

## Ontario Regulation 9/06 Assessment

Address 297 Dupuis Street

Date August 2024

Prepared by: Heritage Staff

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297 Dupuis Street, west façade, Source: City of Ottawa, 2024

### Executive Summary

297 Dupuis Street is a three-storey, rectangular, red brick clad building located in Vanier constructed in 1912. It was commissioned by the Eastview Separate [Catholic] School Board and was designed by Francis Conroy Sullivan. The building has design value as a representative early 20<sup>th</sup> century school with Edwardian Classicist influences and has historical value because it demonstrates Francis C. Sullivan's eclectic Edwardian designs in his private practice. 297 Dupuis Street has historical value because it is associated with the theme of early education in Janeville and Les Filles de la Sagesse (The Daughters of Wisdom). 297 Dupuis Street has historical value because it is associated with the administrative history of Vanier during its shift from the City of Eastview to the City of Vanier as it housed City Hall for 18 years. Finally, 297 Dupuis Street also has contextual value because it is the earliest remaining Separate school building in Vanier and reflected the community's growing French Catholic population and the need for a new school.

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

297 Dupuis Street is a three-storey rectangular shaped red brick clad building constructed in 1912.<sup>1</sup> 297 Dupuis Street is located on the west side of Dupuis Street south of Montréal Road in Vanier, Ottawa. This area was part of the historic neighbourhood of Janeville (1873), Eastview (December 1908), Vanier (1969), then the City of Ottawa (2001).

<b>Criterion 1</b>	
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.	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Response to Criterion</b>	
297 Dupuis Street has design value as a representative example of a vernacular early 20 <sup>th</sup> century school with Edwardian Classicist influences. 297 Dupuis Street is characteristic of many schools that were constructed in the 1910s that were functionally designed with symmetrical façades with a centrally located entrance, large windows, high-ceilinged rooms, and minimal ornamentation. Its Edwardian Classicist characteristics are exemplified by its simple and balanced façade, brick cladding, rectangular plan, flat roofline, stone sills, and a simple cornice.	

**Supporting Details – Criterion 1**



297 Dupuis Street, west façade, Source: City of Ottawa, 2024

**Architectural Analysis and Overview**

297 Dupuis Street was constructed in 1912 and has design value as a representative example of a vernacular early 20th century Catholic school with Edwardian Classicist influences. 297 Dupuis Street shares characteristics with many other Separate schools that were constructed in the early 20th century that were functionally designed. This included a factory-like appearance with symmetrical façades, a centrally located entrance, large windows, high ceilinged rooms, and minimal ornamentation. 297 Dupuis

<sup>1</sup> “New School is Now Named,” *The Ottawa Citizen*, June 4, 1912, accessed July 25, 2024, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/455580422/>.

Street's Edwardian Classicist influences can be demonstrated by its simple and balanced façade, brick cladding, rectangular plan, flat roofline, stone sills, and a simple cornice. 297 Dupuis Street's architect, Francis Conroy Sullivan, is often credited with bringing the Prairie Style to Canada and did design some buildings and residences in this style, including his own home. However, in his private practice, he didn't solely design in the Prairie Style, and had an eclectic application of Edwardian Classicism.<sup>2</sup>



Montfort School in Eastview, Dupuis Street, Eastview (Vanier) (Ontario), Canada, after 1930, Source: Archives-FDLS Canada/MAS

## Architectural Style Description & Canadian Context

### Edwardian Classicism

The Edwardian Classicism style is associated with the British monarch Edward VII who reigned from 1901 to 1910. The style developed in England from the Beaux Arts movement with revived Classicism through an eclectic and selective application of Classical forms.<sup>3</sup> Edwardian Classicism was popularized around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the end of the First World War.<sup>4</sup> In response to the transforming social climate, Edwardian Classicism featured simplified forms with balanced façades and central entrance, in contrast to the Late Victorian architectural styles with asymmetrical, eclectic, and complex forms.<sup>5</sup> It was used on large scale public and commercial

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<sup>2</sup> Midcentury Modernist, "A Tale of Two Francis Sullivan Buildings," Urbsite, last modified June 13, 2013, <https://urbsite.blogspot.com/2013/06/a-tale-of-two-francis-sullivan-buildings.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Shannon Ricketts, Leslie Maitland, and Jacqueline Hucker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles*, Second Edition, (Toronto: Broadview Press, 2004,) 123.

<sup>4</sup> Shannon Kyles, "Edwardian (1890-1916)," Ontario Architecture, accessed April 30, 2024, <http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/Edwardian.html>; "Ontario Architectural Style Guide," University of Waterloo Heritage Resources Centre, last modified January 2009, <https://www.therealtydeal.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Heritage-Resource-Centre-Achitectural-Styles-Guide.pdf>, 18.

