

HERITAGE SURVEY AND EVALUATION FORM

Building Name and Address: Glebe Collegiate Institute, 212 Glebe Avenue

Construction Date: 1921-1923, Expanded in 1927

Original Owner: Ottawa Collegiate Institute Board



Source: May 2021 © Google

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE/ INTEREST

	Yes	No
Design Value	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historical Value	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contextual Value	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A property may be designated under Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* if it meets one or more of the above criteria. Ontario Regulation 09/06

Design or Physical Value

Architecture

Is the property a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method? YES NO

Glebe Collegiate Institute occupies the city block bound by Glebe Avenue to the north, First Avenue to the south, Percy Street to the east and Bronson Avenue to the west in the Glebe neighbourhood in central Ottawa. Situated mid-block with a sports field to the west and a parking lot and lawn to the east, the school was constructed between 1921 and 1923 with an addition in the same style constructed in 1927. The four storey school is a representative example of the Collegiate Gothic style, a sub-style of the Neo-Gothic movement popular throughout North America from the late 19th to mid 20th century (source: Collegiate Gothic, Washington State Department. TBC Ricketts et al). Neo-Gothic architecture primarily involved the adaptation of the Gothic and Gothic Revival architectural vocabulary to large scale buildings and was particularly pervasive in secondary and post-secondary educational architecture.

The red brick clad school features a stone foundation and limestone details throughout its exterior façades. The school is designed with a flat roof with a crenellated parapet wall on all four façades, adorned on select bays with a simplified stone relief of the school's crest. A stone drip edge sits on top of the foundation on all facades, and stone stringcourses wrap the building above the foundation and below the parapet. Select bays project out from the façade at a length of roughly 1-3 bricks at irregular intervals on the First Avenue, Bronson Avenue and Glebe Avenue facing façades. The fenestration pattern on all façades is consistent, typically arranged in bays of two or three narrow windows and featuring a simple stone surround. The Glebe Avenue, Percy Street, and Bronson Avenue facing façades feature windows at the foundation level arranged typically in groups of two or four.

The school's primary façade faces Percy Street and features a generally symmetrical façade with a central entrance frontispiece. The pedimented stone entry features an arch, transom, stepped parapet, recessed wood doors and

buttressed square pillars. The entrance is raised from grade, accessible via a five-step concrete staircase. The frontispiece contains two storeys of windows over the doors with continuous stone surrounds, tracery and quoins. It contains a spandrel between the floors and is topped with a stone relief of the school's original crest, featuring an illuminated oil lamp in the parapet. The spandrel contains smaller reliefs, with the left featuring an open book, the right a globe, and the centre a lamp. The stone entry contains spherical sconces on either side of the doors, similar in appearance to those which illuminate the Rideau Canal. To the right of the front entrance is a turret that extends past the parapet wall and features a distinct crenellation pattern.



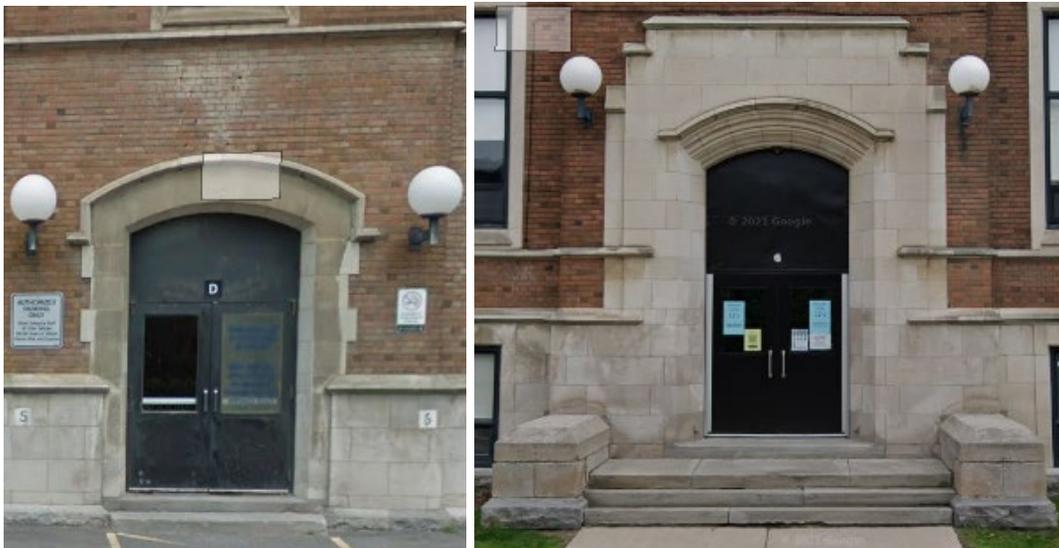
Details of front entrance at Glebe Collegiate (City of Ottawa, 2022)

There are a total of nine secondary entrances on the Glebe Avenue, First Avenue, and Bronson façades. All are similar but not identical and draw on the motifs present in the main entrance. Entrances on the original portion of the building are typically pedimented and feature a simple arch and a keystone with a blank crest. The second entrance removed from the central entrance demarcates the limit of the school's original building, with a narrow, three level window bay located above the entrance, itself topped with a bracketed projecting section of the parapet with crenellations matching the front turret. Entrances on the addition are more diverse,

with some featuring quoins, drip molds and small entrance staircases. Most entrances also feature spherical sconces matching the front entrance.



