

## **Charles Hansen Canadian Laboratory**

### Description

The property at 833 King Street West is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value or interest, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the categories of design and contextual value. Located on southeast corner of King Street West and Walnut Street, three-storey building was constructed in 1934 for the Charles Hansen Canadian Laboratory. The property was listed on the inaugural City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties in 1973, and a Heritage Easement Agreement was registered in 1997. The former laboratory building has been converted into a residential condominium.

### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The Charles Hansen Canadian Laboratory is a good example of a small-scale industrial building that blends features of two of the most innovative styles of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Its design mixes the flat roof and horizontal fenestration of the Art Moderne with the angular outlines and applied ornament of the Art Deco. The laboratory building was designed by E. L. (Earle) Sheppard, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania who specialized in industrial designs after opening his architectural practice in Toronto in 1919. Sheppard's plans for the site addressed the irregularly shaped lot, angled as Walnut Street extends northwest to meet King Street West. Contextually, with its distinctive appearance, stepped outline, and position overlooking Stanley Park to the west, the Charles Hansen Canadian Laboratory is a local landmark on King Street, west of Bathurst Street.

### Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the Charles Hansen Canadian Laboratory related to its cultural heritage value as a good example of a small-scaled industrial building blending Art Moderne and Art Deco stylistic features are found on the principal (north façade), the west elevation, the east elevator shaft, and the flat roofline, consisting of:

- The three-storey irregularly-shaped stepped plan
- The concrete construction clad with buff brick and artificial stone
- The horizontal organization of the principal (north) facade where three floors of strip windows with metal muntins wrap around the west corner
- The stone band courses outlining the fenestration and the flat roofline
- The main entrance, where an elaborate stone doorcase with mouldings and an oversized ribbed keystone contains double doors and a transom with metal grillwork
- Flanking the entry, the pairs of narrow vertical windows that are set in full-height ribbed stone frames
- Above the east elevation, the elevator shaft that rises four stories and features

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION: 833 KING STREET WEST  
rectangular windows with brick voussoirs and stone sills

ATTACHMENT NO. 11B

- The balanced fenestration on the west elevation