



December 11, 2018

Christine Boulware
Department of Planning & Economic Development
City of Saint Paul
25 West Fourth Street, Ste. 1400
Saint Paul MN 55102

Re: Local designation of St. Andrew's Church, 1031-1051 Como Avenue, SHPO File Number 2019-0487

Dear Ms. Boulware,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced designation and preservation program. It has been reviewed pursuant to Minnesota Statutes §471.193, subd. 5., and 73.05 (4) of Saint Paul's Legislative Code.

Constructed in 1927, St. Andrew's Church is a large brick and limestone edifice that utilizes Flemish, American, basket weave, and herringbone brick bonds in a polychromatic finish with different colored brick, stone, and multi-colored tiles. Stylistically, the church evokes Romanesque Revival elements highlighted by the use of a semi-circular arch for window and door openings; arches used decoratively to enrich a blind arcade in the upper gable, and a façade flanked by engaged towers capped by octagonal turrets with multi-colored tile roofs. Behind the church is a two-story school dating from 1957; a 2014 addition connects the school to the north wall of the church.

St. Andrew's Church is significant for its association with Charles Hausler, the well-known architect who in 1914 was appointed as city architect for the City of St. Paul. Hausler designed numerous ecclesiastical, municipal, educational, and commercial buildings in St. Paul and the region. St. Andrew's is also architecturally significant at the local level as a distinctive and well-conserved example of the Romanesque Revival style. Finally, the church gains additional significance for its long association with the Hungarian immigrant community located in the Como neighborhood of St. Paul. We concur that St. Andrew's Church is an ideal candidate for local designation.

The proposed preservation program for St. Andrew's Church will help establish a desired and consistent level of quality and aesthetics for the character-defining features of the historic building. These guidelines will assist current and future owners of the property as well as the Heritage Preservation Commission to plan for and evaluate proposed exterior alterations, new construction, and demolition adjacent to the building, and any other changes that may impact the integrity of the building.

If you have any questions regarding our assessment of this property, please contact me at 651.201.3291 or michael.koop@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Koop". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michael" and the last name "Koop" clearly legible.

Michael Koop
State Historic Preservation Office

cc: Michael Justin, Chair, Saint Paul HPC