# STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE 26 COURTLAND AVENUE EAST



## **Summary of Significance**

- □ Design/Physical Value
- □ Contextual Value

- □Social Value
- □Economic Value
- □Environmental Value

Municipal Address: 26 Courtland Avenue East

Legal Description: Plan 398 Part Lot 20 GCT Part Lot 175

Year Built: 1889

**Architectural Style**: Vernacular Victorian Gothic

Original Owner: Martin Nelson

Original Use: Residence

Condition: Good

#### **Description of Cultural Heritage Resource**

26 Courtland Avenue East is one unit of a three-storey late 19<sup>th</sup> century brick row house building built in the Vernacular Victorian Gothic architectural style. Part of a walk-up row housing block known as "Nelson's Terrace" - the building is situated on a 0.05 acre parcel of land located on the north side of Courtland Avenue between Queen Street and Benton Street in the Mill Courtland Woodside Park Planning Community of the City of Kitchener

within the Region of Waterloo. The principal resource that contributes to the heritage value is the 9-unit walk-up row house building.

#### **Heritage Value**

26 Courtland Avenue East is known for its design/physical, historical/associative, and contextual values.

#### **Design/Physical Value**

The design and physical values of 26 Courtland Avenue East relate to the unique Vernacular Victorian Gothic architectural style that is in good condition with many intact original elements. The design value also relates to the walk-up row house building. Walk-up row housing is rare in the context of Kitchener, with not many examples of this housing typology in the City.

#### The building features:

- Yellow brick construction:
- Decorative brick work, including brick voussoirs, brick label trim and tri-brick keystones on the front façade of row-house;
- Flat roof with cornice, fascia and frieze;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> floor segmental door opening with voussoir;
- Segmental window openings;
- Original1/1 hung windows and window transoms on the basement and ground level of the front façade.

## Historical/Associative Value

The historical and associative values of 26 Courtland Avenue East relate to the original owner, purpose, and relationship to adjacent industrial buildings.

The building was constructed by Martin Nelson to accommodate the female workers from the adjacent Williams, Greene and Rome Shirt and Collar Factory on Queen Street South. Nelson also established the Nelson & Forsyth Foundry on King Street West at College Street. The Foundry produced furnaces, boilers, pipes, and heaters. Significant later owners of the row house building included: Isaac Shantz, A.O. Boehmer, and Joseph Bingeman.

Isaac Shantz took over Nelson's Foundry and the Shantz's operated it until 1910. He also bought the row-housing block. The units of the row house were individually sold beginning in 1947.

This walk-up row housing is also representative and supports the industrial development that was taking place in Kitchener in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **Contextual Value**

The contextual value of 26 Courtland Avenue East relates to the historic and visual links to the adjacent industrial buildings, including the former Williams, Green and Rome Shirt

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and Collar Factory (now known as the Bread and Roses Cooperative) and the Arrow Shirt Factory.

#### **Heritage Attributes**

The heritage value of 26 Courtland Avenue East resides in the following heritage attributes:

- All elements related to the construction and Vernacular Victorian Gothic architectural style of the building, including:
  - Yellow brick construction;
  - o The original height, scale, and massing of the townhouse;
  - o Original windows and window openings, including:
    - Segmental window openings;
    - 1/1 hung windows; and,
    - Stained glass transom;
  - Original doors and door openings, including:
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor segmental door opening;
    - Stained glass transom;
  - Roof and roofline, including:
    - Flat roof:
    - Cornice, fascia, and frieze;
  - Decorative brickwork, including:
    - Brick voussoirs;
    - Brick label trim; and,
    - Tri-brick keystones.
    - Stone Foundation

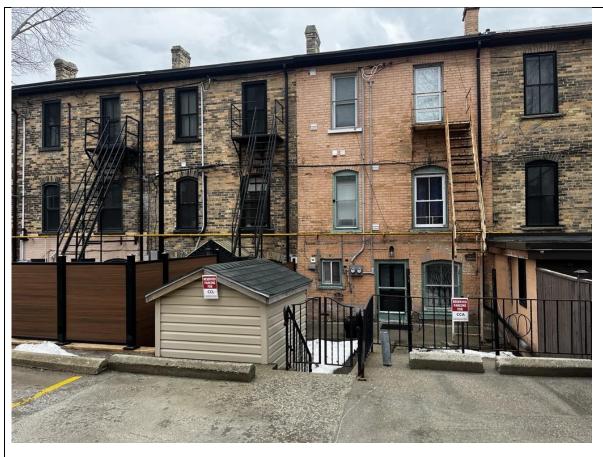
# **Photographs**



26 Courtland Avenue East – Entire Nelson Terrace Row House Building



Front Façade of 26 Courtland Avenue East



Rear Façade of 26 Courtland Avenue East