

**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**

**September 26, 2014**  
**26 septembre 2014**

**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**

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**Ward: SOMERSET (14)**

**File Number: ACS2014-PAI-PGM-0217**

**SUBJECT: Designation of 66 and 78 Lisgar Street under Part IV of the *Ontario  
Heritage Act***

**OBJET: Désignation des 66 et 78, rue Lisgar aux termes 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 for two properties, the Snowdon House, 66 Lisgar Street and the Magee House (HMCS Bytown), 78 Lisgar Street, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* according to the Statements of Cultural Heritage Value included as Documents 5 and 6.**

## RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

**Que le Sous-Comité du patrimoine bâti recommande au Comité de l'urbanisme de recommander à son tour au Conseil de publier un avis d'intention de désigner pour deux propriétés, soit la Maison Snowdon au 66, rue Lisgar et la Maison Magee (HMCS Bytown) au 78, rue Lisgar, aux termes de la partie IV de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, conformément à l'Énoncé de caractère patrimonial, faisant l'objet des documents 5 et 6 ci-joints.**

## BACKGROUND

The Snowdon and Magee Houses are Queen Anne Revival style houses located on the south side of Lisgar Street, east of Cartier Street and across the street from Ottawa City Hall and Lisgar Collegiate Institute (see Document 1). They were built in the 1890s for members of the Magee family, who were prominent in the business, religious and social life of 19<sup>th</sup> century Ottawa (see Photographs, Document 2 and Heritage Survey Forms, Documents 3 and 4). There has been interest in the designation of the properties under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* since 1987 when the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee passed a motion recommending that the buildings be designated. During the preparation of the Centretown Community Design Plan, City staff ensured that the buildings were not included in the adjacent area identified for high-rise apartment buildings with the goal of ultimately recommending them for designation.

The Snowdon House has recently been sold. The purchaser's lawyers are aware of the proposed designation. The Magee House is currently owned by HMCS Bytown and serves as an Officers' Mess. The current president of the Mess is aware of the proposed designation and confirmed that they had no objections to the proposed designation.

## 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, Section 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*.

2.5.5.2 Individual buildings, structures and cultural heritage landscapes will be 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. Section 29 (4) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* sets out the process for designation of individual buildings. It requires that Council consult with its municipal heritage committee and that the official notice served on the owner shall contain a description of the property so that it may easily be ascertained and a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and a description of the heritage attributes of the property. Documents 5 and 6 set out the Statements of Cultural Heritage Value for these buildings.

### Ontario Regulation 09/06

Regulation 09/06 (Document 3) sets out criteria for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. It states that:

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. These criteria are organized into three groups; design or physical value, historical or associative value and contextual value.

The Snowdon and Magee Houses were built in the 1890s when a number of large houses were built for members of the Ottawa elite in the north part of present day Centretown. Most of these houses were built in the Queen Anne Revival style, which was very popular at the time for domestic architecture. Houses of this type are often red brick and feature irregular rooflines, elaborate wooden detailing, a mix of materials and asymmetrical plans. The Snowdon House was constructed first, probably by Charles Magee for his daughter Caroline upon her marriage to Reverend J.M. Snowdon, who continued to live there until 1956. Reverend Snowdon was for years the rector of St. George's Anglican Church at the corner of Metcalfe and Gloucester Streets and was a prominent member of the Anglican clergy in Ottawa. The Magee House, built for Charles Magee in 1895 to the designs of Matthew Sheard, a Toronto architect, is immediately to the west of the Snowdon House. Magee moved there in 1895 from his house at 123 Cooper Street. Mr. Magee was a prominent member of Ottawa's business community with interests in banking and real estate. Both buildings have served the armed forces for many years. The Magee House has been the HMCS Bytown Officers' Mess since its purchase in 1945 from Frederick Magee, the son of Charles, the original owner. The Snowdon House has had a number of functions, from offices to its present role as the headquarters of the Navy League of Canada.

The two buildings meet the Criteria under Regulation 09/06 as they are excellent examples of the Queen Anne Revival style, and are associated with prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century members of Ottawa's elite and, in the case of the Magee House, were designed by a noteworthy architect. For these reasons, the department recommends the buildings for designation.

## **RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no rural implications associated with this report.

## **CONSULTATION**

### Public notification

The Centretown Citizens Community Association was notified of the proposed designation and its comments were:

The Centretown Citizens' Community Association supports the proposed designation of 66 and 78 Lisgar Street.

