Subject: Designation of Cherry House, at 257 Clarence Street, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*

File Number: ACS2024-PDB-RHU-0058

Report to Built Heritage Committee on 9 July 2024

and Council 10 July 2024

Submitted on June 26, 2024 by Court Curry, Manager, Right of Way, Heritage, and Urban Design Services, Planning, Development and Building Services Department

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Ward: Rideau-Vanier (12)

Objet: Désignation de la maison Cherry, située au 257, rue Clarence, en vertu de la partie IV de la Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario

Dossier: ACS2024-PDB-RHU-0058

Rapport au Comité du patrimoine bâti

le 9 juillet 2024

et au Conseil le 10 juillet 2024

Soumis le 26 juin 2024 par Court Curry, Gestionnaire, Services des emprises, du patrimoine, et du design urbain, Direction générale des services de la planification, de l'aménagement et du bâtiment

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Quartier : Rideau-Vanier (12)

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Built Heritage Committee recommend that Council:

- 1. Issue a Notice of Intention to Designate 257 Clarence Street, the Cherry House, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* according to the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value attached as Document 4.
- 2. Suspend the notice required under Subsections 29(3) and 34(1) of the Procedure By-law to consider this report at the July 10, 2024, Council meeting in order to complete the legislative process associated with this report within a timely manner.

RECOMMANDATION(S) DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité du patrimoine bâti recommande ce qui suit au Conseil:

- 1. Publier un avis d'intention de désigner le 257, rue Clarence, un bien-fonds occupé par la maison Cherry, en vertu de la partie IV de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, conformément à la déclaration de la valeur sur le plan du patrimoine culturel faisant l'objet du document 4 ci-joint.
- Suspendre l'obligation d'avis prévue aux paragraphes 29(3) et 34(1) du Règlement de procédure afin d'examiner ce rapport lors de sa réunion prévue le 10 juillet 2024 et ainsi de mener à terme, dans les délais prescrits, le processus législatif associé à ce rapport.

BACKGROUND

This report has been prepared because designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* (OHA) must be approved by City Council.

257 Clarence Street, known as Cherry House, is a detached two-and-a-half storey front gable brick house in Lowertown East. It is a vernacular building with Classical Revival influences. The property is located on the northwest corner of Clarence Street east of King Edward Avenue. The property has cultural heritage value for its design, associative, and contextual values. It meets four of the nine criteria for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The property is listed on the municipal Heritage Register. The property owner submitted a request to designate the property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* on June 29, 2021. Through Heritage staff review of the Register in Spring 2023 as a result of Bill 23, this property was identified as a potential candidate for designation. Changes to the *Ontario Heritage Act* through Bill 200 will result in the removal of this property from the

City's Heritage Register if Council does not issue a Notice of Intention to Designate this property by January 1, 2027. Further, Council would not be able to re-list the property for five years after this date.

DISCUSSION

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

Official Plan

The Official Plan has policies related to cultural heritage in Section 4.5, Cultural Heritage and Archaeology. Section 4.5.1(3) states: "Individual buildings, structures, and sites shall be designated as properties of cultural heritage value under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act.*"

Provincial Policy Statement (2020)

Section 2.6.1 of the Provincial Policy Statement (2020) 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 of the *OHA* sets out the process for the designation of individual buildings. It requires:

- that Council consult with its municipal heritage committee; and
- that the official Notice of Intention to Designate served on the owner and the Ontario Heritage Trust contain a description of the property and its heritage attributes, as well as a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and a statement that a notice of objection may be served on the clerk within 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention in a newspaper.

Per the "Ontario Heritage Act Alternative Notice Policy", the Notices of Intention to Designate will be published on the City's website in both official languages. Document 4 contains the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value for the subject property.

Ontario Regulation 09/06

Regulation 09/06 (see Document 3) establishes criteria to determine if a property is of cultural heritage value or interest. A property may be designated under Section 29 of the *OHA* if it meets two or more of the nine criteria set out in the regulation.

Through research and evaluation, staff have determined that the property at 257 Clarence Street meets four of the nine criteria. Detailed research and analysis are outlined in the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report (see Document 5). A brief analysis of the applicable criteria met by the property is provided below:

The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material, or construction method.

257 Clarence Street has design value as a representative example of a vernacular front gable building seen across Ontario and in Lowertown. This building type is exemplified by its front gable design, steeply pitched roof, returned eaves, simple form, rectangular plan, red brick cladding, stone lintels and sills, and veranda. This simple form of nineteenth century residential architecture can be seen around Lowertown, with houses in this style built between roughly 1865 and 1900.

The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community.

257 Clarence Street has cultural heritage value for its association with the theme of early residential settlement patterns in Lowertown East, a historically working-class neighbourhood and important arrival neighbourhood for immigrants to Canada and newcomers to Ottawa. Working-class Irish immigrants, like the Cherry family, were more readily able to afford land and build homes in Lowertown East where lot sizes were smaller, and land was cheaper than elsewhere in the city. 257 Clarence Street, built by an Irish immigrant family and with its modest vernacular design, is representative of the simple front-gable houses that would have housed many working class immigrant families in Lowertown East over the years.

The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of an area.

257 Clarence Street has contextual value as it maintains the early vernacular residential character found throughout Lowertown East. The current building was constructed by one of Lowertown's early immigrant families and the first owner-occupants of the property parcel between the early 1860s and late 1870s, after sales of ordnance lands

were permitted in Lowertown. Following the passage of the *Vesting Act* in 1843 which allowed the acquisition of land in Lowertown, more families began to purchase land and build permanent structures to replace temporary, modest buildings on lots that were previously leased for a maximum of 30 years. The vernacular front gable form with red brick cladding became more common throughout Lowertown after the 1840s as families were able to afford buying land and build more permanent structures.

The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually, or historically linked to its surroundings.

