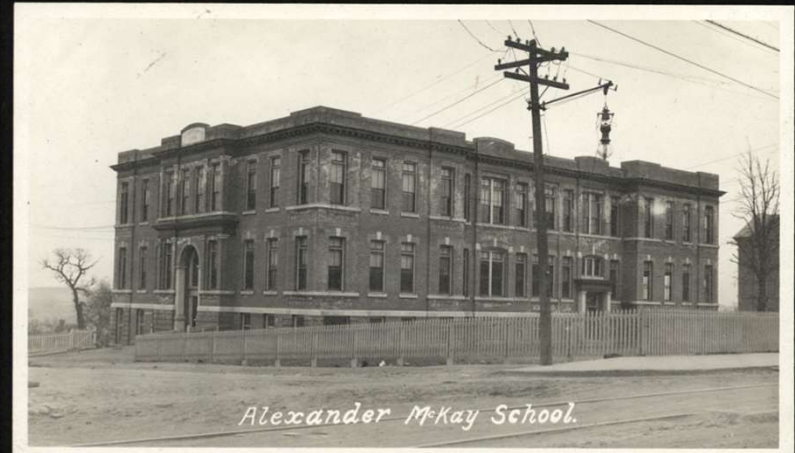
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Registration for Evaluation Criteria – Buildings

Criterion	Maximum Score
1. Age	25
2.[a] Historical <u>or</u> [b] Architectural Importance	20
3. Significance of Architect / Builder	10
4. Architectural Merit: Construction Type <u>and</u> Style	20
5. Architectural Integrity	15
6. Relationship to Surrounding Area	10
Total	100

1. Age

- Board of School Commissioners began exploring site for a new boys' school in 1916
- Architect Walter Johannes Busch presented the Board with plans for ten-room school which were approved in 1916
- School is first identified in McAlpine's City Directory for 1916 and 1918 Assessment Map



5450 Russell Street shortly after completion, ca. 1916 (Halifax Municipal Archives)

2a. Historical Importance

- Representative of Public Education Reform in Nova Scotia at the turn of the century
- The Compulsory of Education Act of 1888 led to the construction of several new schools in Halifax at turn of the century
- The school was used as temporary living quarters for reconstruction workers, and a dining hall was built behind the school



Temporary Dining Hall for Reconstruction Workers after the Halifax Explosion, with 5450 Russell Street to the right

3. Significance of Architect

- Designed by Walter Johannes Busch (1865-1924)
- Trained under his father, esteemed architect Henry F. Busch
- Specialized in educational building design: St. Patrick's Girls' High School, Chebucto Road Public School, Tower Road School and Bloomfield School.
- Contractors were Falconer & McDonald who specialized in institutional buildings



Walter
Johannes
Busch

4a. Architectural Merit *[Construction Type]*

- Concrete framing clad in brick
- Few brick buildings within the surrounding area remain
- Although brick has been parged with stucco, this intervention could be reversed in the future



Stucco parging
and granite block
and stone
foundation (May
2024)

4b. Architectural Merit *[Style]*

- Character-defining elements include but are not limited to:
 - Two-and-a-half storey, Edwardian Classicism style institutional building with rectangular long façade;
 - Central bay at the north elevation and segmental arch inscription stone reading ‘A.D. 1916’;
 - Above-ground granite cut stone and rubblestone foundation;
 - Granite string courses and lug sills; and,
 - Two-leaf wood glazed entrance on the north elevation with tall multiple-light flat transom and arched transom.



6. Relationship to Surrounding Area

- Serves as a landmark as one of the few masonry buildings in the area
- The school has physical, historical and visual relationships with St. Mark's Church as another Walter Busch designed, masonry institutional building of a similar era



Gottingen Street
facing south (May
2024)

9

HAC Scoring – Sept 12, 2024, Meeting

Criterion	Score awarded by HAC
1. Age	9
2. [a] Historical Importance	15
3. Significance of Architect/Builder	3
4. Architectural Merit: Construction Type <u>and</u> Style	6 <u>and</u> 6
5. Architectural Integrity	3
6. Relationship to Surrounding Area	10
TOTAL	52

Recommendation

The Heritage Advisory Committee recommends that Halifax Regional Council:

Approve the request to include 5450 Russell Street, Halifax, in the Registry of Heritage Property for the Halifax Regional Municipality, as shown on Map 1 of staff report dated August 22, 2024, as a municipal heritage property under the *Heritage Property Act*.

HALIFAX

Thank you