Heritage Ottawa was notified of this proposed designation and its comments were:

Heritage Ottawa is very pleased to see that these two exceptional buildings are candidates for designation. Both are significant to the City of Ottawa for their historical associations, excellent architectural design, and contextual significance.

### **COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR**

Councillor Holmes concurs with the proposed designation of 66 and 78 Lisgar Street.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no legal impediments to adopting the recommendation outlined in this report.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risk management implications associated with this designation

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications.

### **ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS**

There are no accessibility impacts associated with this report.

### **TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS**

Information Technology and Planning and Growth Management have agreed that for Land Use reports from Development Review Services and Policy Development and Urban Design Branches, there is no technology component.

### **TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

This project addresses the following Term of Council Priority:

NC 4 – Improve arts and heritage.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS TIMELINE STATUS**

There are no timelines associated with designations under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

Document 1 Location Map

Document 2 Photographs

Document 3 Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form, 66 Lisgar Street

Document 4 Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form, 78 Lisgar Street

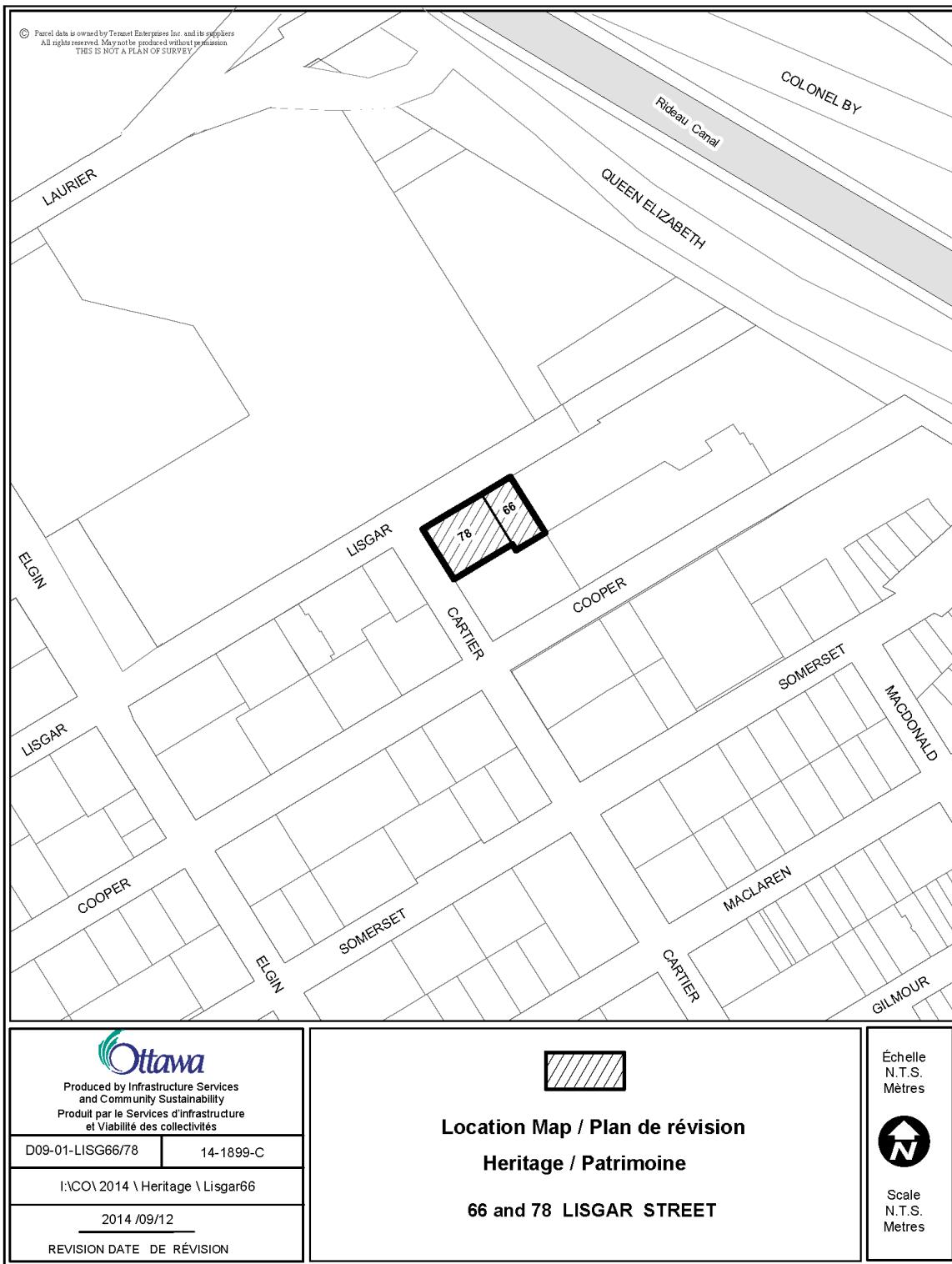
Document 5 Statement of Cultural Heritage Value, 66 Lisgar Street

