

Report to/Rapport au :

Built Heritage Sub-Committee  
Sous-comité du patrimoine bâti

and/et

Planning Committee  
Comité de l'urbanisme

and Council / et au Conseil

October 1, 2013  
1 octobre 2013

**Submitted by/Soumis par : Nancy Schepers, Deputy City Manager/Directrice municipale adjointe, Planning and Infrastructure/Urbanisme et Infrastructure**

Contact Person / Personne ressource: *Michael Mizzi, Chief/Chef, Development Review Services / Services d'Examen des projets d'aménagement, Planning and Growth Management/Urbanisme et Gestion de la croissance*  
(613) 580-2424, 15788, *Michael.Mizzi@ottawa.ca*

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RIDEAU-VANIER (12)

Ref N°: ACS2013-PAI-PGM-0205

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**SUBJECT: DESIGNATION OF ST. CHARLES CHURCH, 135 BARRETTE STREET, UNDER PART IV OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT**

**OBJET : DÉSIGNATION DE L'ÉGLISE ST-CHARLES, 135, RUE BARRETTE, EN VERTU DE LA PARTIE IV DE LA *LOI SUR LE PATRIMOINE DE L'ONTARIO***

**REPORT RECOMMENDATION**

That the Built Heritage Sub-Committee recommend that Planning Committee recommend that Council issue a Notice of Intention to designate St. Charles Church, 135 Barrette Street, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* as per the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value presented as Document 5.

**RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT**

Que le Sous-comité du patrimoine bâti recommande au Comité de l'urbanisme de recommander à son tour au Conseil d'émettre un avis d'intention de désigner l'église St-Charles, 135, rue Barrette, en vertu de la partie IV de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, conformément à la Déclaration de valeur sur le plan du patrimoine culturel présentée comme document 5.

## BACKGROUND

St. Charles Church, 135 Barrette Street, is a wooden church, clad in brick with a stone foundation. The church was constructed in 1908 and is an example of the Québec Neoclassical style. The Roman Catholic Church held its last service there in 2010 and was deconsecrated in 2013. In July 2013, the Planning and Growth Management Department received a request from a member of the public to designate the building under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value (see Location Map, Document 1 and Photographs, Document 2).

This report has been prepared because all designations under the *Ontario Heritage Act* require consultation with the Built Heritage Sub-Committee and approval of Council prior to the issuance of a Notice of Intention to Designate.

## DISCUSSION

The Official Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement and the *Ontario Heritage Act* all provide policy direction related to the designation of individual properties under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

### Official Plan

The Official Plan has policies related to heritage in Cultural Heritage Resources, Sections 2.5.5.2 and 2.5.5.5. These policies provide for the identification and designation of individual buildings under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Individual buildings, structures and cultural heritage landscapes are designated as properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

### Provincial Policy Statement

Section 2.6.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement (2005) contains the following policy regarding the protection of cultural heritage resources: “Significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved.”

### Ontario Heritage Act

Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* provides municipalities with the authority to designate properties of cultural heritage value. The Built Heritage Sub-Committee considers the designation and then makes a recommendation to Planning Committee and Council. Council’s decision can be appealed by any member of the public. If an appeal is submitted, a Conservation Review Board hearing is held and its decision referred back to Council for its consideration. The Conservation Review Board decision is not binding on Council.

## Ontario Regulation 09/06

Ontario Regulation 09/06 sets out criteria for designation of property of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The regulation states that a property may be designated under Section 29 of the *Act* if it meets one of three criteria. The criteria are: design or physical value, historical or associative value and contextual value (see Document 3).

St. Charles Church was constructed in 1908 according to plans by Québec architect Charles Brodeur. He designed other buildings in Ottawa, including St. Francis Catholic Church on Wellington Street and St. Charles School on Springfield Road. Father François-Xavier Barrette was appointed Parish Priest of St. Charles Church in 1912 and quickly became a prominent figure in the Vanier community and the Francophone community at large. In 1926, Father Barrette, along with a group of Francophone civil servants, founded an all male secret society called the Order of Jacques Cartier, at St. Charles Church. It was intended to represent and promote the Francophone Catholic interests at a time when Anglo-Protestant culture dominated the public and private sectors in Ottawa. More information about St. Charles Church can be found in the Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form, attached as Document 4.

