

## **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value**

### **Description of Property**

The building at 66 Queen Street is a five-storey, stone-clad building on Queen Street between Metcalfe and Elgin Streets.

### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The property has design value as a rare remaining example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century commercial building in Centretown designed in the Romanesque Revival architectural style. The Romanesque Revival style was popular in Canada from the 1840s to the early 1900s. The style was frequently used in civic, commercial, institutional, and religious buildings. The building at 66 Queen Street features typical elements of the Romanesque Revival Style including its heavy massing, rusticated stone cladding, and arched window openings.

The building has physical value as it displays a high degree of craftsmanship for an early commercial building in Ottawa. This is demonstrated through the building's rusticated stone cladding, carved stonework, and the use of material detailing in the building's copper architrave, frieze, and cornice, and metal spandrel panels. These features are indicative of a high-level craftsmanship and skillful manual labour.

The property at 66 Queen Street has associative value because it has direct associations with Sir James W. Woods and the Woods Manufacturing Company. James W. Woods established the Woods Manufacturing Company in 1895. The Woods Manufacturing Company was one of the most well-known outdoor outfitters in Canada. The company provided supplies for historic explorations and is credited with introducing the first down-filled parka and sleeping bag. The building at 66 Queen Street was constructed as the Woods Manufacturing Company's first warehouse, wholesale store, and main headquarters in Ottawa. Due to the rapid expansion of business, the Woods Manufacturing Company only used this space from 1900 until 1903. The building at 66 Queen Street is the last built remnant of a significant Ottawa business. James W. Woods was a significant member of Ottawa's business and charitable communities. Aside from his position as president of the Wood's Manufacturing Company, Woods was active in Ottawa's early real estate community, and involved with several local organizations including the Ottawa Board of Trade, Ashbury College, and the YMCA. Woods was also a militia officer, and was knighted after World War I.

The property has historical and associative value because it demonstrates and reflects the work of architect James Mather, one of Ottawa's most prominent and prolific architects in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Mather produced designs in a number of different architectural styles, including the Romanesque Revival style exhibited by 66 Queen Street, many of which are lost to demolition. The building serves as a relatively unaltered demonstration and reflection of Mather's early 20<sup>th</sup> century designs.

The building at 66 Queen Street has contextual value because it is historically and functionally linked to its surroundings. The building's location was chosen due to its proximity to the former Canadian Atlantic Railway, which ran along the Rideau Canal. At the time of construction, the building at 66 Queen Street was surrounded by other early industries and businesses, including the Bell Telephone Building, the Grand Union Hotel, the Office of the Free Press, and the Ottawa Electric Building. Initially constructed as a warehouse and factory for the Woods Manufacturing Company, the building at 66 Queen Street has been used as government office space, and later residential and commercial space, since 1903. The change in function of the building at 66 Queen Street reflects the area's change from an industrial center to its contemporary function as part of Ottawa's central business district.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

- Form and massing of original building, including five storey height, three bay façade, and rectangular massing
- Rusticated stone cladding
- First and second storey window openings including segmental arches, voussoirs and keystones
- Secondary stone cornice above the second storey, including corbels above rightmost ground floor entrance.
- Metal spandrel panels separating third and fourth storey windows, inscribed with "J.W Woods, 1900" in central bay
- Third floor rectangular windows
- Two-storey tall stone pilasters with simple stone capitals on third and fourth storey
- Fourth storey segmentally arched windows with voussoirs, and keystones.
- Heavy stone secondary cornice above fourth storey
- Fifth storey windows with flat arch, voussoirs, and exaggerated key stones.
- Copper architrave, frieze, and cornice above fifth storey.