Document 6 Statement of Cultural Heritage Value, 78 Lisgar Street

**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 to issue a notice of intent to designate 66 and 78 Lisgar Street under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

## Document 1 – Location Map



**Document 2 – Photographs**

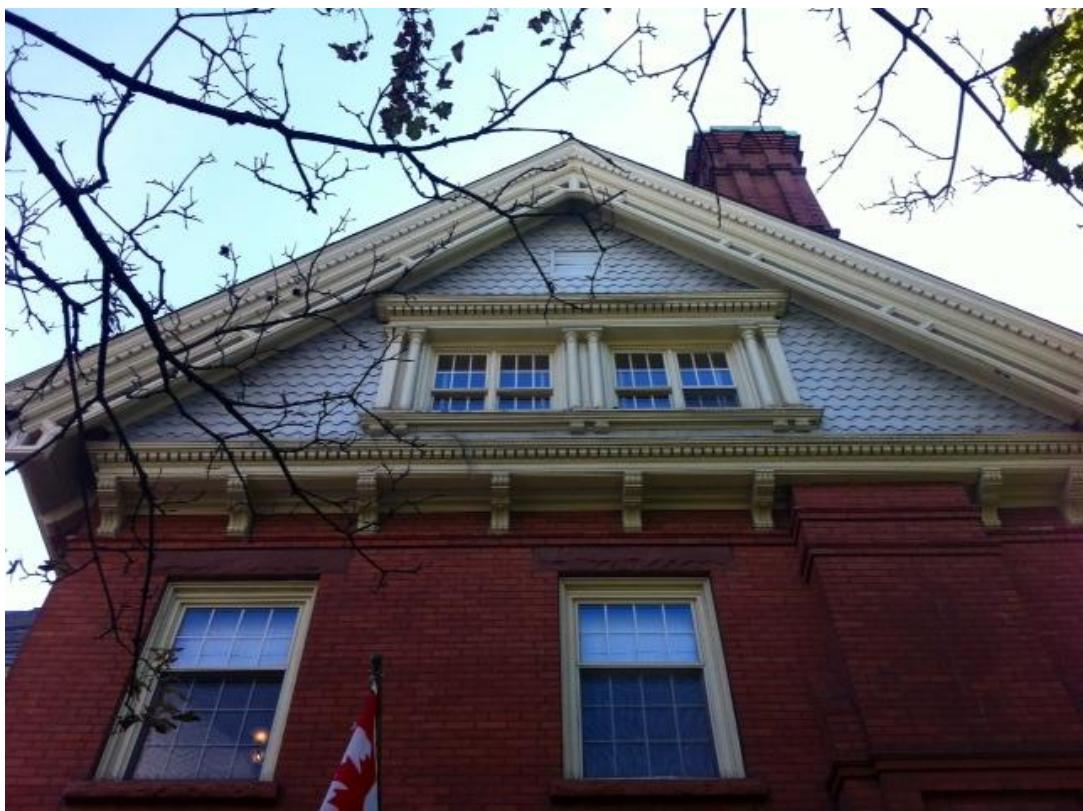
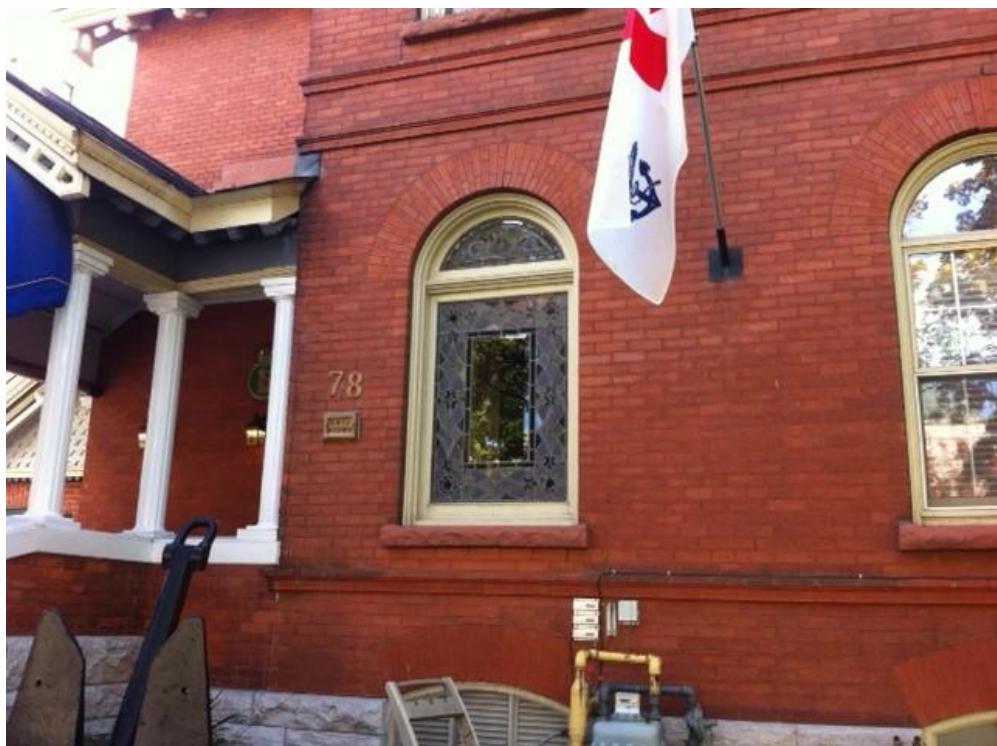
66 Lisgar Street