St. Charles Church meets all three criteria in Ontario Regulation 09/06 for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. It has design value as a good example of the Québec Neoclassical style with its simple, symmetrical composition and classical decoration including the three belfries, symmetrical arrangement of windows and the projecting entrance tower which is flanked by two corner pilasters with small belfries. St. Charles Church meets the criteria for historical or associative value through its association with Father Barrette, the Order of Jacques Cartier and Québec architect Charles Brodeur. Finally, the church has contextual value as an important landmark along Beechwood Avenue that contributes to the distinctive French Canadian character of Vanier (see Document 5, Statement of Cultural Heritage Value).

## Conclusion

The Department recommends the designation of the St. Charles Church, 135 Barrette Street, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* because it meets the criteria under Ontario Regulation 09/06 and its designation satisfies the requirements of the Official Plan, the Provincial Policy Statement and the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The designation of this building will ensure that Vanier's Francophone history is protected.

## RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no rural implications associated with this report.

## CONSULTATION

The Vanier Community Association provided comments in support of the proposed designation. The comments are attached as Document 6.

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Ottawa is aware of the proposed designation but has not provided any formal comments to the City.

#### COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR

Councillor Fleury is aware of the proposed designation.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications.

#### RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications.

#### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications.

#### ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this report.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

#### TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

Information Technology approved this report without comment.

#### TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

HC4 - Improve arts and heritage.

C3 - Provide a vibrant and compelling destination.

#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1 Location Map

Document 2 Photographs

Document 3 Ontario Regulation 09/06

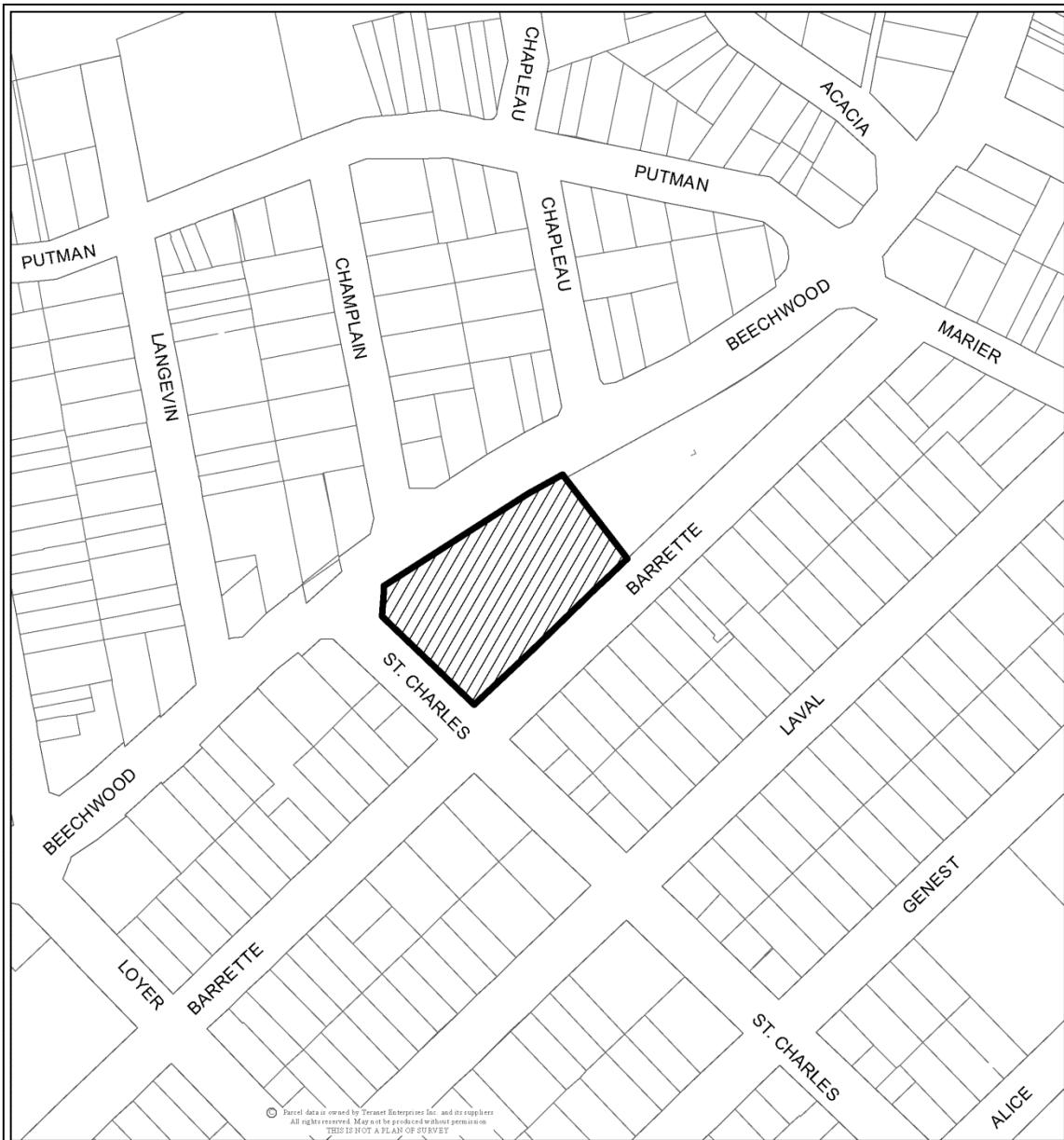
Document 4 Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form