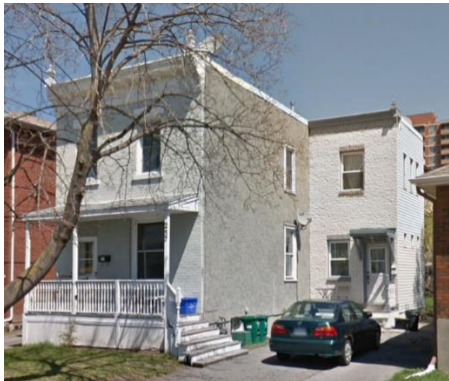
<sup>5</sup> John Blumenson, *Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms 1784 to the present*, (Canada: Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 1990), 166.

buildings to demonstrate the nation's imperial power, and colonies including Canada quickly adopted the style and its application to residential buildings.<sup>6</sup>

In Ontario, Edwardian Classicism was most popular during the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>7</sup> Edwardian Classicism served as a transition between the eclectic styles of residential architecture from the 19<sup>th</sup> century towards the simplified designs of the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>8</sup> The Edwardian Classicism architectural style in Ontario is characterized by its compact, square or rectangular massing, balanced façades, flat rooflines, simple colour schemes, smooth brick surfaces with multiple windows with stone sills, understated application of Classical features (colonettes, voussiors, keystones, cornices, columns, pilasters, pediments etc.), entrance in the porch or verandah, and restrained ornamentation.<sup>9</sup>

### Architectural Style Locally

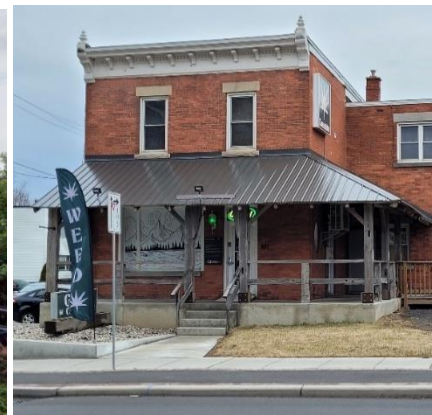
Examples of Edwardian Classicism in Ottawa date from the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century into the late 1930s. A few buildings constructed in this style were public buildings such as schools, however the majority were constructed for residential purposes. The style can be seen in many Ottawa neighbourhoods including in the historic village of Janeville and Eastview.



257 Alfred Street, Source: Google Street View, 2020



200 Lévis Ave, Source: Google Street View, 2019



381 Montréal Road, Source: City of Ottawa, 2024

### Relation of the Building to the Style

297 Dupuis Street is representative of a vernacular early 20<sup>th</sup> century Catholic school in Eastview and Ottawa with Edwardian Classicism influences. *The Contract Record*

<sup>6</sup> Ricketts, Maitland, and Hucker, *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles*, 127.

<sup>7</sup> Blumenson, *Ontario Architecture: A Guide to Styles and Building Terms 1784 to the present*, 166.

<sup>8</sup> "Edwardian (1890-1916)."

<sup>9</sup> "Architectural Style: Edwardian Classicism," Ontario Heritage Trust, accessed April 30, 2024, <https://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/places-of-worship/places-of-worship-database/architecture/architectural-style>; "Ontario Architectural Style Guide," 18.

featured the Eastview school design and described how architects had to work within the laws for school building standardization, and that Sullivan's twelve-room structure was "modern in every respect."<sup>10</sup> This resulted in the construction of functional buildings, simple in design and fabrication along which suited Sullivan's application of organic architecture. Many Separate schools resembled factories with their plain façades, minimal ornamentation, high windows and ceilings to obtain light and fresh air, and an axial plan with rooms on both sides of a central hallway to efficiently use the space. In the 1910s, Sullivan held many contracts with the Ottawa and Eastview Separate School Boards, and he designed two new schools including Montfort Separate School at 297 Dupuis Street and Sacred Heart School at 19 Melrose Avenue (Designated, Part IV).<sup>11</sup>



École Montfort, 1949, rue Dupuis, Eastview, Vanier, Ottawa. Auteur inconnu, L1\_275. Source: Archives-FDLS Canada/MAS.



19 Melrose Street, Source: City of Ottawa, 2011

Their similarities include the footprint, symmetrical front façade, cladding material, and in particular their brick pier buttresses capped with copings and canopies over a central entranceway, and it appears originally, they both had a central stone name plate. 297 Dupuis Street demonstrates Sullivan's interpretation of Edwardian Classicism with the incorporation of the stepped parapet with a cross, and its vertical and horizontal brick detailing.

<sup>10</sup> "The Planning of Modern School Houses," *The Contract Record*, September 25, 1912, accessed August 2, 2024, <https://archive.org/details/contractrecordv26p03/page/n1385/mode/2up>.

<sup>11</sup> "To Collect Special Tax," *The Ottawa Journal*, April 11, 1912, accessed July 25, 2024, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/41977544/>.



297 Dupuis Street, south façade, Source: City of Ottawa, 2024



297 Dupuis Street, east façade, Source: City of Ottawa, 2024

It should be noted that Sullivan’s original design was for the basement and two storeys and in the fall of 1930, construction began on a third storey addition.<sup>12</sup> The addition appears true to the original design, with replicated soldier courses below the cornice as seen dividing the first and second stories. Therefore, the pier buttress on the east and west façade may be original but were extended on the west façade to the roofline to replicate the original design.

