

Authority: Planning and Housing Committee Item
PH27.17, as adopted by City of Toronto Council on
February 4, 2026
City Council voted in favour of this by-law on February 4,
2026
Written approval of this by-law was given by Mayoral
Decision 3-2026 dated February 4, 2026

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW 91-2026

To designate the property at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

Whereas the Ontario Heritage Act authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact By-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest; and

Whereas authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street as being of cultural heritage value or interest; and

Whereas the Council of the City of Toronto has caused to be served upon the owners of the lands and premises known as 342 and 344 Jarvis Street and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to designate the property, and has caused the Notice of Intention to be posted on the City's website for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4.1. Notice requirements under the Ontario Heritage Act; and

Whereas notice of objection was served upon the Clerk of the municipality within the prescribed time under the Ontario Heritage Act and was considered by City Council; and

Whereas the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule A to this By-law;

The Council of the City of Toronto enacts:

- 1.** The property at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street, more particularly described in Schedule B attached to this By-law, is designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest.
- 2.** The City Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule B to this By-law in the proper Land Registry Office.
- 3.** The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served upon the owners of the property 342 and 344 Jarvis Street at and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this By-law to be posted on the City's website for a period of 30 days in accordance with Municipal Code Chapter 162, Notice, Public, Article II, § 162-4.1. Notice requirements under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Enacted and passed on February 4, 2026.

Frances Nunziata,
Speaker

John D. Elvidge,
City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

SCHEDULE A**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE
REASONS FOR DESIGNATION
342 and 344 Jarvis Street****Reasons for Designation**

The properties at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street are worthy of designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act for their cultural value and meet Regulation 9/06, the provincial criteria prescribed for municipal designation.

Description

The subject properties at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street are located on the west side of Jarvis Street, north of Carlton Street, within the Upper Jarvis neighbourhood. Constructed between 1873 and 1875, the properties contain a pair of semi-detached house form structures designed in the Italianate architectural style. The structures are two-and-a-half stories with raised parlour floors, and were constructed for single-family occupancy, however, were later modified for rooming house, commercial and multi-unit use.

The properties were included on the Heritage Register in June 1973.

Statement of Cultural Heritage ValueDesign or Physical Value

The properties at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street have design and physical value as representative examples of the Italianate architectural style as applied to the semi-detached house-form building typology. The Italianate architectural style was popular in Toronto through the 1860s and into the 1870s, and was applied primarily to commercial and industrial properties, and in some instances urban residential house form structures as is the case with 342 and 344 Jarvis Street. Features representative of the Italianate architectural style include the planar primary (east) facade; the red and buff brick cladding with ornamental use of stone, terra cotta and wood architectural features; the round-arched window openings; and the low-pitched and side gable roofs.

Historical or Associative Value

The property at 342 Jarvis Street has historical and associative value due to its direct association with Clementyne's and later with the Lesbian Organization of Toronto (LOOT) in the mid 1970s to 1980. Founded as a women's cultural centre specifically oriented towards Toronto's growing feminist and lesbian communities, which had few formalized physical gathering spaces, Clementyne's brief but significant history at 342 Jarvis Street beginning in 1975 served as both a catalyst for ongoing organizing within the Toronto's lesbian community, and as a temporary gathering space. LOOT's subsequent use of the property to provide safe space, rental housing, and event space until 1980 as a primarily volunteer-run organization is a testament to the

willpower of those behind the organization and the need for space to gather, socialize, and organize within Toronto's lesbian and feminist communities.

The property at 342 Jarvis Street has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of Toronto's queer, feminist and lesbian community in the second half of the 20th century due to its direct association with LOOT and Clementyne's. Their tenure and use of the property during the 1970s and their ability to crowd-fund reflects the growing need and ability for these and similar groups to organize and secure space within the city at a time when significant prejudice existed against LGBTQ+ communities. The attempt of the local community association to force them to relocate to 519 Church Street, and LOOT and Clementyne's reluctance to do so, reflects prejudices of the period as well as the diversities within the LGBTQ+ community that existed during that time, and continue to exist today.

The property at 344 Jarvis Street has historic and associative value due to its direction association with the Elizabeth Fry Society. The Elizabeth Fry Society was founded in 1952 and established its first headquarters at 344 Jarvis Street the following year, in 1953, providing services and support of formerly incarcerated women as they re-integrated with society, many of whom would have lived or worked within the surrounding community. The Elizabeth Fry Society continued to operate within the adjacent community, later constructing their purpose-built offices on Wellesley Street East, east of Sherbourne Street.

Contextual Value

Contextually, the properties at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street are functionally and historically linked to the adjacent properties at 336, 338 and 340 Jarvis Street, which collectively form a collection of 19th century housing on the west side of Jarvis Street north of Carlton Street. A generally consistent setback and raised parlour floors, along with a common scale, form and massing, contribute to the block frontage's historic context. Visually, the subject properties at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street are linked to 19th century housing within the block frontage of Jarvis Street between Carlton Street and Maitland Street and are situated in an area with a concentration of properties built during the mid- to late Victorian period and that have been designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act.

The properties at 342 and 344 Jarvis Street are important in maintaining and supporting the character of the Upper Jarvis neighbourhood, comprised of a collection of 19th century house form buildings, the former Havergal College at 354 Jarvis Street, mid-to-late 20th and early 21st century multi-unit housing. Collectively, these properties reflect the evolution of Upper Jarvis from a subdivision of private homes located on a landscaped avenue to a high-density residential and institutional arterial corridor within downtown Toronto.

Heritage Attributes

Design or Physical Value

The following heritage attributes contribute to the cultural heritage value of the properties at 342-344 Jarvis Street being representative examples of a pair of semi-detached houses designed in the Italianate architectural style:

- The scale, form and massing of the subject properties, containing a pair of semi-detached two-and-a-half storey house form buildings with raised parlour floors set-back from the sidewalk
- The low-pitched roofs with central cross gable peak, punctuated by brick chimneys and set behind a simple cornice
- The buff and red brick primary (east) facades
- The terracotta, stone, and wood architectural features, including brackets, corbels, dentils, lintels, and sills
- The round-arch window openings with an emphasis on verticality in design
- The first storey bay windows with ornamental drip moulds, stone sills, and low-pitched bay window roof with ventilated eaves
- The raised parlour floor and the partially above grade lower level, which historically provided access to the working spaces of the house

Contextual Value

The following heritage attributes contribute to the cultural heritage value of the properties at 342-344 Jarvis Street being visually, functionally and historically linked to its surroundings and for maintaining and supporting the character of the area:

- The placement, setback and orientation of the structures on the west side of Jarvis Street north of Carlton Street
- The two-and-a-half storey scale of the primary (east) facades

Note: the existing stairs leading to the primary entrance are not identified as heritage attributes.

SCHEDULE B
LEGAL DESCRIPTION

PIN 21105-0076 (LT)

PART OF LOT 1, REGISTERED PLAN D17

DESIGNATED AS PART 1, PLAN 63R-1498

PIN 21105-0077 (LT)

PART OF LOT 1, REGISTERED PLAN D17

DESIGNATED AS PART 1 PLAN 63R-4657

City of Toronto and Province of Ontario

Land Titles Division of the Toronto Registry Office (No. 66)