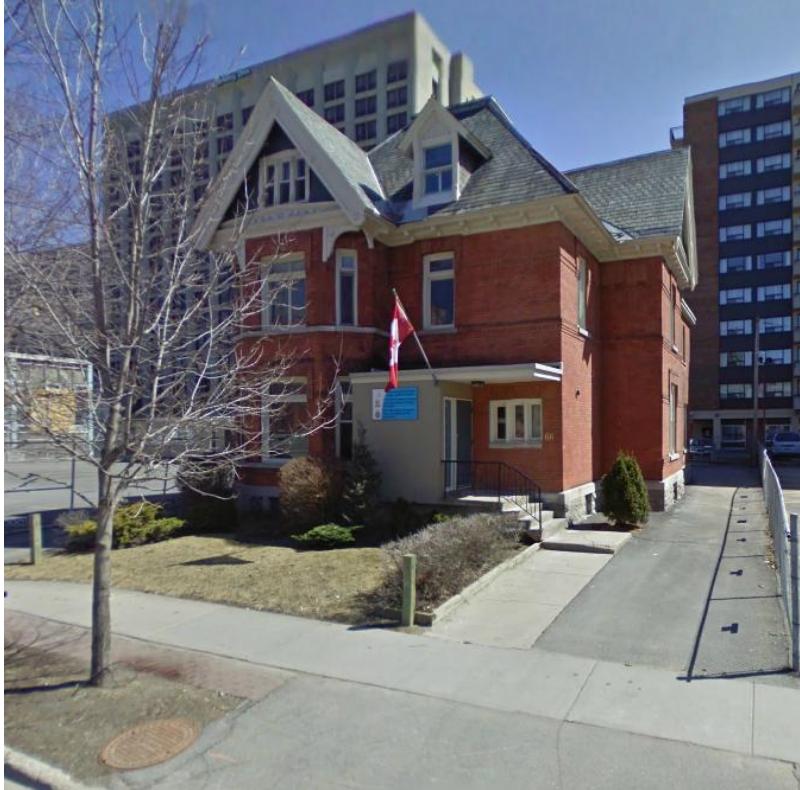
78 Lisgar Street







**Document 3 – Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form**

HERITAGE SURVEY FORM		<b>Prepared By: Blessy Zachariah</b>	
		<b>Month/Year: June 2012</b>	
Address	66 Lisgar Street	Building name	Snowdon House
Construction date	1891	Original owner	From 1891, J.M and Caroline E. Snowdon (née Magee)
 A photograph of a red brick, two-story house with a gabled roof and a prominent front porch. A Canadian flag is flying from a pole in front of the house. The house is surrounded by a lawn and some bare trees. In the background, there are modern high-rise buildings.			

