

Regional Council
November 14, 2023

HALIFAX

H00563 – 6484 - 6484 1/2 Jubilee Road

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

Location



6484 - 6484 ½ Jubilee Road (June 22, 2023)



Location



Registration Evaluation Criteria

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: [a] Construction Type <u>and</u> [b] Style	20
5. Architectural Integrity	15
6. Relationship to Surrounding Area	10
Total	100

1. Age



The subject dwelling, referred to as “Red Gables”, in 1921, from the diaries of Harry I. Mathers

- Harry Isaac Mathers I purchased two adjacent lots from John M. Geldert in 1919 and 1920
- He commissioned architect Allison Graham Creighton and carpenter and contractor St. Clair Alexander Hiltz
- The historic building permit for the dwelling was issued in May of 1920
- His diaries indicate he moved from 39 Chestnut Street to 250 Jubilee Road on **February 24, 1921**

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2a. Historical Importance *[Historical Relationships]*



Isaac Henry Mathers,
founder of I.H. Mathers
Ltd.



I.H. Mathers Ltd.
present day logo with
original company flag

I. H. Mathers Ltd. Shipping Agents

- Founded by Isaac Henry Mathers (b.1845 - d.1932), an immigrant from Newry, Northern Ireland, who came to Halifax with his wife, Kathleen, and son, Harry, and established a shipping agents in 1872
- The firm is active today as a shipping logistics firm and is still led by the Mathers family

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2a. Historical Importance *[Historical Relationships]*



Photograph of Harry I. Mathers I in his office, c.1925

Harry Isaac Mathers I (1870-1945)

- Joined his father's firm in 1890 and took over as President in 1906
- Expanded into exports of lumber, pulp, salt, & canned lobster, plus imports from the Caribbean
- Operated mills and factories across Nova Scotia
- Served as Russian, Danish, and Norwegian consul and received two knighthoods
- Commissioned the subject dwelling, which he named "The Red Gables", and resided there from 1921 until his death in 1945

2a. Historical Importance *[Historical Relationships]*



Photograph of Harry I. Mathers II in his office

Harry Isaac Mathers II (1915-1980)

- Harry Isaac Mathers I died in 1945, and the role of President of I.H. Mathers & Son Ltd. passed to his son Harry Isaac Mathers II
- He acquired 84 freighter vessels after WWII, the largest freight fleet in Canada
- He expanded operations into shipbuilding, stevedoring, and marine insurance
- Harry Isaac Mathers II died in 1980 and the role of President passed to his son Harry Isaac Mathers III

3. Significance of Architect / Builder

- Architect: Allison Graham Creighton
- Resided at the Evergreen Estate [now the Dartmouth Heritage Museum]



Photo of Allison Graham Creighton



Park School, Dartmouth, NS



Knights of Columbus Hall, Prince Albert, SK

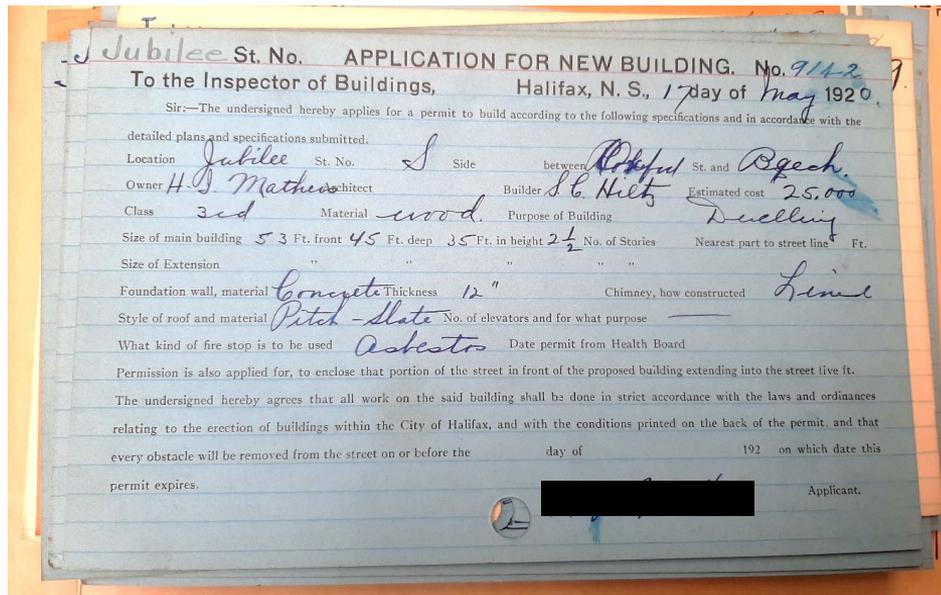


Sacred Heart R.C., Prince Albert, SK



Lyman Memorial H.S., Lebanon, CT

3. Significance of Architect / Builder



Original building permit for the subject dwelling, showing St. Clair Alexander Hiltz as the builder