The property is functionally and historically linked to its location near the ByWard Market. The Lowertown neighborhood was established as a residential and mixed-use neighborhood to the east of the ByWard Market. As exemplified by its early residents, property owners would have chosen Lowertown for its proximity to their place of work and access to religious institutions.

Conclusion

The property at 257 Clarence Street meets four of the nine criteria outlined in Ontario Regulation 09/06 for designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. Staff recommend that Council issue a Notice of Intention to Designate the property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications associated with implementing the report recommendation.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

The Ward Councillor is aware of the recommendation associated with this report.

CONSULTATION

The property owner submitted a request to designate the property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* on June 29, 2021. The property owner met with staff to discuss the application before submitting the request.

The property owner was notified via email of staff's intention to proceed with the recommendation to designate 257 Clarence Street on May 13, 2024.

The property owner was emailed a letter advising of the proposed designation of the property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* on May 28, 2024.

The Lowertown Community Association and Heritage Ottawa have been notified of the proposed designation.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

One of the main objectives of designation is to conserve places of cultural heritage value for current and future generations, regardless of their abilities. While alterations to designated properties, including renovations to remove barriers for people with disabilities, require a heritage permit, the fees for these permits are waived and staff work with property owners to allow for accessibility retrofits.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct asset management implications associated with this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications.

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no rural implications.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

There are no impacts to 2023-2026 Term of Council Priorities.

APPLICATION PROCESS TIMELINE STATUS

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

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1: Location Map

Document 2: Photos

- Document 3: Ontario Regulation 09/06
- Document 4: Statement of Cultural Heritage Value
- Document 5: Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report

DISPOSITION

If Council does not approve the recommendation, no further steps are required. If Council proceeds with the issuance of Notices of Intention to Designate for the properties located at 257 Clarence Street, several actions must be taken:

- Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department, to prepare the Notices of Intention to Designate. Office of the City Clerk, Council and Committee Services to notify the property owner and the Ontario Heritage Trust (10 Adelaide Street East, third floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5C 1J3) of Council's decision to issue a Notices of Intention to Designate 257 Clarence Street under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- 2) Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department to ensure publication of the Notices of Intention to Designate according to the requirements of Section 29 the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
- 3) If the City Clerk receives a Notice of Objection under Section 29(5) of the Ontario Heritage Act within thirty days of the publication of the Notices of Intention to Designate, the Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department is to prepare a report regarding the objection for consideration by Council within 90 days after conclusion of the objection period, according to Section 29(6) of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- 4) If the City Clerk does not receive any Notice of Objection under Section 29(5) of the Ontario Heritage Act within thirty days of the publication of the Notice of Intention to Designate, or if City Council decides not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property after an objection has been served, the Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department, is to prepare the designation by-laws, under the authority of the approval of this report and Legal Services to submit to City Council for enactment within 120 days of the publication of the Notices of Intention to Designate as prescribed in Section 29(8) of the Ontario Heritage Act.
- 5) Office of the City Clerk, Council and Committee Services to cause a copy of the by-law together with a statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest of the properties and a description of the heritage attributes of the properties, to be served on the owners of the properties and on the Trust according to the requirements of the Ontario Heritage Act. Heritage Planning Branch, Planning, Development and Building Services Department to ensure publication of the notices of the by-law in the newspaper according to the requirements Section 29(8)(4) of the Ontario Heritage Act.



Document 1 – Location Map

Document 2 – Photos



Photos 1-4: 257 Clarence Street, front facade and veranda, viewed from Clarence Street. Source: City of

Ottawa, June 2, 2024.



Photo 5: 257 Clarence Street from Clarence Street, looking west. Source: City of Ottawa, June 2, 2024.



Photo 6: Outbuilding at 257 Clarence Street, viewed from King Edward Avenue, looking east. Source:

City of Ottawa, June 2, 2024.



<u>Photo 7:</u> Outbuilding at 257 Clarence Street, viewed from Clarence Street, looking north-east. Source: City of Ottawa, June 2, 2024.

Document 3 – Ontario Regulation 09/06

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

Consolidation Period: From January 1, 2023 to the e-Laws currency date.

Last amendment: 569/22.

This is the English version of a bilingual regulation.

Criteria, s. 27 (3) (b) of the Act

1. (1) The criteria set out in subsection (2) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 27 (3) (b) of the *Act.* O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

(2) Property that has not been designated under Part IV of the *Act* may be included in the register referred to in subsection 27 (1) of the *Act* on and after the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force if the property 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 is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.
- 2. The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.
- 3. The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
- 4. The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.
- 5. The property has historical value or associative value because it yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.
- 6. The property has historical value or associative value because it demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
- 7. The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.
- 8. The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.
- 9. The property has contextual value because it is a landmark. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

(3) For clarity, subsection (2) does not apply in respect of a property that has not been designated under Part IV but was included in the register as of the day subsection 3 (2)

of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

Criteria, s. 29 (1) (a) of the Act

2. (1) The criteria set out in subsections (2) and (3) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 29 (1) (a) of the Act. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

(2) Section 1, as it read immediately before the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force, continues to apply in respect of a property for which a notice of intention to designate it was given under subsection 29 (1.1) of the *Act* after January 24, 2006 and before the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

(3) In respect of a property for which a notice of intention to designate it is given under subsection 29 (1.1) of the *Act* on or after the day subsection 3 (2) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force, the property may be designated under section 29 of the *Act* if it meets two or more of the criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest set out in paragraphs 1 to 9 of subsection 1 (2). O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

Criteria, s. 41 (1) (b) of the Act

3. (1) The criteria set out in subsection (2) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 41 (1) (b) of the *Act.* O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), in the case of a by-law passed under subsection 41 (1) of the Act on or after the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force, a municipality or any defined area or areas of it may be designated by such a by-law as a heritage conservation district under subsection 41 (1) of the Act if the municipality or the defined area or areas of it meets the following criteria:

- 1. At least 25 per cent of the properties within the municipality or defined area or areas satisfy two or more of the following:
- i. The properties have design value or physical value because they are rare, unique, representative or early examples of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.
- ii. The properties have design value or physical value because they display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.
- iii. The properties have design value or physical value because they demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.

