

# STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

## 87-91 King Street West



### Summary of Significance

Design/Physical Value

Historical Value

Contextual Value

Social Value

Economic Value

Environmental Value

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**Municipal Address:** 87-91 King Street West

**Legal Description:** Plan 380 Pt Lot 1 RP 58R6628 Parts 1 to 4 TOG WITH ROW

**Year Built:** c. 1898

**Architectural Style:** Vernacular Classic Revival

**Original Owner:** Unknown

**Original Use:** Commercial

**Condition:** Good

### Description of Cultural Heritage Resource

87-91 King Street West is a three-storey early 20<sup>th</sup>-century brick building. The building is constructed in the Vernacular Classic Revival architectural style. The building is situated on a 0.08-acre parcel of land located on the south side of King Street West between Gaukel Street and Ontario Street South in the City Commercial Core planning area of the City of Kitchener within the Region of Waterloo. The principal resource that contributes to the heritage value is the building.

## **Heritage Value**

83-85 King Street West is recognized for its design/physical, historical/associative and contextual values.

### **Design/Physical Value**

The property municipally addressed as 83-85 King Street West demonstrates design or physical value as an early and rare example of 20<sup>th</sup>-century, commercial brick building built in the Vernacular Classic Revival architectural style. The building has many intact heritage attributes and is in fair condition. Features which represent the Classic Revival architectural style include: nearly flat, low sloping roof; two-bay red brick façade; highly decorative brick cornice, brick frieze, and stone and brick architrave; ornamental brick moulding along with red brick corbelling; brick pilasters; semi-circular window openings; semi-circular transom design; 1/1 hung window design featuring decorative brick hood moulds with keystones and continuous stone sills; ribbon of three flat head window opening; flat head window openings; rectangular transoms; and, 1/1 hung window design with brick voussoirs and continuous stone sills.

### **Historical/Associative Value**

The property municipally addressed as 87-91 King Street West has historical/associative value given its direct association with early development of King Street West in what is now referred to as Downtown Kitchener. According to the 1898 (revised 1904) Fire Insurance Plan, the subject property was to be a 3-storey brick building for Pearl Steam Laundry. However, by 1901 Pearl Steam Laundry advertised their business as being located at 9 Queen Street South, and later at 90 Queen Street South (Vernon's Berlin and Waterloo, 1901-1903). The 1908 (revised 1925) Fire Insurance Plan identifies the subject property as a 3-storey brick building housing the Express Office. The Express Office is associated with early (1865) railway companies (Express Company Operations, date unknown). Various Vernon's directories reference either the Canadian Express Company or the Canadian National Express Company between 1908 and c. 1932.

### **Contextual Value**

The contextual value of the property relates to its location and proximity to adjacent commercial buildings that share the same Classic Revival architectural style and almost identical heritage attributes. It is likely that these buildings were constructed around the same time by the same builder. Collectively, the properties municipally addressed as 83-85 King Street West, 87-91 King Street West and 97-99 King Street West contribute to character of the Downtown and the King Street streetscape.

## **Heritage Attributes**

The heritage value of 83-85 King Street West resides in the following heritage attributes:

- All elements related to the construction and Classic Revival architectural style of the building, including:
  - nearly flat, low sloping roof;
  - two-bay red brick façade;
  - highly decorative brick cornice,
  - brick frieze, and stone and brick architrave;
  - ornamental brick moulding along with red brick corbelling;
  - brick pilasters;
  - semi-circular window openings;

- semi-circular transom design;
- 1/1 hung window design featuring decorative brick hood moulds with keystones and continuous stone sills;
- ribbon of three flat head windows in one large window opening;
- flat head window openings;
- rectangular transoms; and,
- 1/1 hung window design with brick voussoirs and continuous stone sills.

## **References**

Berlin Fire Insurance Map. (1894 revised 1904). Kitchener Public Library: Kitchener, ON.

Express Company Operations. (date unknown). Retrieved from:  
[https://www66.statcan.gc.ca/eng/1922-23/192207150643\\_p.%20643.pdf](https://www66.statcan.gc.ca/eng/1922-23/192207150643_p.%20643.pdf) [Accessed on: 2024, April 10).

Kitchener Fire Insurance Map. (1908 revised 1925). Kitchener Public Library: Kitchener, ON.

Tiessen, P. (1979). *Berlin, Canada: A Self-Portrait of Kitchener, Ontario Before World War One*. Sand Hills Books, Inc.: St. Jacob's, ON.

Twin-City Directory and Official Guide of the Towns of Berlin and Waterloo. (1907). Watts & Bowden: n.p., ON.

Vernon's Berlin and Waterloo. (1901-1903). Vernon Directories Limited: Hamilton, ON.

Vernon's Berlin, Waterloo and Bridgeport Directory. (1907-1908). Vernon Directories Limited: Hamilton, ON.