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE/ INTEREST		
	Yes	No
<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 or 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?		YES      NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The Snowdon House is a two-and-a-half-storey structure at 66 Lisgar Street. It currently serves as the National Headquarters of the Air Cadet League of Canada.</p> <p>The building is an example of the Queen Anne Revival style. Its combination of architectural details such as fish-scale slate roofing, irregular roofline with multiple projecting gables and bays, asymmetrical plan, relief brickwork, and elaborate wooden cornices and bargeboards contribute to making this house a good example of late 19<sup>th</sup> century architectural style. It was constructed in 1891 at the time when the Queen Anne Style was very popular.</p> <p>This house features a slate roof, with distinctive fish-scale patterning in courses. The roof rises to a truncated hip with decorative cornice. Large projecting gables distinguish the front and side facades. These gables are richly ornamented with heavy bargeboards. They are, in turn, carved in with dentils with sun-burst cut-outs at regular intervals. These treatments run horizontally above the side brackets of the front bay of the house, and above the cornice work on the side gable.</p> <p>There are heavy ornamental brackets appear under the eaves of the front bay of</p>		

the house to the bottom of the main gable. Additional side brackets carry the weight of the roofline projections backwards to join the main body of the house. A dentilled wooden cornice is supported by horizontal, richly textured bracketing. This extends around the front and side walls. The third floor gable surfaces and the projecting dormer in the front roof line of the house are clad in ornamental dimension-cut wooden shingles in the fish-scale pattern unifying it with the roofing pattern.

The lower two floors of the house are solid brick construction with string courses, one of which extends around the entire building and connects the bottom of the windows on the second floor. Additional courses run near the top of all fenestration, where they bridge the opening in a decorative arch like manner.

The original verandah has been removed and replaced.

<b>Craftsmanship/Artistic merit</b>	Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
The Snowdon House is an excellent example of the Queen Anne style of the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century as expressed in Ottawa.			
<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>			
The Snowdon House is an excellent example of the residences of the privileged from the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century. The house retains a high degree of integrity and the original decorative features have been preserved.			
<b>Sources</b>			
City of Ottawa. <u>Ottawa A Guide to Heritage Structures</u> . LACAC. 2000.			

<b>Historical and Associative Value</b>		
<b>Date of Construction (Factual/Estimated)</b>	1891	
<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	NO
<p>The Snowdon House was probably erected in 1891, the year that Caroline E. Snowdon (née Magee) and her husband, the Reverend J.M. Snowdon, moved in after their marriage. The land had been owned by Magee's father Charles Delamere Magee, and was transferred to them when they married. At the time, Magee lived at 123 Cooper Street, which backed on to the lot adjacent to this one. By 1895, Magee had sold that house and constructed a new house at 78 Lisgar, beside his daughter. Both houses remained in the family for decades. Caroline lived there until her death in 1945, while Snowdon lived there until 1956.</p> <p>Reverend J.M. Snowdon was for many years the rector of St. George's Anglican Church on Metcalfe Street, and hence 66 Lisgar Street served as the Rectory for this church and its Centretown members. Even after retiring from his position of Rector in 1928, he continued his work with the Anglican Church, on a national level. He was a well known orator, noted for his pulpit eloquence he was referred to as "the grand old man amongst the Ottawa clergy" in the popular press. He was also made Archdeacon in 1920.</p> <p>Apart from its use as a private residence, the building has served various other purposes. Along with its neighbouring property, 78 Lisgar Street, it was owned by the HMCS Bytown Mess during the Second World War and was used as accommodations for a short period. Following occupants included a teachers' association and a law firm. It is currently the National Headquarters of the Air Cadet League of Canada.</p>		
<b>Community History</b>  Does the property yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture?	YES	NO

Centretown is generally defined as the area west of the Rideau Canal, north of the Queensway, and east of Bronson Avenue and south of Gloucester Street. It is the surviving community most closely linked with Parliament Hill, whose early residents were associated with Parliament and the civil service. Houses such as 66 Lisgar Street are typical of the type of houses that were built in the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century for members of Ottawa's elite. This building is an excellent example of these houses and is important in understanding the architecture of the era.

#### **Representative Work**

Does the property demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, building, designer or theorist who is significant to a community?

YES      NO  
     

The architect of this building is unknown.

#### **Summary**

The Snowdon House is representative of the type of house built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century by Ottawa's elite in Centretown.