Document 5 Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Document 6 Comments from Vanier Community Association

**DISPOSITION**

City Clerk and Solicitor Department, Legislative Services, to notify the property owner and the Ontario Heritage Trust (10 Adelaide Street East, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1J3) of Council's decision. The Planning and Growth Management Department will organize advertising of the Notice of Intention to Designate according to the requirements of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**LOCATION MAP****DOCUMENT 1**

	
Produced by Infrastructure Services and Community Sustainability Produit par le Services d'infrastructure et Viabilité des collectivités	<b>Location Map / Plan de révision</b>
D09-01-BARR135      13-1583-C	
I\CO\ 2013 \ Heritage \ Barrette135	
2013 / 09 / 20 REVISION DATE / DE RÉVISION	<b>Heritage / Patrimoine</b> <b>135 BARRETTE STREET</b>
	<b>Échelle</b> N.T.S. Mètres   <b>Scale</b> N.T.S. Mètres

**PHOTOGRAPHS****DOCUMENT 2**

**CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST**

**Consolidation Period:** From January 25, 2006 to the [e-Laws currency date](#).

No amendments.

***This is the English version of a bilingual regulation.***

**Criteria**

1. **(1)** The criteria set out in subsection (2) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 29 (1) (a) of the *Act*. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 1 (1).  
**(2)** A property may be designated under section 29 of the *Act* if it meets one or more of the following criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest:
  1. The property has design value or physical value because it,
    - i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method,
    - ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or
    - iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
  2. The property has historical value or associative value because it,
    - i. has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community,
    - ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture, or
    - iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
  3. The property has contextual value because it,
    - i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area,
    - ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings, or
    - iii. is a landmark. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 1 (2).

**Transition**

2. This Regulation does not apply in respect of a property if notice of intention to designate it was given under Subsection 29 (1.1) of the *Act* on or before January 24,

**HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM**

DOCUMENT 4



<u>HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM</u>		<b>Prepared By:</b> Carly Kastner <b>Month/Year:</b> July/August 2013	
Address	135 Barrette Street	Building name	St. Charles Church
Construction date	1908	Original owner	Montfortian Fathers of the Company of Mary
 An exterior photograph of St. Charles Church. The church is a red brick structure with a prominent bell tower featuring a cross at the top. The main entrance is visible, and there are several arched windows. The building is set against a backdrop of a blue sky with scattered white clouds and some bare trees in the foreground.			

**CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE/ INTEREST**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Design Value</b>	X	
<b>Historical Value</b>	X	

<b>Contextual Value</b>	X	
	A property may be designated under Section 29 of the <i>Ontario Heritage Act</i> if it meets one of more of the above criteria. Ontario Regulation 09/06	
<b>Design or Physical Value</b>		
<b>Architecture</b> Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<p>St. Charles Church is an example of the Québec Neoclassical style. Neoclassicism was popular in Canada from 1800 to 1860 but churches continued to be built in this style in Québec and in French-speaking parishes outside of Québec into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In addition to the symmetrical and formal compositions, smooth façades, large apertures and classical decoration of Neoclassicism, it was common for Québec churches to feature a pedimented front with flanking towers and steep gabled roofs as seen in Notre-Dame de Québec in Québec City.</p> <p>St. Charles Church is a wooden church, clad in brick with a stone foundation. It has a simple, formal composition along with classical decoration. The symmetrical fenestration pattern consists of large multi-paned windows with semi-circular arches that break up the cruciform plan. The wooden doors are arranged symmetrically, with one centred in the projecting entrance tower and one flanking either side of the tower. The semi-circular transom windows reflect the rounded windows found on the building. Round windows are found on the north, south and west façades. The verticality of the church is emphasized through the tall windows and the projecting entrance tower which is topped with a wooden belfry. Impressive classical detailing in the belfry includes multiple pediments and keystones in the arched openings. The two tower-like front corner pilasters with small belfries further add to the verticality of the structure and are typical of the Québec Neoclassical style.</p> <p>The church has undergone renovations and additions since its construction; the first major change was the cladding of the original wood church in brick circa 1913. A second early change was the installation of fascia to cover the exposed rafter tails.</p> <p>Most of the architectural changes to the building occurred in the 1960s when it was re-clad in new brick. There were also interior changes to the church at this time as well, reflecting liturgical changes prompted by the Second Vatican Council including the shortening of the chancel and new painted Stations of the Cross. Other, more minor changes include the installation of new entrances, small additions to the north and south façades and finally, a large addition to the rear (east). Nonetheless, these alterations have followed the Neoclassical style and so do not significantly affect the building's architectural integrity.</p>		

<b>Craftsmanship/Artistic merit</b> Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The detailed decoration in the belfry and two small belfries display a high degree of craftsmanship, especially in the pediments and keystones.	
<b>Technical/Scientific merit</b> Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
N/A	
<b>Summary</b>	
St. Charles Church is a good example of Québec Neoclassical church design. It balances a simple symmetrical and formal composition with well-crafted classical details resulting in a simple but elegant building.	
<b>Sources</b>	
<p>“Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms 1784 to the Present.” John Blumenson. 1990. “A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles.” Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland and Jacqueline Hucker. 2004. “Saint-Charles Church: 135 Brette Street.” Circuit Vanier. Museopark Vanier. “Vanier: French Speaking Bastion in Ontario.” Encyclopaedia of French Cultural Heritage in North America. Kenza Benali and Jean-François Parent.</p>	

<b><u>Historical and Associative Value</u></b>	
<b>Date of Construction (Factual)</b>	1908
<b>Historical Associations</b> Does the property have direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity organization or institution that is significant to a community?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>