- iv. The properties have historical value or associative value because they have a direct association with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.
- v. The properties have historical value or associative value because they yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.
- vi. The properties have historical value or associative value because they demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
- vii. The properties have contextual value because they define, maintain or support the character of the district.
- viii. The properties have contextual value because they are physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to each other.
- ix. The properties have contextual value because they are defined by, planned around or are themselves a landmark. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

(3) Subsection (2) does not apply in respect of a by-law passed under subsection 41 (1) of the Act on or after the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force if a notice of a public meeting required to be held for the purposes of the by-law under subsection 41.1 (7) of the *Act* was given before the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

- (4) For clarity, the requirement set out in subsection 41.1 (5.1) of the Act,
 - (a) does not apply in respect of a by-law under subsection 41 (1) of the *Act* that is passed before the day subsection 5 (1) of Schedule 6 to the *More Homes Built Faster Act, 2022* comes into force; and
 - (b) does not apply in respect of a by-law under subsection 41.1 (2) of the *Act*. O. Reg. 569/22, s. 1.

Document 4 – Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Description of the Property – The Cherry House, 257 Clarence Street

257 Clarence Street, also known as the Cherry House, is a two-and-a-half storey front gable red brick building. It is located on the north-west corner of Clarence Street, east of King Edward Avenue, in the Lowertown East neighbourhood in Ottawa.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The Cherry House has design value as a representative example of a vernacular front gable house with Classical Revival influences in Lowertown exemplified by its front gable with a steeply pitched roof, two-storey massing, and red brick cladding. The classical influences are evident in the house's returned eaves and open porch with pediment.

The Cherry House has cultural heritage value for its association with the theme of early residential settlement patterns in Lowertown, a historically working-class neighbourhood and important place of arrival for immigrants to Canada and newcomers to Ottawa. Constructed between the early 1860s and late 1870s, the first owners of the property and existing building were Irish immigrants William and Ann Cherry. With its modest design, the building is representative of the simple front-gable houses that would have housed many working-class immigrant families in Lowertown during that time.

Cherry House has contextual value as it maintains the early vernacular residential character found throughout Lowertown East. In 1843, the *Vesting Act* was passed, which allowed the acquisition of land in Lowertown. During this period the vernacular front gable form with red brick cladding, became more common throughout Lowertown as families were able to afford buying land and build more permanent structures. The property is functionally and historically linked to its location in Lowertown, a residential and mixed-use neighborhood, established to the east of the ByWard Market. As exemplified by its early residents, property owners would have chosen Lowertown for its proximity to their place of work and access to religious institutions.

Description of Heritage Attributes

Key exterior attributes that contribute to the heritage value of 257 Clarence Street as a representative example of a vernacular front gable building include:

- Front gable with a steeply pitched roof
- Red brick cladding
- Limestone foundation
- Returned eaves
- Two-and-a-half storey massing
- Large veranda with triangular pediment
- Simple form
- Evenly spaced rectangular window openings on the front façade with stone lintels and sills

• Rectangular window opening in the gable end with stone lintel and sill

The interior of the building and any additions or outbuildings are excluded in this designation.

Document 5 – Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report, 257 Clarence Street

CULTURAL HERITAGE EVALUATION REPORT Building Name and Address: 257 Clarence Street Construction Date: c. early 1860s – late 1870s Original Owner: William Cherry and Ann Cherry



257 Clarence Street. Source: Jolson Lim, 2016.

Executive Summary

257 Clarence Street, known as Cherry House, is a detached two-and-a-half storey front gable brick building located in Lowertown East. Built between the early 1860s to late 1870s by carpenter William Cherry of one of Lowertown's early Irish immigrant families, the property maintains the vernacular working-class residential character of Lowertown. Liked to a mosaic of residents of various ethnic and religious backgrounds over time, 257 Clarence Street reflects Lowertown's cultural heritage value as a hub and home for many different ethnic and religious communities and newcomers to Canada. Past owners and occupants include skilled workers, entrepreneurs, and professionals from Irish, Russian-Jewish, and French-Canadian backgrounds. The building is currently used as a residence.

The property has cultural heritage value for its design, associative, and contextual

values. It meets four of the nine criteria for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

Introduction

257 Clarence Street is located on the north-west corner of Clarence Street, east of King Edward Avenue, in the Lowertown East neighbourhood in Ottawa. 257 Clarence Street is a detached two-and-a-half storey front gable red brick building constructed between the early 1860s to late 1870s.

The house is clad in red brick and a painted wood veranda wraps around the front of the building to the left where it narrows to a side entrance. The veranda features straight porch railing spindles and simple columns. The house has a steep pitched gabled roof with returned eaves and a small, peaked pediment over the main entrance. There are six rectangular window openings with stone lintels and sills at the facade: two on the first floor, three on the second floor, and one small window on the attic level. The house is set back by a small front yard. There is a large deciduous tree in the front yard. There is a rectangular brick extension at the rear of the building. The property includes two large outbuildings at the rear on the west and north sides of the main house which are visible from King Edward Avenue.



East façade at 257 Clarence Street. Source: Google Maps, June 2023.



West facade at 257 Clarence Street, viewed from King Edward Avenue. Source: Google Maps, June 2023.



Outbuildings at 257 Clarence Street. Source: Brigitte Gregoire.

The Cherry family of Ireland are the first known owners of the lot and building. An 1846 ordnance map shows William Cherry as the first owner of the property parcel. Census records reveal that the Cherry family owned a single-storey wood frame building at the property in 1861. The current two-and-a-half storey house first appeared as a wood-frame building on fire insurance plans in 1878. The brick veneer was added to the

building between 1901 and 1912 during the ownership of Hormisdas Major, around the same time the larger outbuilding was relocated from the parcel to the west to the rear of the building. The current simple veranda was likely built after the 1930s when it replaced the original rounded, classical style columns and curved porch railing spindles.