<b>Criterion 2</b>	
The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.	<b>No</b>
<b>Response to Criterion</b>	
Heritage staff have reviewed primary sources including fire insurance plans for the subject building, compared the building to others of similar age or typology, and consulted relevant secondary sources including architectural history books. Staff’s review concluded that due the building’s vernacular Edwardian Classicism design with a simple rectangular footprint, typical red brick cladding, minimal ornamentation (brick detailing and simple cornice), the property does not display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.	

<b>Criterion 3</b>	
The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.	<b>No</b>
<b>Response to Criterion</b>	
Heritage staff have reviewed primary sources including fire insurance plans for the subject building, compared the building to others of similar age or typology, and consulted relevant secondary sources including architectural history books. Staff’s review concluded that the construction method for 297 Dupuis 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.	

<sup>12</sup> “Addition To School,” *The Ottawa Journal*, October 13, 1930, accessed August 2, 2024, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/46246972/>.

<b>Criterion 4</b>	
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.	<b>Yes</b>
<p><b>Response to Criterion</b></p> <p>297 Dupuis Street has historical value because it has direct associations with the theme of early education in Janeville and Les Filles de la Sagesse (The Daughters of Wisdom). Constructed in 1912 to accommodate the growing community of Janeville, the Montfort School is the earliest remaining Separate school building in the area. The Montfort School was operated by the religious order, The Daughters of Wisdom from 1912 until its closure in 1958. The Daughters of Wisdom arrived in Janeville in 1891 and focused on children’s education and were highly involved in French-speaking Catholic instruction in Vanier for several decades.</p> <p>297 Dupuis Street also has historical value because it has direct associations with the City of Vanier and illustrates the administrative history of Vanier during its shift from the Town of Eastview to the City of Eastview to the City of Vanier in 1969 before it was amalgamated with the City of Ottawa in 2001. After the closure of the Montfort School in 1958, 297 Dupuis Street served as a variety of functions including the municipal library and some City of Eastview then City of Vanier administrative offices. By 1972, all City Hall services were operated from the building including the police department until 1985. 297 Dupuis Street was a building central to the community during this period and used for a variety of functions to serve local needs.</p>	

**Supporting Details – Criterion 4**

297 Dupuis Street has historical value because it has direct associations with the theme of early education in Janeville and the involvement of the Les Filles de la Sagesse (The Daughters of Wisdom). In the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, the Montfortian family of Roman Catholic congregations were formed which included The Company of Mary, The Daughters of Wisdom, and the Brothers of Saint Gabriel.<sup>13</sup> The Montfortians first came to Canada in 1883, followed by The Daughters of Wisdom who established a large agricultural orphanage in Quebec.<sup>14</sup> At the request of the Archbishop of Ottawa Thomas Duhamel to manage the Cryville parish, The Company of Mary Montfort missionaries arrived in Janeville in 1887 and established Notre-Dame de Lourdes Church.<sup>15</sup> The Montfortians required assistance in the education of Janeville’s children, and The Daughters of Wisdom arrived in 1891 to help.<sup>16</sup> Into the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century, The

<sup>13</sup> “Who we are: The Daughters of Wisdom,” Congregation Daughters of Wisdom, accessed July 26, 2024, <https://www.fdsagesse.org/en/about-the-daughters-of-wisdom/who-we-are/>.

<sup>14</sup> Andrée Bourassa, *La petite histoire de Vanier* (Ottawa: O.V.U.L., 1975), 34.

<sup>15</sup> Association des citoyens de Vanier, *La petite histoire de Vanier* (Ottawa: O.V.U.L., 1975), 34.

<sup>16</sup> Vanier-On-the-Ottawa, 17; “The Daughters of Wisdom,” 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, Vanier Museopark, Ottawa, Ontario, accessed July 26, 2024, [https://www.histoiresdecheznous.ca/v1/pm\\_v2.php?id=story\\_line&lg=Francais&fl=0&ex=00000849&sl=9593&pos=1](https://www.histoiresdecheznous.ca/v1/pm_v2.php?id=story_line&lg=Francais&fl=0&ex=00000849&sl=9593&pos=1), 66; “Entrevue avec Robert Serré sur l’arrivée de la congrégation des Filles de la Sagesse à Vanier,” 49.

Daughters of Wisdom were devoted to educating the French-speaking children in Notre-Dame de Lourdes parish and beyond.

Janeville's population by the early 1880s was sufficient to establish its first public school, a one room school, which opened in 1884 on Montgomery Street.<sup>17</sup> In 1888, the Separate School Board was created and the first Separate school in Janeville was constructed in 1889 on the south side of Montréal Road between Cyr Avenue and Cody Avenue, and was run by The Daughters of Wisdom.<sup>18</sup> The establishment of Notre Dame de Lourdes and the first Separate school illustrates the growing French-Canadian population moving to Janeville in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

By the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, there is need for a second Separate school, and the building at 297 Dupuis was constructed in 1912 and opened in September for the first school year.<sup>19</sup> A corner-stone ceremony was held on June 2, 1912 and was attended by Bishop Routhier of the Ottawa Cathedral and Father Kalen, pastor of the Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes, and Bishop Routhier "gave an address in French and English congratulating the people of Eastview and expressing the most sincere wishes for the prosperity of the village."<sup>20</sup>



Corner stone blessing of the Montfort School, 2 June 1912, Source: Muséoparc Vanier, MVM.2011.0004.0001.