<p>The congregation of St. Charles was formed in 1908 in response to demands by the local Catholic Community who thought that other Francophone churches in Ottawa, including Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes on Montreal Road (original church destroyed by fire in 1973) and Saint-Anne on Old St. Patrick Street, were too far away. It was built on a wooded lot donated by J.C. Keefer to the Montfortian Fathers of the Company of Mary (who first founded Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes on Montreal Road in 1887). The church is directly associated with Father François-Xavier Barrette, a renowned community member and champion of French culture in Canada. It is also the birthplace of the Order of Jacques-Cartier, a secret society founded by Barrette to safeguard the public interest of Francophone Catholics in Canada.</p> <p>François-Xavier Barrette was born in December 1877 in Sainte-Mélanie, Québec. He was ordained in Ottawa in 1905 and was appointed the Parish Priest of St. Charles in 1912. He quickly became a prominent figure within the parish and the larger Francophone community as he initiated many programs including a social circle, a Scouts program and the Saint-Charles library. In 1955 he founded a company of Zouave soldiers that acted as a symbolic army dedicated to the preservation of Roman Catholic ideals. They served the parish until 1974. Barrette was commended for his active service in his community and church through the renaming of Catherine Street to Barrette in 1948 and in 1954 he was named Monsignor by Pope Pius XII. He died in 1962.</p> <p>On October 22, 1926, Barrette and a small group of Francophone civil servants founded the Order of Jacques-Cartier, known in French as the Commandeurs de l'Ordre de Jacques-Cartier. It was an all-male secret society created to represent Francophone Catholic interests at a time when Anglo-Protestant culture dominated the public and private sectors in Ottawa. The Order trained workers in the private and public sectors to represent and protect Francophone Catholic interests. It also acted as a counter-point to Anglo-Protestant societies like the Freemasons. During the society's peak it became a powerful force in the lives of French Canadians. Some calculations place members in excess of 11,000 in 1960. The dissolution of the society on February 27, 1965 has been attributed to Québec's Quiet Revolution. Various Francophone groups and organizations developed directly from the Order including the Club Richelieu International (a Francophone community service organization), which remain in operation today.</p> <p>The last church service at St. Charles Church was held in September 2010.</p>	
<p><b>Community History</b></p> <p>Does the property yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture?</p>	<p>YES      NO</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/>      <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Vanier has a deeply-rooted French Canadian history which began during the lumber trade era. Ottawa saw significant growth as men looking for work in the lumber trade</p>	

brought their families to the area. For the small village east of the Rideau River now known as Vanier, most of those working-class families were French Canadians and the village soon became one of the largest Francophone areas in Ottawa. The community worked hard to maintain their French cultural heritage and St. Charles Church yields important information regarding the development and the cultivation of French Catholic traditions within the community.

<p><b>Representative Work</b> Does the property demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, building, designer or theorist who is significant to a community?</p>	<span style="margin-right: 20px;">YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></span> <span>NO <input type="checkbox"/></span>
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St. Charles Church was designed by Québec architect Charles Brodeur. Born in St. Hyacinthe in 1871, Brodeur was educated at Mont-Saint-Louis College in Montreal before working with the Montreal firm of Perrault, Mesnard and Venne from 1891-1894. After a partnership with Charles Bernier from 1894 to 1900 Brodeur moved to Hull. He practiced by himself until 1921 when J.E. Pilon joined him. The practice's success allowed them to open a branch in Ottawa in 1923 but Brodeur went back to working alone in Hull in 1930. He continued in this way until his death in December of 1936.

Brodeur designed many religious buildings in Ottawa and West Québec including St. Francis Roman Catholic Church (1914-1915) on Wellington Street, Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes (1907-1910) in Lorrainville, Québec as well as Gracefield's Notre-Dame-de-la-Visitation (1912-1913), Québec. Non-religious buildings include the Hull Fire Hall (1911) and St. Charles School (1926) on Springfield Road.