The main house at 257 Clarence Street shown as a wood-frame structure on fire insurance plans from 1878 (left). The later brick cladding is shown on the fire insurance plan from 1912 denoted by the red outlining (right). Note the larger outbuilding had relocated to the rear of the main house by 1912. Source: Ottawa Fire Insurance Plan, 1878; Ottawa Fire Insurance Plan, 1912.

The building survived two fires on the property, the first in 1948 and a second in 1958, both of which started in the outbuildings. The main building has maintained its original massing, shape, and orientation since construction. The building was historically used as a residence by owners and tenants, with some owners using it to run their businesses from home.

Architecture

Architectural Analysis and Overview

The two-and-a-half storey house at 257 Clarence Street was constructed between the early 1860s and late 1870s by the Cherry family of Lowertown. The property has design value as a representative example of a vernacular front gable house commonly seen in Lowertown. This vernacular type, with Classical Revival style influences is exemplified by its front gable form with steeply pitched roof and returned eaves, symmetrically arranged front façade with evenly spaced rectangular window openings, red brick

cladding and limestone foundation and its open veranda with triangular pediment over the entrance.

Architectural Style Description and Canadian Context

The term "vernacular" as it relates to architecture can be applied to a wide range of buildings that are constructed using locally available materials and incorporate design forms that are appropriate for the climate.¹ Vernacular design is influenced, but not defined by, a particular architectural style.² Canadian houses reflect style influences primarily from France, Britain, and the United States, but most houses are highly vernacular, displaying interpretations that were limited by and sometimes inspired by local resources.³ Brick became popular in Canada in the second half of the nineteenth century, mainly in Ontario, but due to geographical and economic constraints, most dwellings have been constructed with wood.⁴

Of all the styles that influenced Canadian architecture, the Classical Revival style (circa 1830s to 1860s) had the greatest impact, and was most popular in the Maritime provinces and Ontario.⁵ The Classical Revival style of "elegant simplicity" aimed to incorporate the scale and floorplans of Classical Greek temples. It was predominantly used in residential and commercial buildings in Canada, with later interpretations being more modest in size and ornamentation.⁶ The Classical Revival architectural style in Canada is characterized by:⁷

- Front gable plans
- Roof pediments
- Returned eaves
- Medium-pitched gable roofs
- Doors with rectangular transoms and sidelights

¹ Shannon Kyles, "Vernacular," Ontario Architecture, accessed May 22, 2024, <u>http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/vernacular.htm</u>.

² "Ontario Architectural Style Guide," University of Waterloo Heritage Resources Centre, last modified January 2009, <u>https://www.therealtydeal.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Heritage-Resource-Centre-Achitectural-Styles-Guide.pdf</u>, 33.

³ Barbara A. Humphreys and Meredith Skyes, *The Buildings of Canada: A Guide to pre-20th century styles in houses, churches and other structures*, (Ottawa: Environment Canada, Parks Service, 1980,) page 4, <u>https://www.historicplaces.ca/media/7173/buildingsofcanada.pdf.</u>

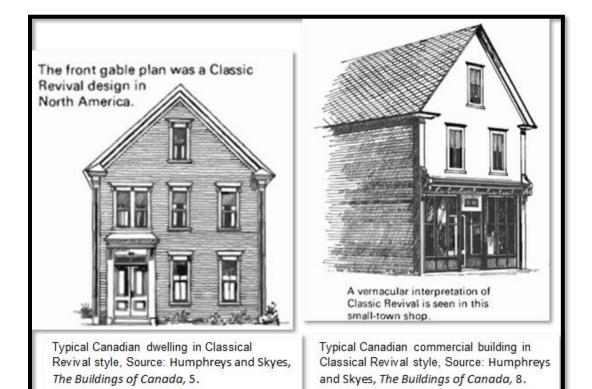
⁴ Humphreys and Skyes, *The Buildings of Canada,* 4.

⁵ Humphreys and Skyes, *The Buildings of Canada*, 4.

⁶ Shannon Kyles, "Classical Revival (1820-1860)," Ontario Architecture, accessed May 22, 2024, <u>http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/ClassicalRevival.htm</u>.

⁷ Humphreys and Skyes, *The Buildings of Canada*, 4-5.

- Detailed ornamentation, such as moldings, columns, and pedimented trim
- "Temple effect" obtained by an open portico across the facade, supported by columns, heavy entablature, and pilasters
- Flat or pedimented hoods over windows
- Open porches with fluted columns
- Classical moldings
- Porticos





Front facade, 257 Clarence Street. Source: City of Ottawa.

257 Clarence (south- west orientation). Source: Google Street View, May 2021.

Local Applications of Architectural Style

257 Clarence Street has characteristics of the local vernacular style gable-fronted house commonly seen in residential architecture in Lowertown. Gable-fronted houses were built in Lowertown as single-family dwellings between roughly 1865 and 1900. Most are two storeys and include various forms of ornate verandas and cornices, and are clad in brick or wood veneer.⁸ This style is demonstrated at nearby comparable Lowertown buildings east of King Edward Avenue, including 494 Clarence Street, 29 Heney Street, and 16 Tormey Street, which are listed properties on the Ontario Heritage Register.



Comparable front-gabled house at 494 Clarence Street (c. 1887). Source: City of Ottawa.

⁸ Aubin and Chenier, *Lowertown East: Our Disappearing Heritage*, 11.



Comparable front-gabled house at 29 Heney Street (c. 1902). Source: City of Ottawa.



Comparable front-gabled house at 16 Tormey Street (c. 1905). Source: City of Ottawa.