The Daughters of Wisdom operated the Montfort School from its opening in 1912 and taught both girls and boys, with girls instructed on the first floor and boys on the

<sup>17</sup> Philip Shea, *History of Eastview* (Ottawa: The Historical Society of Ottawa, 1964), 2.

<sup>18</sup> Robert Serré, *Pioneer Families of Janeville (Gloucester Township)*, (Ottawa: Gloucester Historical Society, 2008), 9; Shea, *History of Eastview*, 2; "The History of Gloucester Schools," The Gloucester Historical Society, last modified March 20, 2024, accessed July 26, 2024, <https://www.gloucesterhistory.com/Gloucester%20Schools.pdf>.

<sup>19</sup> "New School Is Now Named." Note: the school was originally name Eastview Separate School until the competition to name it was completed and Montfort School was selected. Was also referred to as the Montfort Separate School,

<sup>20</sup> "New School Is Now Named."



second.<sup>21</sup> Former students recall there were some lay teachers, but the majority were Daughters of Wisdom nuns, and their positive experience attending Montfort School.<sup>22</sup> In 1914, the first Janeville Separate School was converted to Eastview town hall which meant all local Catholic students attended Montfort School until Ducharme School was built in 1938. The Daughters of Wisdom administered Montfort School for 46 years until its closure in 1958, which at that time has 17 rooms.<sup>23</sup>



Montfort School Dental Care Classroom, 1947, Dupuis Street, Eastview (Vanier) (Ontario), Canada, Source: Archives-FDLS Canada/MAS, L1\_426.



Grade 5 class of Sister Irène Mainguy from Montfort School 1947 Dupuis Street, Eastview (Vanier) (Ontario), Canada; Source: Archives-FDLS Canada/MAS, L1\_903.

In addition to operating the Janeville Separate School on Montréal Road and the Montfort School, the Daughters of Wisdom ran a number of other Catholic schools in Vanier within and outside the Notre Dame de Lourdes parish.<sup>24</sup> This included Ducharme School (1937-1948), Notre-Dame School (1938), Assumption School (1949), Cadieux School (1958), and Glaude School (1958).<sup>25</sup> They also instructed schools outside of the Notre Dame de Lourdes parish but still in Vanier such as Baribeau School (1953-1999).<sup>26</sup> As well, The Daughters of Wisdom operated their own respected boarding

<sup>21</sup> "The Daughters of Wisdom," 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, 66.

<sup>22</sup> "Entrevue avec Madame Rita Viau-Quéry au sujet de son passage à l'école Monfort," and "Entrevue avec Madame Rita Viau-Quéry au sujet des soeurs de la congrégation des Filles de la Sagesse," 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, 121, 122.

<sup>23</sup> "Eastview Boasts Two Separate School Boards," *The Ottawa Journal*, January 14, 1963, accessed July 26, 2024, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/42416235/>.

<sup>24</sup> "The Daughters of Wisdom," 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, 66.

<sup>25</sup> "The Daughters of Wisdom," 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, 66.

<sup>26</sup> "The Daughters of Wisdom," 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, 66; "The History of Gloucester Schools."

school from 1891 to 1903 then 1909 to 1970, and a novitiate.<sup>27</sup> Evidently, The Daughters of Wisdom were instrumental in the education of French Catholic children in Vanier in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

297 Dupuis Street also has historical value because it has direct associations and illustrates the administrative history of Vanier around the shift from the Town of Eastview to the City of Eastview to the City of Vanier in 1969 before it was amalgamated with the City of Ottawa in 2001. After its use as a Separate school, 297 Dupuis Street held a variety of functions over the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century including many municipal functions to serve the community. It was the home of office and commercial spaces, classrooms, the municipal library, Vanier City Hall and police station, and most recently condominiums.

1961 - 1965: Department of National Defence Superannuation [pension plan] Office<sup>28</sup>

1964 - 1967: Berkley Products Co Ltd Butchers Equip and Supplies<sup>29</sup>

1967 – 1971: Department of National Defence Joint Services Language School<sup>30</sup>

1967 - 1971: Eastern Glass<sup>31</sup>

1967 - 1968: Eastview City Hall<sup>32</sup>

1969 - 1971: Vanier City Hall; Vanier Public Library<sup>33</sup>

1972 - 1985: Vanier City Hall (including the Mayor's Office and Vanier Building Inspection), Vanier Police Department<sup>34</sup>

1987 – 1998: office and/or commercial spaces (up to ten units)<sup>35</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> "The Daughters of Wisdom," 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, 2.

<sup>28</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1961, pink 123; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1962, pink 135; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1963, pink 139; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1964, pink 154; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1965, pink 106.

<sup>29</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1964, pink 154; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1965, pink 106; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1966, pink 119; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1967, pink 126.

<sup>30</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1967, pink 126; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1968, pink 131; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1969, green 135; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1970, green 137; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1971, green 141.

<sup>31</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1967, pink 126; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1968, pink 131; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1969, green 135; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1970, green 137; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1971, green 141

<sup>32</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1967, pink 126; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1968, pink 131.

