

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest – 440 Grey Street

Legal Description

Description of Property

440 Grey Street is located in a residential neighbourhood on the north side of the street, between Colborne Street and Maitland Street. Contextually the residential block works to forms part of a large area of London, known as SoHo.

Grey Street is a one-way street, which runs in an east-west direction from Adelaide Street in the East, to the Labatt's Brewery in the west near the Thames River. Lighting, curbs, sidewalks and mature trees are present throughout the streetscape. The property has a rectangular lot that is similar in size and shape to neighbouring properties to the east and west. The property includes a detached one storey brick residential building, with a one storey detached structure at the rear of the parcel. The property was built in 1881. An unpaved driveway is located on the west edge of the property line.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property located at 329 Victoria Street, London, Ontario is of significant cultural heritage value because of its physical or design value, and its contextual value.

The built features of the property consist of a one-storey, brick residential structure. Built in 1881, the house is an Ontario Cottage executed in buff 'London' brick and exhibits a symmetrical 3-bay façade with central doorway and flanking windows that is typical of this style. The accessory building at the rear of the property is not believed to have any heritage value.

Contextually, the property is part of SoHo which is a candidate area for a future heritage conservation district which exhibits an abundance of heritage resources of similar styles, including 'mirror' dwelling at 442 Grey Street next door. Historically this area has been associated with Black settlement in London (Beth Emanuel Church a BME church and the recently moved Fugitive Slave Chapel are two doors away), and as a working class area. This cottage is no exception. Many of the property's early residents were labourers working at the Grand Trunk and Great Western railways, General Steel Wares Ltd and McClary Mfg. The area was also a site for the Jewish community in London and for a while (1914-26) Alex Mandel, a junk dealer, owned the property.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes which support or contribute to the cultural heritage value or interest of 440 Grey Street include:

- The one storey residential building;
- The setback of the house from the street;
- The buff brick cladding;
- The symmetrical 3-bay façade with central doorway and flanking windows
- The low hipped roof and the central small peaked gable;
- The two identical front two-over-two sash windows topped by segmented arch brick voussoirs;
- The west elevation evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows topped by segmented arch brick voussoirs;
- The front façade brick stringer 'frame' which effectively creates brick pilasters at the corners;
- The original paneled entrance door surround;
- The transom with etched coloured displaying the house number
- The rounded brick arched surround to the gable window