In many instances, early and original buildings in Lowertown were modified so many times that the three main residential typologies seen in the area – the small worker's cottage, the flat-roofed house, and the front-gabled house – are becoming less recognizable. Besides the alterations to the veranda, the form, massing, and style of 257 Clarence Street has remained the same since its construction, making the building a strong representative example of an original house of its type.

Relation of the Building to the Style

257 Clarence Street represents the vernacular front gable architectural type influenced by a late interpretation of the Classical Revival style. This is demonstrated by its front gable and pitched roof, two-and-a-half storey massing, rectangular plan, returned eaves, red brick cladding, stone lintels and sills, portico, and veranda. According to fire insurance plans, the current building at 257 Clarence Street was originally constructed as a wood frame house and by 1912 it was clad in red brick by a later owner.

History

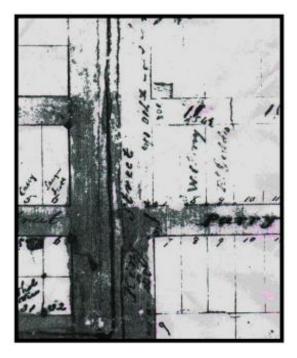
Since its earliest days, Lowertown has been made up of a mosaic of communities from various ethnic, religious, and economic backgrounds. The diversity in this neighbourhood, and its status as a hub for newcomers and immigrants, has formed a significant part of Lowertown East's cultural and physical historic landscape. Lowertown was the center of Ottawa's working-class Catholic French-Canadian and Irish communities, and was the home of Ottawa's first Jewish community.

Early Days at 257 Clarence Street – The Cherry Family of Ireland (1846-1893)

In the early 1840s, Irish immigrants William and Ann Cherry arrived in Kingston, where they had a son, also named William.⁹ The Cherry family relocated to Ottawa (then ByTown) in 1846, and their second son, Samuel, was born. In the same year, William Cherry Sr. was shown on an ordnance map as the owner of the parcel at 257 Clarence Street.¹⁰

⁹ "A Respected Citizen Gone: William Cherry," Ottawa Journal, March 7, 1894, page 7.

¹⁰ Map of lots on Ordnance Department land in Lowertown, April 1846, Library and Archives Canada, microfiche, NMC16171.



William Cherry is shown as the owner of the parcel at 257 Clarence Street on this map of lots on Ordnance Department land in Lowertown, April 1846. Source: Library and Archives Canada. The Cherry family had been among the earliest Lowertown residents able to afford to purchase land from the Crown.¹¹ At the time, most residents living on ordnance lands either paid rents or squatted on the large amount of open land directly east of the Rideau Canal.¹² Before 1843, property in Lowertown was only leased for limited periods of 30 years. Those who could afford to invest in the maximum 30-year lease built basic and temporary structures. The impact on development in Lowertown resulting from the change to freehold tenure in 1843 was immediate and dramatic.¹³ Construction in stone

or brick was rare in Lowertown until this time, and more permanent structures of wood, stone, and brick had started to be built once families were able to purchase land.¹⁴

It is possible that the Cherry family relocated Ottawa from Kingston to purchase land they could afford after the sale of ordnance land was permitted in Lowertown. It is unknown when the Cherry family had constructed their first dwelling on the lot, but by 1861 they had a single-storey wood frame building on their property as noted in Census

¹¹ "The Cherry House at 257 Clarence Street," The Lowertown Echo, 2019, accessed May 9, 2024, <u>https://lowertownecho.ca/2020/10/28/the-cherry-house-at-257-clarence-street/</u>.

¹² "The Cherry House at 257 Clarence Street".

¹³ Michael Newtown, "The Search for Heritage in Ottawa's Lower Town", 15.

¹⁴ Margaret Caron-Vuotari et al., "McDonald Gardens: A Neighbourhood in Lowertown East," accessed May 30, 2024, <u>https://macdonaldgardens.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/macdonald-gardens-full-report-rev-1.pdf</u>.

records.¹⁵ The Cherry family lived in this building for at least fifteen years before the current two-and-a-half storey house was constructed. William Sr. was a carpenter and most likely built the original single-storey wood-frame house himself. Samuel Cherry would go on to become a carpenter like his father, and William Cherry Jr. became an alderman of Wellington ward.

William Cherry Jr. was highly involved in the community. He served on the public school board and was a prominent member of the Orange Order of Canada, a protestant fraternal organization that began in Ireland.¹⁶ The Orange Order played a large part in the history of Canada, with many prominent members including four prime ministers, among them Sir John A. Macdonald. According to his obituary, the Orange Order dedicated a lodge to his name. William Jr. was described as "one of the most popular Orangemen in Ottawa".¹⁷ William Jr. was a leading member of the Builders' Lodge of Freemasons, belonged to the Ancient Order of United Workmen, and was treasurer of the Chaudière Fire Company. He retreated from public life due to declining health and passed away in 1894.¹⁸

After William Sr.'s death, Ann Cherry granted the property at 257 Clarence Street to Samuel, where he resided with his wife and children until 1893 while he worked as a carpenter. It was probably after his marriage to Margaret Gibson of Kemptville in 1870 that Samuel built the current two-and-a-half storey house on the property for his growing family. After the Cherry family left the residence in 1893 and moved into a brick home at 33 Somerset Street,¹⁹ 257 Clarence Street was home to a succession of owners and occupants who reflect the diverse nature of the Lowertown community, including Catholic, protestant, French-Canadian, and Jewish families.

Later Notable Residents

257 Clarence Street is functionally and historically linked to its location near the ByWard Market. Much like the rest of Ottawa at the time, especially in the lower to middle income areas, it was common to mix businesses, institutions, and homes all within the

¹⁵ 1861 Census of Canada, Ancestry, accessed May 9, 2024.

¹⁶ "A Respected Citizen Gone: William Cherry."

¹⁷ "A Respected Citizen Gone: William Cherry."

¹⁸ "A Respected Citizen Gone: William Cherry."