<sup>33</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1969, green 135; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1970, green 137; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1971, green 141.

<sup>34</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1972, green 146; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1973, green 161; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1974, green 174; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1975, green 175; ; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1984, green 211.

<sup>35</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1987, green 174; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1988-89, green 181; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1990, green 190; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1992, green 143; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1993-94, green 141; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1997, green 176.

1998 – today: Les Lofts du Montfort<sup>36</sup>

The town was elevated to the City of Eastview in 1963,<sup>37</sup> and by 1968, they had outgrown its city hall building they had been occupying in since 1914, in the first Separate school on Montréal Road between Cyr Avenue and Cody Avenue.<sup>38</sup> The solution was to rent space at 297 Dupuis Street, and the Mayor's and administrative offices moved in the first floor in the fall of 1968.<sup>39</sup> The relocation also included the municipal library for a brief period and they occupied the basement of 297 Dupuis Street.

In 1972, a fire destroyed City Hall on Montréal Road, which was still occupied by Vanier Police and Council Chambers.<sup>40</sup> This resulted in their move to 297 Dupuis Street, and all City Hall services being under one roof. This ended when the Vanier Police Department merged with the Ottawa Police Department in 1985 which meant the force vacated the basement of 297 Dupuis Street.<sup>41</sup> In the same year, City Hall moved into two floors at Richelieu Community Centre until 2001 when Vanier amalgamated with the City of Ottawa.<sup>42</sup> Therefore 297 Dupuis Street was used a City Hall for 18 years which covered the period between the shift from the City of Eastview becoming the City of Vanier in 1969.



Vanier's Police sign on the side of City Hall on the Dupuis Street, Source: Muséoparc Vanier

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<sup>36</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1998, green 176; *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1999, green 176.

<sup>37</sup> "Vanier," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, last modified March 4, 2015, accessed August 1, 2024, [https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/vanier#:~:text=The%20communities%20were%20joined%20in,Canada%20\(1959%2D67\).](https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/vanier#:~:text=The%20communities%20were%20joined%20in,Canada%20(1959%2D67).)

<sup>38</sup> "Administrative nightmare' hits Vanier police in wake of station, council chamber fire," *The Ottawa Journal*, February 4, 1972, accessed August 1, 2024, <https://newspapers.com/image/44483355/>; "Eastview Expands Working Space," *The Ottawa Citizen*, September 8, 1968, accessed August 1, 2024, <https://newspapers.com/image/42590268/>.

<sup>39</sup> "Eastview Expands Working Space."

<sup>40</sup> "Administrative nightmare' hits Vanier police in wake of station, council chamber fire."

<sup>41</sup> "Vanier Condominiums planned," *The Ottawa Citizen*, September 30, 1986, accessed August 1, 2024, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/464252328/>; [https://cityofottawaarchives.newspapers.com/image/455703866/?match=1&terms=vanier city hall](https://cityofottawaarchives.newspapers.com/image/455703866/?match=1&terms=vanier%20city%20hall) "Vanier officers begin service with Ottawa force," *The Ottawa Citizen*, January 2, 1985, accessed August 1, 2024, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/464261920/>.

<sup>42</sup> "Circuit Vanier," Vanier Museopark, 2009, accessed August 1, 2024, <https://www.theinquiry.ca/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/White-Fathers-Richeleau-Vanier-Park.pdf>, 1-2.

297 Dupuis Street was a building central to the community throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century functioning as a school for the first half, educating the local Catholic children, followed by the second half of the century used for administrative and municipal function to serve and meet a variety of local needs. Specifically for 18 years, the building functioned as City Hall during its shift from the City of Eastview into the City of Vanier.

<b>Criterion 5</b>	
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.	<b>No</b>
<b>Response to Criterion</b> Based on research conducted by Heritage Staff, the property at 297 Dupuis Street does not yield information that contributes to the understanding of a community or culture.	

<b>Criterion 6</b>	
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.	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Response to Criterion</b> 297 Dupuis Street has historical value because it demonstrates the work of architect Francis Conroy Sullivan, who was significant to the architecture community in Canada. Francis Conroy Sullivan was the first Canadian student of Frank Lloyd Wright and is credited with bringing the Prairie School of architecture style to Canada. From 1908 to 1911, he worked for the Chief Architect for the Canadian Department of Public Works and subsequently operated his own firm until 1916. Under his practice, Sullivan designed a range of buildings from the Gainsborough Apartments on Metcalfe Street, his own home at 346 Somerset Street East, the Edward P. Connors's residence at 166 Huron Avenue North, and the Pembroke Public Library. Sullivan designed many schools and additions for the Separate School Board (Ottawa Catholic School Board), including 297 Dupuis Street. These buildings exemplify Sullivan's application of the Prairie Style and an eclectic Edwardian Classicism in and around Ottawa.	