#### **Sources**

National Library and Ottawa City Archives. Ottawa City Directories.

Morgan. Canadian Men and Women of the time. 1898.

Building File. City of Ottawa.

## Contextual Value



Bird's eye view of neighbouring context (Google, 2012)

### Community Character

Is the property important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area?

YES  NO

The Snowdon House is located on Lisgar Street in Centretown and is flanked to the south by a number of hotel towers of newer construction. On the north side there are numerous older buildings including Lisgar Collegiate Institute and the Ottawa Normal School, now known as the heritage wing of the City Hall. The historic Rideau Canal is also within 200 metres of the Snowdon House.

The Magee House, now the Bytown Officer's Mess was located adjacent to this house and owned by Caroline Snowdon's (nee Magee) father, Charles Magee.

### Context

Is the property physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings?

YES  NO

The character of the north end of Centretown has changed significantly since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Today, the houses that remain from the era remain are interspersed with concrete towers from the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. As one of two Queen Anne Revival houses built in the 1890s for members of the same family,

this house has retained some of its context on the block. Much of the other residential fabric has disappeared, however, important late 19<sup>th</sup>, early 20<sup>th</sup> century institutional buildings such as Lisgar Collegiate, the former Normal School and Knox Presbyterian Church remain.

**Landmark**

Is the property a landmark?

YES      NO

The Snowdon house is located on a dead-end street and has little landmark value.

**Summary**

The Snowdon House is a significant historic building in Centretown. Its location next to numerous historic buildings and architecturally similar houses from the same time period assists in understanding its historic context.

**Document 4 – Heritage Survey and Evaluation Form**

HERITAGE SURVEY FORM		<b>Prepared By: Blessy Zachariah</b>	
		<b>Month/Year: June 2012</b>	
Address	78 Lisgar Street	Building name	Magee House
Construction date	1896	Original owner	Charles Magee

  
A photograph of the Magee House, a two-story red brick building with a gabled roof and arched windows. The building is surrounded by bare trees and a black metal fence. A yellow 'NO EXIT' sign is visible on the left, and a street sign for 'Lisgar St.' is on the right. The sky is clear and blue.

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE/ INTEREST		
	Yes	No
<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> <p>Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method?</p>		YES      NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The Magee House is a two-and-a-half-storey red brick house that has served as the Naval Officer's Mess since 1943.</p> <p>It is an excellent and imposing example of the Queen Anne Revival Style. Its combination of architectural details such as the irregular roofline with multiple projecting gables and bays, asymmetrical plan, relief brickwork, and elaborate wooden cornices and bargeboards make this house a good example of late 19<sup>th</sup> century architectural style. It also has a high cross-gabled roof and shingled gable ends. The roof is further distinguished by two decorative chimneys. It was constructed in 1896 at the time when the Queen Anne Style was very popular.</p> <p>The front facade features paired windows in the gable end above a secondary cornice with brackets. Windows on this facade are a mixture of flat-topped and round-arched with transoms. The windows have sandstone sills and brick voussoirs.</p> <p>The west facade, which faces Cartier Street, is treated as a primary facade because of the building's corner location. It is distinguished by a two-storey bay window that ends in a pedimented gable with double gable ends with decorative barge board. The windows on this facade are also varied featuring round-arch</p>		

windows on the ground floor with rectangular windows above.

The rear and east facades are simpler in design and execution, although the bracketed eaves and barge board are continues on each facade.

<b>Craftsmanship/Artistic merit</b>	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit?		
The Magee House is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne Revival style of the late 19th century.		
<b>Technical/Scientific merit</b>	YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?		
N/A		
<b>Summary</b>		
The Magee House is an outstanding example of the Queen Anne Revival style. The house retains a high degree of integrity and many of its original decorative features have been preserved. It has been well maintained and retains much of the original interior detailing. Despite minor alterations such as the enclosing of the original open porch in 1968 to form a vestibule and the addition of the one storey garage on the front west side, the house maintains a high degree of integrity and retains the original character.		
<b>Sources</b>		
City of Ottawa. Ottawa A Guide to Heritage Structures. LACAC. 2000.		