¹⁹ Jolson Lim, "Jewish Homes of Lowertown East on Clarence and York Streets", 2016, page 6.

same neighbourhood.²⁰ Past owners include skilled workers, entrepreneurs, and professionals who operated businesses from the property or worked nearby in the area, and many were active in the community and were members of several local organizations.

The Valiquette Family (1893-1898)

Alphonse Valiquette purchased the property from Samuel Cherry in 1893 and lived at 257 Clarence Street with his wife Ida until 1898. They were French-Canadian Catholics and Ida was very active in local church affairs. She was a member of the Canadian Federation of French-Canadian Women, the Joan of Arc Institute, St. Joseph's Orphanage, Ladies of the St. Anne and St. Elizabeth Societies, the Ladies Auxiliary of Water Street Hospital, and the Third Order of St. Francis.²¹ St. Anne's Church was the center for most of the Catholic community and from which many of Lowertown's original social services were organized.²² Alphonse sold the property for \$1000 to his colleague Henry M. McClory in 1898, with whom he worked at the Government Printing Bureau on St. Patrick Street.

The McClory Family (1898-1905)

Henry McClory was a well-respected General Foreman of Composition at the Government Printing Bureau where he worked for 50 years.²³ Like the Valiquettes, Henry and his wife Jane were devout Catholics and were both active in church affairs. They were both members of the League of the Sacred Heart, and Jane was a member of the Living Rosary and the St. Anne Society. Henry was also a member of the Holy Name Society and the Catholic Order of Foresters.²⁴ Henry and Jane McClory lived at 257 Clarence Street until Henry sold the property to Hormisdas Major for \$1600 in 1905, a few months before the birth of their first son.

Hormisdas Major (1905-1920)

The brick veneer was likely added to the house by Hormisdas Major, as indicated by the later \$5000 sales price to Abraham Torontow in 1920. According to fire insurance maps

²⁰ "Lowertown East: Our Disappearing Heritage," 10.

²¹ "Mrs. A. Valiquette Dies After Long Illness," Ottawa Journal, August 17, 1944, page 7.

²² Aubin and Chenier, "Lowertown East: Our Disappearing Heritage," 22.

²³ "Henry M. McClory Honoured by Staff of Printing Bureau," Ottawa Journal, October 21, 1940, page 20.

²⁴ "H.M. McClory," Ottawa Journal, March 20, 1952, page 16.

from 1878 and 1901, the existing brick veneer was not constructed with the building and was added some time before 1912 when it first appears on the map for that year. The outbuildings, which were located to the left of the main house before this time, were also moved directly to the rear of the house by 1912. Hormisdas Major was the first owner to rent out the house. From 1914 to 1920, he leased the home to George A. Boudreault and his wife Albina Savage, both of Quebec.²⁵

George A. Boudreault (1914-1920)

The construction of the Parliament buildings in the 1860s had brought a flood of new business to the area and hundreds of politicians and civil servants relocated from Quebec City to Ottawa. George A. Boudreault was a prominent French-Canadian public servant during the time he lived at 257 Clarence Street, having served as an assistant and then Chief Messenger and Housekeeper of the House of Commons. He worked with several prime ministers, from John A. MacDonald to R.B. Bennett. The Ottawa Journal called Boudreault "one of Ottawa's most highly esteemed French-Canadian citizens" and a "friend of many connected with Parliament since Confederation, from Canada's great statement to its lowliest backbenchers".²⁶ At the time of his retirement in 1933 at the age of 72, Boudreault was the longest serving public servant on Parliament Hill.²⁷

²⁵ "The Cherry House at 257 Clarence Street".

²⁶ "Chief Messenger on Hill Retiring," Ottawa Journal, January 31, 1933, page 1.

²⁷ "The Cherry House at 257 Clarence Street".



George A. Boudreault pictured in 1918. Source: The Ottawa Citizen, Nov. 5, 1918.

The Torontow Family (1920-1925)

Hormisdas Major sold the property to Abraham Torontow in 1920 for \$5000. The Torontows were a prominent Jewish family in Lowertown and owned several businesses in the ByWard Market, including a grocery store called "Krispy Celery".²⁸ The Jewish presence was strong in Lowertown during this time.²⁹ In the 19th and 20th centuries, the commercial units along William Street and ByWard Market Square were operated primarily by Jewish merchants selling meats, cheese, produce, and dry goods.³⁰

Most Jewish immigrants in Lowertown came from the Russian Empire as many were escaping pogroms.³¹ Abraham and his wife Ethel were born in Russia and they arrived in Canada in 1903 and 1905, respectively.³² Abraham's father was Joseph Torontow,

²⁸ Meranda Gallupe-Paton, "Torontow Hardware Store," Capital History, 2021, <u>https://capitalhistory.ca/businesses/torontow-hardware-store/</u>.

²⁹ Lowertown East: Our Disappearing Heritage," 23.

³⁰ "Lowertown Neighbourhood Heritage Statement", City of Ottawa, 15.

³¹ Lowertown East: Our Disappearing Heritage," 23.

³² "Abraham Torontow in the 1921 Census of Canada," Ancestry.ca, accessed May 30, 2024, <u>https://www.ancestry.ca/discoveryui-content/view/2247750:8991?tid=&pid=&queryId=385b5b9e-ab95-</u> <u>4c83-9e9b-f33b6cee1be8&_phsrc=cWh111&_phstart=successSource</u>.

founder of the local Torontow Hardware Company at the corner of Dalhousie Street and Clarence Street. Joseph had worked as a tinsmith in the back of the building while his wife, Dora, helped manage the hardware store.³³ Abraham and other members of the Torontow family had also worked as peddlers in Lowertown. Many Jewish newcomers settled in Lowertown due to its affordable housing and proximity to the ByWard Market, which was a good source for goods for peddling, an important Jewish occupation since the Middle Ages.³⁴ While some peddlers led simple lives to support their families, many managed to save enough to buy a stall in ByWard Market or eventually a shop.³⁵ The Torontow family lived at 257 Clarence Street for five years until they sold the property to James and Sarah Lawlor in 1925.