## Summary

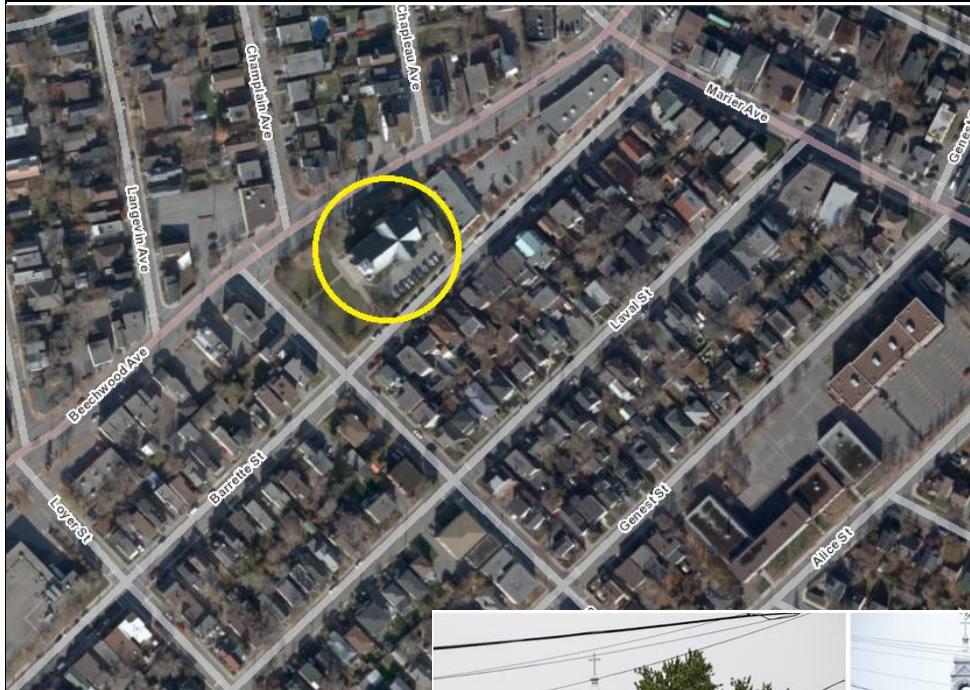
St. Charles Church demonstrates significant historical and associative value due to the property's direct connection to Father Barrette, the Order of Jacques-Cartier and the French Canadian architect Charles Brodeur. The church also yields information about the development of French Canadian culture in the community of Vanier.

## Sources

“Saint-Charles Church: 135 Barette Street.” Circuit Vanier. Museopark Vanier. “Vanier: French Speaking Bastion in Ontario.” Encyclopaedia of French Cultural Heritage in North America. Kenza Benali and Jean-François Parent. “Mural of Father Barette: 186 Beechwood Avenue. Artist: David Yeatman (2001).” Circuit Vanier. Museopark Vanier. “Beechwood.” Official Site of Abstract Artist and International Award Winning Poet Patrick John Mills. “Brodeur, Charles.” Répertoire du patrimoine culturel du Québec. Culture et Communications Québec. “Zouaves.” The Canadian Encyclopedia. René

Hardy. "Charles Brodeur" Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada.

### Contextual Value



Streetscape images (right) from "St. Charles Church: An Argument for Heritage Designation" by Mike Steinhauer. July 21, 2013.



<b>Community Character</b> Is the property important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
St. Charles Church contributes to the distinctive French Canadian character of Vanier as it dates back to the era when Parish Churches served as the centre of their community life. The Church is a highly visible part of the Beechwood Avenue streetscape.		
<b>Context</b> Is the property physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
The property is historically linked to its surroundings through its longstanding position as the centre for religious and cultural development within the predominantly French-speaking community of Vanier.		
<b>Landmark</b> Is the property a landmark?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
St. Charles Church, with its prominent front entrance tower and metal belfry with blue neon cross, is a significant landmark within the streetscape of Beechwood Avenue and the neighbouring areas of Vanier, New Edinburgh and Lindenlea.		
<b>Summary</b>		
St. Charles Church has contextual value through its historical associations as the centre of French-speaking culture in the Parish community, its visual coherence with the El Meson restaurant and its position as a recognizable landmark on Beechwood Avenue.		

**STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE****DOCUMENT 5**

St. Charles Church, 135 Barrette Street

**Description of Property**

St. Charles Church, 135 Barrette Street, constructed in 1908, is a large, brick clad wooden Roman Catholic Church. It is located between Beechwood Avenue and Barrette Street in Ottawa's Vanier neighbourhood.

