

The property at 591 Markham Street is worthy of inclusion on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register for its cultural heritage value.

Description

The property at 591 Markham Street is located on the east side of Markham Street, north of Lennox Street and contains a 2½-storey detached house form building. Archival records indicate that in 1907 Toronto architect E. R. Babington was commissioned to design the dwelling, which was in place by September 1908 when it was occupied by its owner, Hugh Langley. The property became part of Mirvish Village after being acquired by Edwin "Honest Ed" Mirvish in the early 1960s.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The property at 591 Markham Street has cultural heritage value for the design of the early 20th century house form building as a representative example of its type with features derived from the Edwardian Classical style favoured during this era. The Hugh Langley House retains its architectural integrity with the original surviving features.

The Hugh Langley House is historically linked to Mirvish Village, the famed artists' enclave created by Ed Mirvish and his family on Markham Street between Bloor Street West and Lennox Street. Originally acquired for additional parking for the nearby "Honest Ed's" retail complex, the houses were saved and converted as an artists' enclave with studios as well as restaurants and unique shops. Mirvish Village became a cultural and tourist destination in Toronto, including the property at 591 Markham Street.

Contextually, the Hugh Langley House assists in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of Mirvish Village, which consists of the collection of preserved detached, semi-detached and multi-unit house form buildings dating to the late 19th and early 20th centuries that contribute to this special area within the Palmerston neighbourhood.

The property at 591 Markham Street is also visually, historically, physically and functionally connected to its setting on the east side of Markham Street in Mirvish Village where it complements the neighbouring house form buildings in scale, setback and vintage.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the building known historically as the Hugh Langley House on the property at 591 Markham Street are:

- The setback, placement and orientation of the building on the east side of Markham Street, north of Lennox Street
- The scale, form and massing of the 2½-storey rectangular plan

- The materials, with the brick cladding and the brick, stone and wood detailing
- The cross-gable roof, with the brick chimney on the north end and, on the west slope the gable with the wood detailing that contains a window opening
- The principal (east) elevation, which is organized into two bays above the first (ground) floor where the main entrance is elevated in the north bay
- On the east elevation, the fenestration that remains intact in the second storey