The Torontow family pictured at a seder in their home at 257 Clarence Street, undated. Source: Brigitte Gregoire.

³⁵ "The Jewish Pedlars of Lowertown," Christina Williamson, The Lowertown Echo, 2018. Accessed May 30, 2024, <u>https://lowertownecho.ca/2020/09/27/the-jewish-pedlars-of-lowertown/</u>.

³³ Meranda Gallupe-Paton, "Torontow Hardware Store".

³⁴ Lowertown East: Our Disappearing Heritage," 23.



Joseph Torontow with employees and children Norman, Faye, Sarah, and nephew Saul outside of the Torontow Hardware Store at the southeast corner of Dalhousie and Clarence Streets, c. 1930. Source: Capital History.

James and Sarah Lawlor (1925-1950)

James and Sarah Lawlor moved to Ottawa from Greely, Ontario in 1920. They ran a laundry compound business called Savage Water from the residence. The Lawlors frequently advertised their business in local newspapers.³⁶ James and Sarah were protestants and attended the Bethel Pentecostal Church on Waverley Street.³⁷

³⁶ "Savage Water," Ottawa Journal, June 30, 1927, page 23.

³⁷ "Ottawa Couple Wed 43 Years," The Ottawa Citizen, June 8, 1948, page 5.

CLASSIFIED-DISPLAY Clarence is out 01 it to you. -R. C

An advertisement for Savage Water in the Ottawa Journal, c. 1927. Source: Ottawa Journal, June 30, 1927.

An advertisement in the Ottawa Citizen for a 4-bedroom rental shows that the Lawlors first placed the house for rent in 1940.³⁸ Later advertisements in the Ottawa Journal show they were renting out furnished rooms in the house. Daniel and Rita Madore rented the second floor of the Lawlor residence in 1948 with their infant daughter Judy when a fire started in one of the outbuildings. The Lawlors were alerted of the fire by Rita and all occupants escaped unharmed.³⁹ The fire damaged \$1500 worth of furniture they were storing in the outbuildings, presumably for the rooms they were renting out. According to newspaper articles, the fire caused considerable smoke and water damage to the main house, but the fire was extinguished before flames could reach the building.⁴⁰

In an undated photo of James and Sarah Lawlor believed to date from the 1930s, the veranda at 257 Clarence Street is shown with its original classical style columns and curved railing spindles, indicating that the present-day simple veranda was a later addition to the property.

³⁸ "Houses to Let," The Ottawa Citizen, March 2, 1940, page 12.

 ³⁹ "\$1500 Fire Damage to Furniture," Ottawa Journal, February 19, 1948, page 6.
⁴⁰ "\$1500 Blaze on Clarence Street," The Ottawa Citizen, February 20, 1948, page 2.



James and Sarah Lawlor pictured in front of the 257 Clarence Street, photo likely c. 1930s. Source: Lawlor family website, Ancestry.com, via Jolson Lim, 2016.

The Cundell Family (1950 – at least 1958)

James and Sarah Lawlor sold the property to Delbert Cundell for \$6500 in 1950. The Cundell family lived at the property until at least 1958. The Cundells have managed stables as a family-run enterprise in Lowertown since 1890 and still operate Lowertown's last stable at their present-day York Street location.⁴¹

⁴¹ Giancarlo Cerquozzi, "A Living Legacy of Lowertown's Early Days: Cundell Stables," February 2022, accessed May 30, 2024, <u>https://lowertownecho.ca/2022/02/05/a-living-legacy-of-lowertowns-early-days-cundell-stables/</u>.



Shirley Cundell, daughter of Delbert Cundell, is shown in article in the Ottawa Journal in 1955. Source: Ottawa Journal, October 26, 1955.

The Cundells appear to have used the outbuildings at 257 Clarence Street as stables and storage. In the early 1950s, Delbert Cundell was advertising the sale of ponies, buggies, harnesses, and other stable goods from 257 Clarence Street.⁴² In 1958, fireworks set off by children during Victoria Day celebrations caused a fire at the property. A storage shed at the rear of the residence was destroyed, but the main house was not damaged.⁴³

Context

257 Clarence Street has contextual value as it maintains the working-class vernacular residential character of Lowertown East. Cherry House is an example of the changing housing stock seen around the time when more working-class families became able to purchase property and construct permanent houses once the sale of lands in Lowertown was permitted in 1843 with the passing of the *Vesting Act.* 257 Clarence

⁴² "The Cherry House at 257 Clarence Street".

⁴³ "Fireworks Celebrations Marred by Four Fires, Police Charges," Ottawa Journal, May 20, 1958, page 7.

Street fits within the historical neighbourhood character with its residential architectural style featuring a front gable with a steep roof, rectangular form, veranda, portico over the entrance, and shallow setback. It also meets the characteristic mixed-use function of working-class housing in Lowertown as it was the primary residence of most owners, and also where many operated their businesses.

In the early to mid-19th century, Ottawa, then known as Bytown, was busy with the construction of the Rideau Canal, the timber trade, and major immigration and settlement.⁴⁴ Lowertown was part of Bytown when it was officially incorporated in 1847, one year after the Cherry family relocated to the neighbourhood and purchased the lot at 257 Clarence Street. Lowertown is located on the east side of downtown Ottawa and today it has three distinct areas: the ByWard Market, Lowertown West, and Lowertown East. King Edward Avenue acts as the main bisection of Lowertown into Lowertown West (which includes the ByWard Market) and Lowertown East.



⁴⁴ Margaret Caron-Vuotari et al., "Macdonald Gardens: A Neighbourhood in Lowertown East."