<b>Historical and Associative Value</b>		
<b>Date of Construction (Factual/Estimated)</b>	1896	
<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>This building has strong historical significance as it was the residence of Charles Magee, one of Ottawa's leading businessmen of the time, from 1896 till his death in 1918. Magee was born in 1840 in the township of Nepean and started out with a dry goods business in the 1860s, but left the business in 1871 when he became the administrator of the Sparks Estate. In 1876, he formed the Freehold Association of Ottawa, a partnership with Robert Blackburn and James Maclaren, which subsequently purchased all the vacant lands of the By Estate in Ottawa. The Association then transformed their lands in Sandy Hill and elsewhere into a residential area for the wealthy.</p> <p>He was also the president of the Bank of Ottawa, the Ottawa Conservative Association, a city councillor for a year and the first president of the Central Canada Exhibition Association from 1888 until 1892.</p> <p>In 1918, Charles's son, Frederick Magee, moved in, residing there until his death in 1942. In 1943, steps were taken by Captain H.G. DeWolf, RCN, to establish a Mess for officers serving at Naval Service Headquarters, Ottawa. The 78 Lisgar Street property was purchased and has, ever since, been used by the HMCS Bytown Officers' Mess as a private club.</p>		
<b>Community History</b>  Does the property yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Centretown is generally defined as the area west of the Rideau Canal, north of the Queensway, and east of Bronson Avenue and south of Gloucester Street. It is the surviving community most closely linked with Parliament Hill, whose early residents formed the base of Parliament and the civil service. It is Ottawa's first suburb and being a favoured place to build expansive residences, numerous former Prime Ministers, members of Parliament and civil servants have made</p>		

their home in it. Houses such as 78 Lisgar Street are typical of the type of houses that were built in the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century for members of Ottawa's elite. This building is one of the few surviving examples and is important in understanding the architecture of the era. Magee's original house, which he sold in 1896 when he created a new lot and built at 78 Lisgar Street, was much larger and located directly to the south at 123 Cooper Street.

<b>Representative Work</b>	YES      NO
Does the property demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, building, designer or theorist who is significant to a community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
The architect for this property was Matthew Sheard who practised in the second half of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century in Toronto and Ottawa. Sheard also designed the Russell Hotel, an Ottawa landmark for many years.	
<b>Summary</b>	
The Magee House is representative of the kind of accommodation built for and resided in by the elite of the late 19 <sup>th</sup> century society.	
<b>Sources</b>	
Wallace. Dictionary of Canadian Biography L-Z. Macmillan of Toronto. 1945.	
Morgan. Canadian Men and Women of the time. 1898.	
City of Ottawa. Ottawa A Guide to Heritage Structures. LACAC. 2000.	
Robert G. Hill. Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada 1800-1950. 2009	
Building File. City of Ottawa.	
NPP. CFSU General Information. 2006	

## Contextual Value



Bird's eye view of neighbouring context (Google, 2012)

Community Character	YES	NO
Is the property important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>The Magee House is prominently located at the corner of Lisgar and Cartier Streets in Centretown and is flanked to the south by a number of hotel towers of newer construction. On the north side there are numerous older buildings including Lisgar Collegiate Institute and the Ottawa Normal School, now known as the heritage wing of the City Hall. The historic Rideau Canal is also within two hundred metres of The Magee House.</p> <p>The Magee House, now the Bytown Officer's Mess was located adjacent to this house and owned by Caroline Snowdon's (nee Magee) father, Charles Magee.</p>		
Context	YES	NO
Is the property physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>The character of the north end of Centretown has changed significantly since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Today, only three houses from the era remain; Magee House, 78 Lisgar Street, the Snowdon House, 66 Lisgar Street, and 112 Lisgar Street, near Elgin Street. Although most of the residential fabric has disappeared,</p>		

important late 19<sup>th</sup>, early 20<sup>th</sup> century institutional buildings such as Lisgar Collegiate, the former Normal School and Knox Presbyterian Church remain. It is one of a pair of Queen Anne Revival houses built for members of the Magee family.

<b>Landmark</b>  Is the property a landmark?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO <input type="checkbox"/>
The Magee House is a landmark because of its critical location at the intersection of Lisgar and Cartier Streets. Even amongst the taller buildings, it stands apart in an imposing and distinctive manner.		
<b>Summary</b>  The Magee House stands as a significant historic building of Centretown. As well being one of the few remaining residences from the era, it is also one of the grandest. Its location next to numerous historic buildings and architecturally similar houses assists in understanding its historic context.		