**Heritage Value**

The cultural heritage value of St. Charles Church lies in it being a good example of the Québec Neoclassical style, its important role in the Francophone Catholic community and in its contextual value as a landmark in Vanier.

Designed by Québec architect Charles Brodeur, St. Charles Church is a good example of the Québec Neoclassical style. Neoclassicism was popular in Canada from 1800 until 1860 but churches continued to be built in this style in Québec and French-speaking Parishes outside of Québec into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Typical of the style, St. Charles Church has a smooth, symmetrical façade and a simple, cruciform plan. It features a symmetrical fenestration pattern, and a projecting entrance tower topped by a wooden belfry and flanked by two tower-like corner pilasters topped with smaller belfries.

St. Charles Church has historical value for its association with the Francophone Catholic community in Ottawa. The congregation was formed in 1908 in response to demands by the local Catholic community who thought that other Francophone churches in Ottawa were too far away from Vanier. In 1912, Father François-Xavier Barrette was appointed Parish Priest and under his guidance, the church quickly became the centre of the Francophone Catholic community in Vanier. In 1926, Barrette and a small group of civil servants formed the Order of Jacques Cartier, an all male secret society intended to protect and promote Francophone Catholic values. It grew rapidly in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is credited with the development of many Francophone organizations including Club Richelieu International, a service club that is still active today. The Order of Jacques Cartier was dissolved in 1965, as a result of the societal changes prompted by the Quiet Revolution.

The location of St. Charles Church along the curve of Beechwood Avenue and its tower topped with a blue, neon cross, make it a prominent local landmark. It has contextual value as it contributes to the distinctive French Canadian identity in the Vanier community.

**Heritage Attributes:**

Those attributes of St. Charles Church that make it a good example of the Québec Neoclassical style including:

- Cruciform plan;

- Symmetrical façade;
- Wooden construction with brick cladding;
- Stone foundation;
- Projecting central tower with flanking corner towers;
- Large wooden belfry topped with a blue neon cross;
- Small wooden belfries flanking the central tower;
- Tall, narrow round arched windows on the north and south façades;
- Round windows above the doors on the west façade and in the gable ends of the transept; and
- Wooden doors with rounded transom windows on west facade.

The interior of the church is excluded from the designation. The recent additions at the rear of the church are also excluded from the designation.

**COMMENTS FROM VANIER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION****DOCUMENT 6**

September 16, 2013

Mathieu Fleury  
City Councillor, Rideau-Vanier  
City of Ottawa

John Moser  
General Manager, Planning and Growth Management  
City of Ottawa

Dear Councilor Fleury and Mr. Moser,

At its September 10 meeting, the Vanier Community Association considered the application that the St. Charles Church, located at 135 Barrette Avenue (facing Beechwood Avenue), be granted Heritage Designation (individual property) status. The Board of Directors unanimously agreed to support that application.

In doing so, the Board considered and found that St. Charles meets all three criteria for such a designation:

- *Design or Physical Value*, in that it was rural church now located within an urban area, making it unique for its style of architecture;
- *Historical or Associative Value*, in that it offers strong historical links to the French Canadian community, yet the land it was built on was donated by an English Protestant, reflecting the true duality of Ottawa at the turn of the 20th century when it was constructed; and
- *Contextual Value*, in the way that the St. Charles Church is recognized in the City's own Beechwood Community Design Plan:

*"St. Charles Church is recognized as the most important landmark building along Beechwood Avenue. The church steeple, with its high silver roof and neon blue cross at night, make it visible from blocks away. To promote its survival as a functioning institutional building, the property should retain a public or institutional designation in the Zoning By-law."*

Beechwood Community Design Plan, City of Ottawa

We hope that the application will receive your support as it proceeds through the heritage designation application process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MBulthuis".

Mike Bulthuis  
President, Vanier Community Association