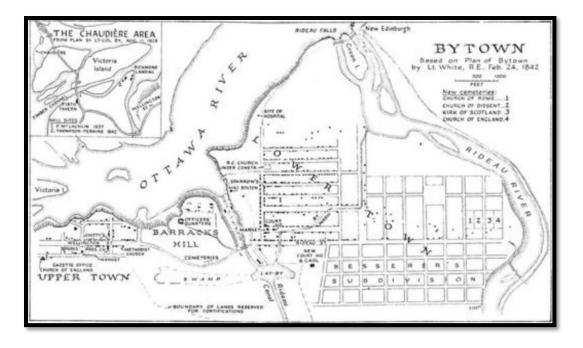


Present-day boundaries of Lowertown. Source: Google Maps, via Aubin and Chenier, 2011.

Boundaries of Lowertown West and Lowertown East. Source: Aubin and Chenier, 2011.

Before the *Vesting Act* passed in 1843, the British Board of Ordnance owned outright about half of the land in early Bytown, including all of Lowertown. Prospective builders were leased town lots, usually on a 30-year basis.⁴⁵ Because of this, few buildings survive from the first generation (approximately c. 1826-1850) of urban growth in Lowertown, as builders were reluctant to invest in substantial structures, constructing instead "temporary, ramshackled edifices".⁴⁶ Construction in stone or brick was rare until after 1843, with the first buildings of substance appearing when conversion to freehold became possible.⁴⁷

 ⁴⁵ Michael Newtown, "The Search for Heritage in Ottawa's Lower Town", 2.
⁴⁶ Michael Newtown, "The Search for Heritage in Ottawa's Lower Town", 21.
⁴⁷ Michael Newtown, "The Search for Heritage in Ottawa's Lower Town", 21.



Map of early Lowertown in Bytown, circa February 24, 1842. Source: Margaret Caron-Vuotari et al., "Macdonald Gardens: A Neighbourhood in Lowertown East," page 12.



Early "low grade" wood-frame houses in Lowertown, date unknown. Many have since disappeared. Source: Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings, via Michael Newton, 1980, page 28.

The history of Cherry House follows the pattern of residential development and neighbourhood growth in Lowertown. The land purchase by the Cherry family in 1846, shortly after the sale of freehold land was permitted in Lowertown, and the subsequent construction of a modest single-storey wood frame house, and later building of a larger

two-storey dwelling by Samuel Cherry mirrors the progression of Lowertown residential development during this time as many working-class and immigrant families bought and developed their own land.

	Evaluation using Ontario Regulation 09/06		
1	The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.	Yes 257 Clarence Street has design value as a representative example of the vernacular front gable architectural style influenced by the design seen across Ontario and in Lowertown. The vernacular style is exemplified by its front gable design, steeply pitched roof, returned eaves, simple form, rectangular plan, red brick cladding, stone lintels and sills, and veranda. This simple form of nineteenth century residential architecture can be seen around Lowertown, with homes in this style built between roughly 1865 and 1900.	
2	The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.	No Heritage staff have reviewed primary sources pertaining to the subject property, including fire insurance plans and historical photographs, and consulted relevant secondary sources including architectural history resources and newspaper articles. Staff compared the building to others of similar age or typology. Staff's review concluded that due to the building's vernacular design with minimal ornamentation and its simple existing veranda, the construction method of 257 Clarence Street does not display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.	
3	The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of technical or scientific merit.	No Heritage staff have reviewed primary sources pertaining to the subject property, including fire insurance plans and historical photographs, and consulted relevant secondary sources including architectural history resources and newspaper articles. Staff compared the building to others of similar age or typology. Staff's review concluded that the construction method used for 257 Clarence Street is typical of the building's construction era and type. As such, the property does not display a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.	
4	The property has historical or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.	Yes 257 Clarence Street has cultural heritage value for its association with the theme of early residential settlement patterns in Lowertown East, a historically working-class neighbourhood and important staging area for immigrants to Canada and newcomers to Ottawa. Working-class Irish immigrants, like the Cherry family, were more readily able to afford land and build homes in Lowertown East where lot sizes were smaller and land was cheaper. 257 Clarence Street, built by an Irish immigrant family and with its modest vernacular design, is representative of the simple front-	

Evaluation using Ontario Regulation 09/06

		gable houses that would have housed many working-class
E	The property has historical ar	immigrant families in Lowertown East over the years.
5	The property has historical or associative value because it yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.	No Based on research conducted by Heritage Staff, the property at 257 Clarence Street does not yield information that contributes to the understanding of a specific community or culture.
6	The property has historical or associative value because it demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.	No Based on primary and secondary source research conducted by Heritage Staff, no architect, artist, builder, designer, or theorist has been associated with 257 Clarence Street.
7	The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.	Yes 257 Clarence Street has contextual value as it maintains the early vernacular residential character found throughout Lowertown East. The current building was constructed by one of Lowertown's early immigrant families and the first owner-occupants of the property parcel between the early 1860s and late 1870s, after sales of ordnance lands were permitted in Lowertown. Following the passing of the <i>Vesting Act</i> in 1843 which allowed the acquisition of land in Lowertown, more families began to purchase land and build permanent structures to replace temporary, lower-grade buildings on lots that were previously leased for a maximum of 30 years. The vernacular front gable form with red brick cladding became more common throughout Lowertown after the 1840s as families were able to afford buying land and build more permanent structures.
8	The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings	Yes The property is functionally and historically linked to its location near the ByWard Market. The Lowertown neighborhood was established as a residential and mixed- use neighborhood to the east of the ByWard Market. As exemplified by its early residents, property owners would have chosen Lowertown for its proximity to their place of work and access to religious institutions.
9	The property has contextual value because it is a landmark.	No 257 Clarence Street does not have contextual value as a landmark. Although it is a well-preserved nineteenth century home, 257 Clarence Street is a vernacular house with architectural characteristics seen throughout the historic neighbourhood of Lowertown.

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