**Supporting Details – Criterion 6**

Architect Background

297 Dupuis Street was designed by architect Francis Conroy Sullivan, who was born in 1882 and raised in Kingston, Ontario.<sup>43</sup> Around 1900, Francis moved with his family to Ottawa and began his career as a carpenter's apprentice under his uncle then worked

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<sup>43</sup> "Francis Conroy Sullivan," The Canadian Encyclopedia, last modified December 16, 2013, <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/francis-conroy-sullivan>

as a draftsman.<sup>44</sup> From 1903 to 1905, Sullivan joined Ottawa architect, Moses Chamberlain Edey's team as a draftsman, and drew most plans for the Daly Building (constructed in 1904, demolished in 1992), which was Ottawa's only Chicago Style buildings and suggests Sullivan's future interest in the Chicago Prairie School of Architecture.<sup>45</sup> Between 1905 and 1907, he worked for prominent Ottawa architect E. L. Horwood, however Sullivan disapproved of the conservative architecture firms of the time, spurring him study in the United States. Briefly in 1907, Sullivan studied under Frank Lloyd Wright, considered to be one of the great American architects and known for his work in the Prairie School style, at his studio at Oak Park, Illinois then in San Francisco, California.<sup>46</sup> Sullivan was the first of two Canadian pupils to study under Frank Lloyd Wright, and is credited with bringing the Prairie School north and pioneering this modern architectural style in Canada.<sup>47</sup>



MR. FRANCIS C. SULLIVAN, the young Ottawa architect who designed and equipped the new Municipal Hospital on Porter's Island.

"Hospital Architect," Source: The Ottawa Journal, February 8, 1913, 1, <https://newspapers.com/image/44321826/>.

### Body of Work

Sullivan returned to Ottawa in 1908 and until 1911, he worked as an architect in the Department of Public Works Chief Architect's department.<sup>48</sup> In 1911 he received the contract for The Pembroke Library and gained local recognition which allowed him to open his own firm from 1911 to 1916.<sup>49</sup> Although only a five year period, he designed 40 buildings and at minimum 25 projects were constructed.<sup>50</sup> Sullivan designed quite a range of buildings from apartment buildings such as Gainsborough Apartments at 260 Metcalfe Street, public buildings including comfort stations in the ByWard Market and on O'Connor Street (demolished), Fire Station No. 7 at Arthur Street, Hopewell Smallpox Hospital on Porter's Island (demolished), new Separate schools and additions,

<sup>44</sup> "Sullivan, Francis Conroy (1882-1929)," Ontario Association of Architects, accessed July 30, 2024, [https://oaa.on.ca/Assets/Common/Shared\\_Documents/Awards/Honour%20Roll/SULLIVAN,%20Francis%20Conroy.pdf](https://oaa.on.ca/Assets/Common/Shared_Documents/Awards/Honour%20Roll/SULLIVAN,%20Francis%20Conroy.pdf).

<sup>45</sup> "The Sullivan Touch," *The Ottawa Citizen*, November 21, 1991, C4, accessed July 30, 2024, [https://www.proquest.com/hnpottawacitizen/pagelevelimagepdf/2337180310/pagelevelImagePDF/\\$N/1?t:lb=t&ccountid=46526&source=Newspapers](https://www.proquest.com/hnpottawacitizen/pagelevelimagepdf/2337180310/pagelevelImagePDF/$N/1?t:lb=t&ccountid=46526&source=Newspapers).

<sup>46</sup> "The Sullivan Touch," *The Ottawa Citizen*, November 21, 1991, C3, accessed July 30, 2024, <https://www.proquest.com/hnpottawacitizen/docview/2337180672/8DD30D39A9474CC1PQ/1?accountid=46526&source=Newspapers>.

<sup>47</sup> Note: Roger D'Astous was the second pupil, "Roger D'Astous," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*, last modified December 14, 2013, <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/roger-dastous>; "Francis Conroy Sullivan," *The Canadian Encyclopedia*; "Sullivan, Francis Conroy (1882-1929)," Ontario Association of Architects.

<sup>48</sup> "The Sullivan Touch," C4.

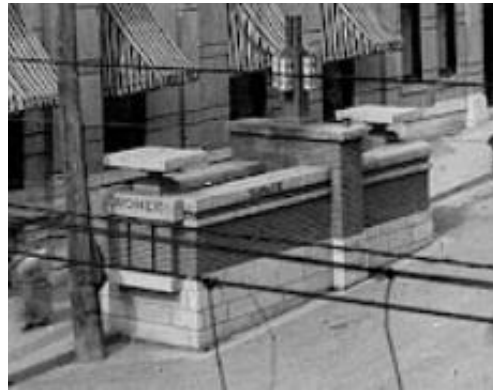
<sup>49</sup> "Sullivan, Francis Conroy (1882-1929)," OAA.

<sup>50</sup> "The Sullivan Touch," C4.

and private residences including his own residence at 346 Somerset Street East built in 1914. He also designed two churches and only one remains, St. Clare Mission Catholic Church on Dwyer Hill Road constructed in 1915.<sup>51</sup>



Pembroke Public Library (1912-13), Source: Google Streetview, 2012



O'Connor Street comfort station, west side of O'Connor Street, north of Sparks (1915), Source: LAC a042868-v8



Sullivan residence, 346 Somerset Street East (1914), Source: Google Street View, 2019



Edward P. Connors residence, 166 Huron Avenue (1914-15), Source: Google Street View, 2023



St. Clare Mission Catholic Church, 4009 Dwyer Hill Road (1915), Source: Google Street View, 2021

<sup>51</sup> "Sullivan, Francis Conroy," Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada 1800 – 1950.