## **Document 5 – Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

### **Snowdon House, 66 Lisgar Street, Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

#### **Description of property**

The Snowdon House is a two-and-a-half-storey red brick structure built in 1891 and located at the north end of the Centretown neighbourhood.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The Snowdon House's cultural heritage value lies in its being an excellent example of the Queen Anne Revival style popular at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and frequently used for the houses of the wealthy. Typical of the Queen Anne Revival, the building features an elaborate slate roof, an irregular plan with projecting bays, a truncated hipped roof, and a rich profusion of wooden details including carved bracketed bargeboards, shingles in the gable end, and a dentilled cornice. It is one of a pair of Queen Anne Revival houses on Lisgar Street (66 and 78) owned by members of the Magee family.

The Snowdon House also has cultural heritage value as one of an enclave of houses in this part of Centretown constructed for members of Ottawa's elite. In 1891, upon their marriage, the Reverend J.M Snowdon and his wife Caroline moved into the house, the ownership of which was transferred from her father. The house remained in their family ownership until Reverend Snowdon's death in 1956. Snowdon was the long-time rector of St. George's Anglican Church on Metcalfe Street and a prominent member of the Anglican church of Canada. He became an archdeacon in 1920 and remained involved in the church after he retired. The house has had a number of functions since 1956 including offices and the headquarters of the Navy League of Canada.

#### **Heritage attributes**

Key elements of the Snowdon House that embody it as an excellent example of the Queen Anne Revival style include its:

- Red brick construction
- Slate roof laid in a fish-scale pattern
- Rich palette of materials including decorative red brick, wooden shingles in the gable end, carved bracketed bargeboard
- Truncated hipped roof with gables and dormers

- Brick stringcourses
- Carved bargeboards with brackets
- Wooden cornice with dentils
- Two storey, west facing gabled bay with wooden trim and decorative bargeboard
- Variety of different windows, some with decorative glass in the transoms

#### Interior

- The front entrance hall with its carved oak ceiling, staircase, doorframes and baseboards and the mantel in the room to the east of the hall

The flat roofed addition to the rear (south) of the building and the front entrance are not included in this designation.

## **Document 6 – Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

Magee House, also known as HMCS Bytown Wardroom, 78 Lisgar Street, Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

### Description of property

The Magee House is a large two-and-a-half-storey red brick structure built in 1895 and located at the north end of the Centretown neighbourhood.

### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or interest

The Magee House's cultural heritage value lies in its being an excellent example of the Queen Anne Revival style popular at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and frequently used for the houses of the wealthy. It was designed by Toronto architect Mathew Sheard and, typical of the Queen Anne Revival, features an irregular plan with a cross gable roof, projecting bays, and a rich profusion of wooden details including carved bracketed bargeboards, shingles in the gable end, and a dentilled cornice. The building also features a rich assortment of window types, a two storey gabled bay with decorative bargeboard, and two chimneys with brick details that are repeated in the string courses. It is one of a pair of Queen Anne Revival houses on Lisgar Street (66 and 78) owned by members of the Magee family.

The Magee House's cultural heritage value also lies in its association with Charles Magee, a prominent Ottawa businessman. Magee was born in Ottawa in 1840 and started his career in the dry goods business. In 1871 he became the sole trustee of the Sparks Estate, and eventually became a large landholder, selling his lots as the city developed. He founded the Bank of Ottawa and served as a city councillor and as a member of many boards. Magee moved to this house after creating a lot from a previous house directly to the south and building a new house on it, adjacent to his daughter's house next door at 66 Lisgar Street.

The Magee House also has cultural heritage value as HMCS Bytown, the naval officers' Mess since 1943 when it was purchased from Frederick Magee, Charles's son.

### Heritage attributes

Key elements of the Snowdon House that embody it as an excellent example of the Queen Anne Revival style include its:

- Red brick construction

- Rich palette of materials including decorative red brick, wooden shingles in the gable end, carved bracketed bargeboard
- Chimneys with brick detail
- High cross-gables roof and roofline
- Shingled gable ends
- Corbelled cornice with brackets and dentils
- Wooden bargeboard trim in the gable ends
- Rich variety of windows including round and square headed windows with brick voussoirs
- Decorative glass transom windows, round arched windows
- Two storey, west facing gabled bay with wooden trim and decorative bargeboard
- Paired sash windows with classical cornice, separated by pairs of engaged columns in the north gable end
- Rough cut stone foundation

#### Interior

- Its entrance vestibule and hall with carved wooden details, its central staircase and the reception rooms to the right (west) of the hall