

Document 6 - Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Description of Property – 156 Rideau Street (152, 156-158 and 160 Rideau Street)

The property located at 156 Rideau Street includes three buildings with street addresses of 152, 156-158 and 160 Rideau Street. The property is located on the south side of Rideau Street, near the intersection of Rideau Street and Dalhousie Street.

The building at 152 Rideau Street is a mixed-use, three-storey building constructed circa 1898 and the building at 156-158 Rideau Street is a mixed-use, two-storey building constructed circa 1918.

The building at 160 Rideau Street is a more recent building and has no cultural heritage value. It is excluded from the designation.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

152 Rideau Street

Constructed circa 1898, the building at 152 Rideau Street has design value as a good example of the Romanesque Revival style commercial building on a main street in Ottawa. The Romanesque Revival style was popular in Canada from the 1840s to the early 1900s. The style was frequently used in civic, commercial, institutional, and religious buildings. The building at 152 Rideau Street features typical elements of the Romanesque Revival style including its heavy massing, decorative carved detailing, and arched window openings. The property at 152 Rideau Street has design value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship for a commercial property on Rideau Street. This is demonstrated through the building's decorative carved foliage and face motifs and carved stonework. There are few examples of a commercial building with this level of craftsmanship on Rideau Street, making it unique on its streetscape.

The building at 152 Rideau Street has contextual value as it is important in supporting and maintaining the character of Rideau Street— which has functioned as a commercial main street in Ottawa since the nineteenth century. Throughout the twentieth century, most of Rideau Street between Sussex Drive and Cumberland Street was characterized by commercial and mixed-use buildings with a variety of tenants. The building at 152 Rideau Street housed several typical main street businesses, including its original tenants, the Bate & Co. wholesale grocery store. Today, the 152 Rideau Street continues to reflect Rideau Street's history as a commercial main street in Ottawa.

The building at 152 Rideau Street is historically, functionally, and visually linked to the surrounding commercial area. This building, together with others nearby

including 149 and 156-158 Rideau Street, have historically functioned as part of the Rideau Street commercial corridor in Lowertown since their construction in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These buildings are visually linked to each other in terms of form, massing, cladding, and type, with common features such as flat roofs, brick facades, and commercial storefronts at grade. Today, this building retains its original purpose, continuing to support retail and commercial activity on one of Ottawa's historic main streets.

156-158 Rideau Street

The building at 156-158 Rideau Street is a representative example of an early 20th century commercial building with elements of the Art Deco style on a main street in Ottawa. The building has typical characteristics of an early 20th century commercial building, including its two-storey massing, flat roof, and brick cladding. The building at 156-158 Rideau Street also exhibits some elements of the Art Deco style through geometric and linear decorative detailing, and its colourful brick. The Art Deco style came to Canada after World War I and was a popular choice for commercial buildings throughout the early to mid-twentieth century.

The building at 156-158 Rideau Street has contextual value as it is important in supporting and maintaining the character of Rideau Street—which has functioned as a commercial main street in Ottawa since the nineteenth century. Throughout the twentieth century, most of Rideau Street between Sussex Drive and Cumberland Street was occupied by commercial and mixed-use spaces. The building at 156-158 Rideau Street housed several typical main street businesses, including a dance hall, a men's dry good store, and a furniture store. Today, the building at 156-158 Rideau Street continues to reflect Rideau Street's history as a commercial main street in Ottawa.

The building at 156-158 Rideau Street is historically, functionally, and visually linked to the surrounding commercial area. This building, together with others nearby like 149 and 152 Rideau Street, have historically functioned as part of a commercial corridor in Lowertown since their construction in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. These buildings are visually linked to each other in terms of form, massing, cladding, and type, with common features such as flat roofs, brick façades, and commercial space at grade. Today, this building continues to support retail and commercial activity on one of Ottawa's historic main streets.

Description of Heritage Attributes

152 Rideau Street

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of 152 Rideau Street as a good example of the Romanesque Revival style include:

- Three-storey massing
- Brick-cladding with carved stone accents
- Flat roof
- Presence of a ground level storefront with display windows
- Symmetrical second and third storey
- Second storey featuring:
 - Three arched window openings capped with decorative arched brick surrounds, divided by brick pilasters topped with ornate capitals with relief carving
- Four large window openings with scalloped edges topped with carved stone lintels on the third storey
- Dentilled string course
- Repetitive carved stone medallions between the second and third storeys

Key attributes that demonstrate 152 Rideau Street's contextual value are:

- The property's location on Rideau Street

156-158 Rideau Street

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the cultural heritage value of 156-158 Rideau Street as a representative example of an early 20th century commercial building with Art Deco elements include:

- Two-storey massing
- Dichromatic brown brick cladding
- Flat roof
- Presence of a ground level storefront with display windows
- A symmetrical second storey with:
 - Evenly spaced segmentally-arched window openings topped with rows of decorative brickwork
 - Brick pier buttresses between window openings with stone caps

- Arched parapets in the end bays with decorative diamond shaped stone medallions

Key attributes that demonstrate 156-158 Rideau Street's contextual value are:

- The property's location on Rideau Street

This designation only pertains to the historic buildings on the property at 152 and 156-158 Rideau Street and excludes the building at 160 Rideau Street on the corner of Dalhousie and Rideau Streets. The designation also excludes the interior of all buildings.