Sullivan also designed a few buildings outside of Ottawa including The Pembroke Library, post offices in Shawville, Quebec and Stonewall, Manitoba, and he collaborated with Wright on the Banff Park Pavilion.<sup>52</sup> He also designed Carcross Residential School in Carcross, Yukon, known for having some of the worst living conditions at a residential school in Canada.<sup>53</sup>

Even early in his career, Sullivan disliked conservative Ottawa architects and was more interested in modern architecture.<sup>54</sup> It is believed Frank Lloyd Wright's influence can be demonstrated in Sullivan's work, as they both aimed to design "organic architecture," described as being reflective of the work's function and the local environment, and with every element contributing to the overall unity.<sup>55</sup> However there are differences between Wright's mid-west Prairie Style which are characterized by low, horizontal proportions, whereas Sullivan's Prairie Style application had more vertical features that "create tension within the masses."<sup>56</sup> Sullivan's style has been described as the combination of Prairie Style's low, horizontal massing with the Late Gothic Revival in order to suit the local environment.<sup>57</sup> "Sullivan did something no local architect was doing at the time he designed buildings that ignored historical references."<sup>58</sup> The self-taught architect's revolutionary style and his brash personality weren't always well received during his lifetime. However, modernist architecture did reappear about a decade after his death in 1929 thanks to his work and the Canadian Prairie Style entered the vernacular in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>59</sup>

### The Property Within The Architect's Body of Work

Although Sullivan is most known for his Prairie Style buildings, in his early career and his commercial practice from 1911 to 1916, he also designed in a wide-ranging application of Edwardian Classicism.<sup>60</sup> However there do appear to be similarities that carry through multiple designs including with 297 Dupuis Street. We can see similarities between 297 Dupuis Street and Sullivan's No 7 Fire Station on Arthur Street with their pier buttresses with angled copings and the overlapping geometric motifs.

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<sup>52</sup> "Sullivan, Francis Conroy," Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada 1800 – 1950, accessed July 31, 2024, <http://dictionaryofarchitectsincanada.org/node/1341>.

<sup>53</sup> "Sullivan, Francis Conroy," Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada 1800 – 1950.

<sup>54</sup> Martin Birkhans, "The Life and Work of Francis C. Sullivan, Architect, 1882-1929," (Thesis for Master of Architecture, School of Architecture, 1964), 10.

<sup>55</sup> Birkhans, "The Life and Work of Francis C. Sullivan, Architect, 1882-1929," 18-19.

<sup>56</sup> "Francis Conroy Sullivan," The Canadian Encyclopedia.

<sup>57</sup> "The Sullivan Touch," C4.

<sup>58</sup> "The Sullivan Touch," C3.

<sup>59</sup> "The Sullivan Touch," C4.

<sup>60</sup> Midcentury Modernist, "A Tale of Two Francis Sullivan Buildings."



58 Arthur Street Street (1912), Source: Wilf Nelligan, <https://urbsite.blogspot.com/2013/06/a-tale-of-two-francis-sullivan-buildings.html>



58 Arthur Street Street (1912), Source: Google Streetview, 2019

After working with Edey on St. Charles Catholic School with the Ottawa Separate School Board,<sup>61</sup> Sullivan obtained several other Separate school contracts. This might have been because of his personal connection, as his wife, Mildred Genest, was the daughter of the Separate School Board member, Samuel Genest at the time.<sup>62</sup>



Drawings of Eastview School (1912), Source: The Contract Record, September 25, 1912, <https://archive.org/details/contractrecordv26p03/page/n1385/mode/2up>

In addition to Montfort School, Sullivan also designed Sacred Heart Separate School in Hintonburg<sup>63</sup> 19 Melrose Avenue retains its original entrance, canopy, and stone name

<sup>61</sup> "50 Years 50 Stories: 27. ST. CHARLES SCHOOL / SCHOOLHOUSE SQUARE," Heritage Ottawa, accessed July 31, 2024, <https://heritageottawa.org/50years/st-charles-school-schoolhouse-square>.

<sup>62</sup> Birkhans, "The Life and Work of Francis C. Sullivan, Architect, 1882-1929," 11, 36; "Marriages: Sullivan-Genest," *The Ottawa Journal*, May 21, 1910, accessed July 31, 2024, <https://newspapers.com/image/43443397/>.

<sup>63</sup> "To Collect Special Tax."



plate, and its design is most similar to 297 Dupuis Street. Sullivan also designed additions for seven Separate Schools in 1912, including St. Mary's Catholic School, with a façade reminiscent of 297 Dupuis Street and 19 Melrose Avenue.