Secondary entrances facing First Avenue, on the original portion of the school (Google, 2022)



Secondary entrances on 1927 addition – facing First Avenue (left) and Glebe Avenue (Right) (Google, 2022)

Craftsmanship/Artistic Merit

Does the property display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit?

YES

NO

Glebe Collegiate Institute displays a high degree of artistic merit typical for schools designed in the Collegiate Gothic style. Notable features include the crest reliefs carved into and above the central and secondary entrances and parapet, and the turret adjacent to the main entrance.

Technical/Scientific Merit

Does the property demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement?

YES NO

Glebe Collegiate Institute demonstrates a degree of technical and scientific achievement typical for schools of its time. Architect J.A. Ewart, along with representatives of the Ottawa Collegiate Institute, visited the United States in 1921 to study contemporary school design and based elements of the design on their findings (Occupied Part New Collegiate In Fall).

Historical and Associative Value

Historical Associations

Does the property have direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community?

YES NO

The Glebe Collegiate Institute has direct historical associations with the development of Ottawa's public school system in the early twentieth century. As Ottawa's population increased and urbanized and the provincial Adolescent School Attendance Act of 1919 increased the age of compulsory education to 16, there was an exponential rise in the number of students in Ottawa, necessitating additional schools. Glebe Collegiate Institute was conceived as a secondary campus to the Ottawa Collegiate Institute - now Lisgar Collegiate at 29 Lisgar Street - Ottawa's first and at the time only secondary school, which by 1917 had become overcrowded (Source: Mallon). When Glebe Collegiate opened in 1922, it remained a campus of Ottawa Collegiate Institute, sharing a principal between the two sites (source: Finnigan, Joan p 173.). In 1927, an addition to the building was constructed to house a separate high school, the Ottawa High School of Commerce. In 1931, Glebe Collegiate Institute was established as a separate institute from Ottawa Collegiate Institute, and in 1967 the Ottawa High School of

Commerce moved to a new building on Rochester Street, today the location of the Adult High School (Commerce ceremony for opening). Glebe Collegiate Institute serves as a physical example of the growth in public education in Ottawa, existing at different times as a secondary campus to Ottawa Collegiate, a building housing two high schools, and today one institution.



Left: Glebe Collegiate circa 1926/1927, prior to construction of Ottawa High School of Commerce Addition. Right: Glebe Collegiate circa 1958, construction of addition complete.

Source: GeoOttawa, 2022

Glebe Collegiate Institute also has associations with its notable alumni, including: musical artists Alanis Morissette and Angela Hewitt, comedian Luba Goy, and news anchor Peter Mansbridge.



Glebe Collegiate Institute, Circa 1922

Source: Library and Archives Canada / Dept. of Interior / PA-034335

Community History

Does the property yield, or have the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture? YES NO

Glebe Collegiate Institute contributes to an understanding of the growth and development of Ottawa since the early 20th century and the history of public education throughout Ottawa and specifically in the Glebe. Existing as a functioning public school since its opening in 1922 and predating much of the western Glebe's growth, Glebe Collegiate Institute has served generations of students from the Glebe and other surrounding areas, reflecting the societal changes and successive demographic shifts since the early 20th century including periods the great depression, interwar growth and development in the Glebe, and the Second World War. Further analysis of Glebe Collegiate Institute, such as specific research into its students, their families, its administration, and the various community events and organizations which have used the school's public spaces may contribute to a greater understanding of the Glebe and the specific communities who have lived in the neighbourhood.

Representative Work

Does the property demonstrate or reflect the work or ideas of an architect, artist, building, designer or theorist who is significant to a community?

YES NO

The Glebe Collegiate Institute is a representative work of John Albert Ewart (1872-1964), a prominent Ottawa architect who designed several important buildings in Ottawa during his 60-year career. Ewart had a great knowledge of ecclesiastical architecture which influenced his refined Gothic revival design, and he also had a fascination towards the American Beaux-Arts style. He designed Glebe CI, and other school buildings in Ottawa including Ottawa Technical School and Fisher Park Secondary School (Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada). Some of his other works include the Southminster United Church, Carleton County Registry Office, Booth Building, Victoria Building, Ottawa Electric Company Building and Carling Telephone Exchange Building (Biographical Dictionary of Architects in Canada).

Contextual Value

Community Character

Is the property important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area? YES NO

Glebe Collegiate Institute plays an important role in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the Glebe neighbourhood. The Glebe is generally comprised of homes built in architectural styles popular in the early 20th century and set within a consistent streetscape. As a generally intact collegiate gothic building set on a city block sized lot, Glebe Collegiate Institute establishes and contributes significantly to the area's physical character

Context

Is the property physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings? YES NO

Glebe Collegiate Institute provides a functional and historical link to the development of the Glebe neighbourhood and the broader urban core of Ottawa through its continued role as a purpose built educational and community facility.

Landmark

Is the property a landmark? YES NO

Glebe Collegiate is an architecturally distinct building in the context of the immediate residential neighbourhood. The school is a landmark within the Glebe because of its longstanding use as a school and community space and its large size, occupying an entire city block within the neighbourhood..

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