Vernon's Berlin, Waterloo and Bridgeport Directory. (1908-1909). Vernon Directories Limited: Hamilton, ON.

Vernon's Berlin, Waterloo and Bridgeport Directory. (1910-1911). Vernon Directories Limited: Hamilton, ON.

## Photographs



Front Elevation (North Façade) – 87-91 King Street West



Detailing of brick frieze, stone and brick architrave and ornamental brick moulding along with red brick corbelling



Detailing of third-storey semi-circular window openings; semi-circular transom design; 1/1 hung window design featuring decorative brick hood moulds with keystones and continuous stone sills



Detailing of second-storey with a ribbon of three windows in the first bay; two flat head window openings in the second bay; rectangular transoms; and, 1/1 hung window design with brick voussoirs and continuous stone sills



# CULTURAL HERITAGE EVALUATION FORM

Address: 87-91 King Street West Recorder: Michelle Drake

Description: Commercial façade; red brick; Classic Revival Date: March 19, 2024

(date of construction, architectural style, etc)

Photographs Attached:

Front Facade  Left Façade  Right Façade  Rear Facade  Details  Setting

<b><i>Designation Criteria</i></b>	<b><i>Recorder – Heritage Kitchener Committee</i></b>	<b><i>Heritage Planning Staff</i></b>
1. This 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.	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2. The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a high degree of technical or	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

<p>scientific achievement.</p> <p><i>* E.g. - constructed with a unique material combination or use, incorporates challenging geometric designs etc.</i></p>		
<p>4. 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.</p> <p><i>* Additional archival work may be required.</i></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5. 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.</p> <p><i>* E.g - A commercial building may provide an understanding of how the economic development of the City occurred. Additional archival work may be required.</i></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>6. The property has historical value or associative value because it demonstrates or</p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>

<p>reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.</p> <p><i>* Additional archival work may be required.</i></p>		
<p>7. The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.</p> <p><i>* E.g. - It helps to define an entrance point to a neighbourhood or helps establish the (historic) rural character of an area.</i></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>8. The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.</p> <p><i>* Additional archival work may be required.</i></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>9. The property has contextual value because it is a landmark.</p> <p><i>*within the region, city or neighborhood.</i></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Notes

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<b>Additional Criteria</b>	<b>Recorder</b>	<b>Heritage Kitchener Committee</b>
<b>Interior:</b> Is the interior arrangement, finish, craftsmanship and/or detail noteworthy?	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Completeness:</b> Does this structure have other original outbuildings, notable landscaping or external features that complete the site?	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Site Integrity:</b> Does the structure occupy its original site?  <i>* If relocated, is it relocated on its original site, moved from another site, etc.</i>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Alterations:</b> Does this building retain most of its original materials and design features? Please refer to the list of heritage attributes within the Statement of Significance and indicate which elements are still existing and which ones have been removed.	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Alterations:</b> Are there additional elements or features that should be added to the heritage attribute list?	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Condition:</b> Is the building in good condition?  <i>*E.g. - Could be a good candidate for adaptive re-use if</i>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

<p><i>possible and contribute towards equity-building and climate change action.</i></p>		
<p><b>Indigenous History:</b> Could this site be of importance to Indigenous heritage and history?</p> <p><i>*E.g. - Site within 300m of water sources, near distinct topographical land, or near cemeteries might have archaeological potential and indigenous heritage potential.</i></p> <p>Could there be any urban Indigenous history associated with the property?</p> <p><i>* Additional archival work may be required.</i></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p> <p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p> <p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p>
<p><b>Function:</b> What is the present function of the subject property?</p> <p><i>* Other may include vacant, social, institutional, etc. and important for the community from an equity building perspective.</i></p>	<p>Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/>          Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>          Office <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> -</p> <hr/>	<p>Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>          Office <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> -</p> <hr/>
<p><b>Diversity and Inclusion:</b> Does the subject property contribute to the cultural heritage of a community of people?</p> <p>Does the subject property have intangible value to a specific community of people?</p> <p><i>* E.g.- Waterloo Masjid (Muslim Society of Waterloo &amp; Wellington Counties) was the first established Islamic Center</i></p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p> <p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p>	<p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p> <p>N/A <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional Research Required</p>



<i>and Masjid in the Region and contributes to the history of the Muslim community in the area.</i>		
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Notes about Additional Criteria Examined

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### **Recommendation**

**Does this property meet the definition of a significant built heritage resource, and should it be designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act? (Does it meet two or more of the designation criteria?)**

N/A  Unknown  No  Yes

If not, please select the appropriate action for follow-up

- Keep on the Municipal Heritage Register
- Remove from the Municipal Heritage Register
- Additional Research Required

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

General / Additional Notes

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TO BE FILLED BY HERITAGE PLANNING STAFF:

Date of Property Owner Notification: \_\_\_\_\_