Sacred Heart Roman Catholic School, 19 Melrose Avenue, 1912, Source: Google Street View, 2019



St. Mary's Roman Catholic School, Young Street, 1912, Source: Lost Ottawa, Facebook, June 21, 2015, <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=931774450255113&set=pcb.931774603588431>

<b>Criterion 7</b>	
The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.	<b>No</b>
<p><b>Response to Criterion</b>                  297 Dupuis Street was constructed in 1912 when Eastview encompassed the area between Beechwood Avenue, St. Laurent Boulevard, McArthur Avenue, and the Rideau River. Eastview was centered around the commercial throughfare, Montréal Road, with residential areas on both sides. Arguably, 297 Dupuis Street is characteristic of Eastview's mixed character, however unfortunately most historic buildings on the south side of Montréal Road have been demolished, and the original character has been modified. There is a cluster of schools between Montréal Road, Olmstead Street, Jeanne Mance Street, and Lajoie Street, however 297 Dupuis Street was constructed decades before these later buildings.</p>	

<b>Criterion 8</b>	
The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.	<b>Yes</b>
<p><b>Response to Criterion</b>                  297 Dupuis Street has contextual value because it is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. Montfort School was the second Separate school to be built in Janeville and is the earliest remaining Separate school remaining in Vanier. The requirement to build 297 Dupuis Street as a new Catholic school was a result of increased enrollment around the time of amalgamation of Janeville, Clarkstown, and Clandeboye in 1909, to become Eastview, and its growing French Catholic population.</p>	

## **Supporting Details – Criterion 8**

297 Dupuis Street has contextual value because it is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. Montfort School was the second Separate school built in Janeville and is the earliest remaining Separate school building remaining in Vanier.<sup>64</sup> The need to build 297 Dupuis Street as a new school was the result of increased enrollment in the Eastview Separate School Board around the time of amalgamation of Janeville, Clarkstown, and Clandeboye in 1908 to become Eastview.<sup>65</sup>

The village of Janeville was established in 1873 and the neighbouring village Clarkstown which was centered on Beechwood Avenue established in the 1880s, had an estimated combined population of fewer than 300 residents around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>66</sup> In 1907, the population of Janeville was recorded as approximately 1000,<sup>67</sup> and after amalgamation into Eastview in the 1909 *Ottawa City Directory*, the population was 2,040.<sup>68</sup> An article from February 1909 roughly corroborates these statistics and reported the population of Eastview was 2,099 and approximately 400 lived in Clarkstown, indicating Janeville was approximately 1,700.<sup>69</sup> In November 1912, it was reported, “The population of Eastview, as completed in the last assessment roll, is 3,138.”<sup>70</sup> Evidently, Eastview saw significant growth in the early 1910s which resulted in the need for a second Separate school. The Montfort Separate School at 297 Dupuis Street was constructed and opened for classes for the fall semester in 1912.

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<sup>64</sup> “The History of Gloucester Schools.”

<sup>65</sup> “The Daughters of Wisdom,” 125th Anniversary of the Parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Vanier Virtual Museum of Canada, 66.

<sup>66</sup> Mike Steinhauer, “The History of the Vanier Parkway – Part One: Bytown and Prescott Railway Company,” VanierNow, last modified February 25, 2013, <https://vaniernow.blogspot.com/2013/02/the-history-of-vanier-parkway-part-one.html>.

<sup>67</sup> <https://www.newspapers.com/image/456074674/?match=2&terms=population%20janeville>

<sup>68</sup> *The Ottawa City Directory*, 1909, 754.

<sup>69</sup> <https://www.newspapers.com/image/455704080/?match=1&terms=population%20clarkstown>

<sup>70</sup> “More County Councillors,” *The Ottawa Journal*, November 26, 1912, accessed July 31, 2024, <https://www.newspapers.com/image/43601237/>.

Janeville’s first public school opened in 1884 on the site of 307 Montgomery Avenue and the first Separate School in Janeville opened in 1889 on the south side of Montréal Road between Cyr Avenue and Cody Avenue. In 1910, the Ottawa Separate School Board commissioned Moses Chamberlain Edey and Francis Conroy Sullivan to build St. Charles Separate School at 24 Springfield Road for the predominantly French-Canadian Catholic population of the former village of Clarkstown and New Edinburgh.<sup>71</sup> Two years later, Montfort Separate School was constructed at 297 Dupuis Street for the Eastview Separate School Board to likewise serve the French Catholic children of Eastview. Montfort School had its third floor added circa 1930 to accommodate another six classrooms and 200 pupils to accommodating Eastview’s growing population.<sup>72</sup> 297 Dupuis Street therefore illustrates the demographics and the needs of the community in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.



St. Charles Separate School, Source: Google Streetview, 2016

<b>Criterion 9</b>	
The property has contextual value because it is a landmark	<b>No</b>
<b>Response to Criterion</b>	
297 Dupuis Street does not have contextual value as a landmark. Its vernacular and Edwardian Classicism architectural features are seen throughout the historic neighbourhood of Eastview, with its rectangular shape, red brick cladding, and subtle brick detailing. Additionally, its front façade faces Dupuis Street, and its renovated porches are most visible on from Montréal Road. However, although not a landmark, the building’s location south of Montréal Road, an important thoroughfare in historic Janeville to Vanier today, and it’s use as City Hall and several other municipal services in the 1960s to 1980s, likely made 297 Dupuis Street a well-known building to community members.	

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<sup>71</sup> “50 Years 50 Stories: 27. ST. CHARLES SCHOOL / SCHOOLHOUSE SQUARE,” Heritage Ottawa.

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