- Builder: St. Clair Alexander Hiltz
- Resided at 5731-33 McCully Street [formerly 13 McCully Street]



Former residence of St. Clair Hiltz and family

4a. Architectural Merit [*Construction Type*]



Above: Close-up of faux half-timbering on the front elevation

- Balloon-frame construction
- Built atop an early poured concrete foundation
- Stucco and wood faux half-timbering, rare in Nova Scotia

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4b. Architectural Merit *[Style]*



Character-defining elements are as listed in the Staff Report, but most notably include:

- Tudor-revival style with steeply pitched roof and intersecting gables
- Stucco and wood faux half-timbering
- Windows with many small panes
- Prominent chimneys and gabled dormers
- Unique rear bay window, second-storey balcony, and flanking sunrooms

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5. Architectural Integrity

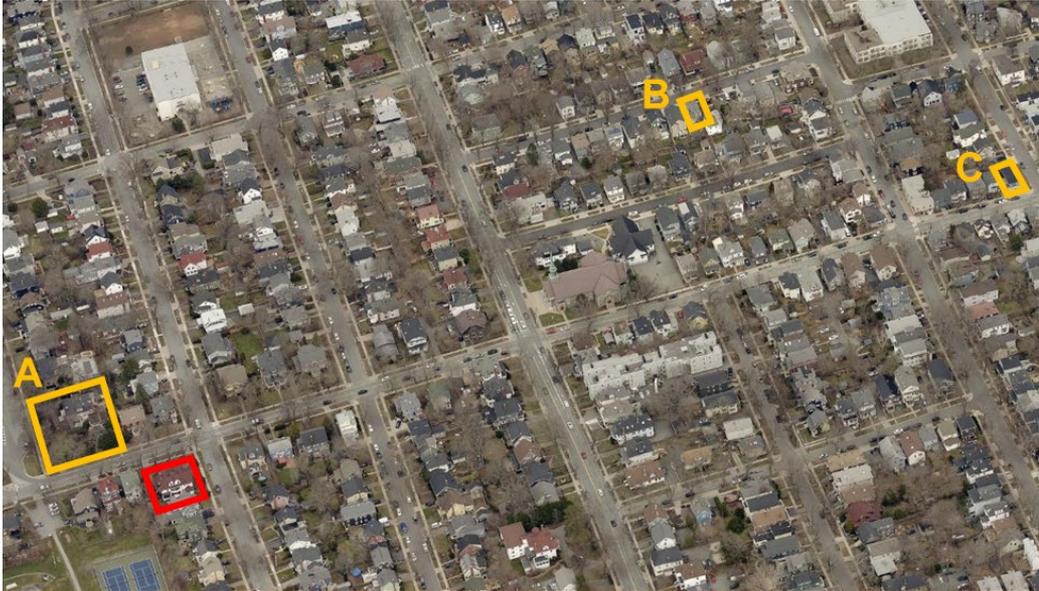


Photo of the subject dwelling, referred to as “Red Gables”, in 1921, from the diaries of Harry I. Mathers

- Rectangular layout is unchanged and nearly all original character defining elements remain intact
- Two notable changes:
 - Original slate roof, as specified in the building permit, has been replaced with asphalt shingles (or possibly was never slate at all)
 - Flanking porches have been enclosed as sunrooms (the sunrooms are Standard 2 character-defining elements)

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6. Relationship to Surrounding Area



Aerial of Jubilee Road showing the subject property [red] and registered heritage properties [yellow]

- Part of the John M. Geldert lands
- Built during a period of expansion westward
- Proximity to other registered heritage properties

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6. Relationship to Surrounding Area



Registered heritage property, Senator William Dennis House [1884], situated diagonally opposite 6484 Jubilee Road



Surrounding contributing [unregistered] heritage opposite 6484 Jubilee Road

- Complements the surrounding registered and contributing [unregistered] heritage buildings on Jubilee Road
- Stands out for its uncommon and exemplary Tudor-revival style and its corner placement

Registration Evaluation Criteria

Criterion	Score Awarded
1. Age	5
2. Historical or Architectural Importance	15
3. Significance of Architect / Builder	9
4a. Architectural Merit: Construction Type	6
4b. Architectural Merit: Style	10
5. Architectural Integrity	15
6. Relationship to Surrounding Area	10
Total	70

Recommendation

That Halifax Regional Council approve the request to include 6484 - 6484 ½ Jubilee Road, Halifax in the Registry of Heritage Property for the Halifax Regional Municipality, as shown on Map 1 of the July 20, 2023 staff report, as a municipal heritage property under the Heritage Property Act.

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Thank You