

**CITY OF PRINCE ALBERT  
BYLAW NO. 21 OF 2012**

A Bylaw of the City of Prince Albert to designate the property known as "Key Hole Castle" as a Municipal Heritage Property; which is legally described as Lot 60, Block 10, Plan E, Ext. 77 and Lots 61-64, Block 10, Plan E, Ext. 0

WHEREAS Part III of the Heritage Property Act authorizes the Council of a Municipality to enact Bylaws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon to be of architectural, historical or natural value or interest;

WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Prince Albert has caused a Notice of Intention to be prepared to designate the real property at 1925 – 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East and has served such Notice of Intention upon the registered owners of the said property at least Thirty (30) days prior to final consideration of this Bylaw;

AND WHEREAS the said Council has caused the said Notice of Intention to designate to be published in an issue of the Prince Albert Daily Herald at least Thirty (30) days prior to final consideration of this bylaw;

AND WHEREAS no objection to the proposed designation has been served on the City Clerk of the Municipality;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PRINCE ALBERT IN OPEN MEETING ASSEMBLED ENACTS AS FOLLOWS;

1. There is designated as a Municipal Heritage Property being of architectural and historical value and interest the property at 1925-1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East, legally described as Lot 60, Block 10, Plan E, Ext.77 and Lots 61-64, Block 10, Plan E, Ext. 0. The significance of the site is as follows:

1. Description of Historic Place

Keyhole Castle is a private residence, which is currently operating as a Bed and Breakfast, on a large mature lot in one of Prince Albert's most refined older residential neighbourhoods, East Hill, which is located on a ridge commanding a view of Prince Albert's downtown commercial district and the North Saskatchewan River. Keyhole Castle was built from 1911 to 1913 at the tail end of one of Prince Albert's boom eras by local businessman Samuel McLeod; it is a two and a half storey red brick mansion in the Queen Anne Revival style of architecture that features extensive massing and detailing which establishes its unique individual appearance. The name derives from the "keyhole" shape of the windows in the dormers of its corner tower and its red tile roof. All of its details are painted white for vivid contrast with the brick.

1. Heritage Value

Keyhole Castle exemplifies the eclectic and individualism style of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century with its Queen Anne Revival style. This style of architecture is known for its juxtaposition of a variety of stylistic motifs which creates an exuberant whole. The exterior of the brick house makes a distinctive statement on the street with its massing, roofline and detailing. It rests on five

narrow lots providing a spacious yard with mature plantings. A "porte cochere" on the tower side balances the gabled front entrance with one-storey sunroom and gallery on the opposite side. The roof of red Cuban tile is punctuated by a conical tower and several scrolled gables with white trim, keyhole windows and a bracketed cornice. Brick detailing around the openings are complimentary to the patterns of the roof brackets, the columns by the gallery and the balustrades under the lower front windows. The original owner of Keyhole Castle, Samuel McLeod (1853-1929) was a pioneer merchant and businessman in Prince Albert. In 1833, at the age of 30, Samuel McLeod came to Prince Albert from Winnipeg. Originally from Prince Edward Island, McLeod had trained as a cobbler. Coming to Prince Albert, McLeod opened a mercantile store which he ran from 1888 – 1898. In 1898 McLeod sold the store and his share of a lumber business and began a second career in land development, real estate and politics. Samuel McLeod served the City of Prince Albert as an alderman in 1904, 1912, 1915, 1916 and 1917 and later served as Mayor from 1919 to 1920. Samuel McLeod brought in American architect, Erich W. Wojahn, to design Keyhole Castle and personally oversee its construction. Its 1219 square metres (4,000 square feet) include the usual domestic features for a prestigious home of the period, as well as a library, spacious sunroom and gallery, servant's room and a small ballroom set under the steeply pitched roof of the third floor. Luxurious materials such as exotic hardwoods, inlays and marbles are used in the finishing, as well as gold leaf detailing in the dining room, beveled and stained glass, and custom made door and window hardware throughout.

Keyhole Castle is well known to the City of Prince Albert and represents the optimism and vision of the early citizens of the community and of this period.

#### Character Defining Elements

Key elements contributing to the heritage value of Keyhole Castle include:

- Elements that reflect its architecture, including its eclectic Queen Anne revival style that features irregular massing, polygonal tower, steeply-pitched red tile roof, scrolled gables containing 'keyhole' shaped windows, brick façade, decorative non 'keyhole' wood windows;
- Elements that speak to its exterior ornamentation, such as wood and plaster ornamentation, decorative columns and balusters, large overhanging eaves with decorative woodwork, decorative brickwork, flanking gabled features above the sunroom, porte cochere and scrolled gable detailing over the front entrance;
- Interior elements that speak to the buildings prestigious nature, including its front door with beveled glass lights and distinctive scrolled hardware, mahogany paneling in the dining room, built in china cabinet, sliding doors with stained glass opening into the living room, three fireplaces faced with Italian marble, staircase with low balustrades, sweeping handrail and carved newel posts, generous use of stained glass and inlaid wood floors, and the third floor ballroom dome with its Italian gold-leaf chandelier;
- The siting of the house on a mature landscaped lot within an upscale residential neighbourhood.

2. The Director of Economic Development and Planning is hereby authorized to cause a certified copy of this Bylaw to be registered against the property described above in the Land Titles Office for the Prince Albert Land Registration District to be refunded by the owner.

3. The City Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this bylaw to be filed with the City of Prince Albert and a copy of this bylaw to be served on the Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation, and to cause notice of the passing of this Bylaw.
4. The Council hereby delegates approving authority to the Director of Economic Development and Planning for alterations to the interior and exterior of the building and site alterations at 1925 – 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East, in which such alterations, will not result in modification, replacement or repair of the character defining elements stated under this Bylaw. For all proposed alterations the City of Prince Albert will reference the '*Standards and Guidelines for Heritage Conservation in Canada*' in making its decision.

INTRODUCED AND READ A FIRST TIME THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF July, A.D., 2012.

READ A SECOND TIME THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF July, A.D., 2012.

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS 9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF July, A.D., 2012.

MAYOR

CITY CLERK