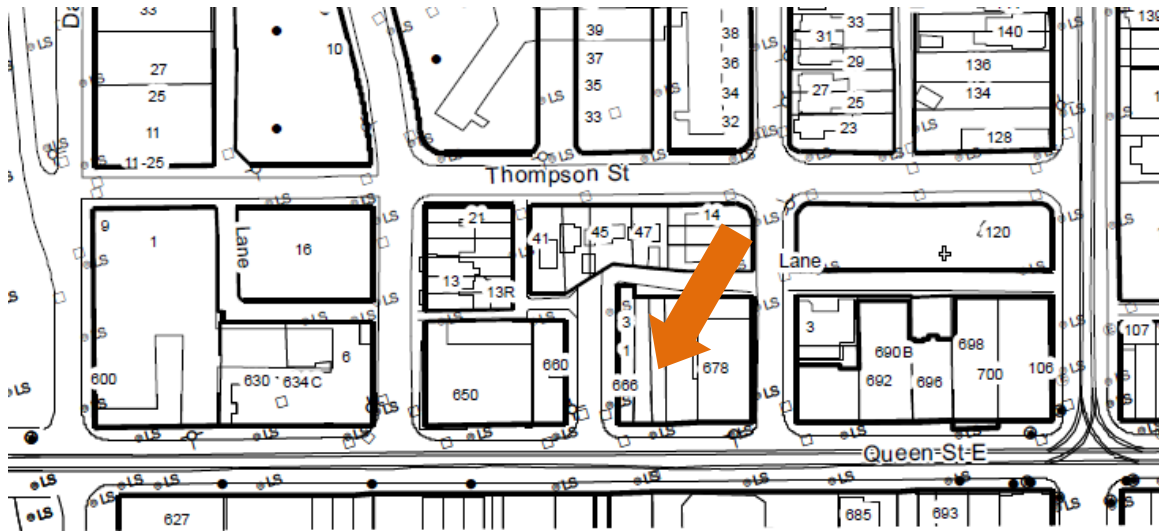


LOCATION MAP, PHOTOGRAPHS AND BACKGROUND:
668-670 QUEEN STREET EAST

ATTACHMENT NO. 2D



The **arrow** marks the location of 668-670 Queen Street East.
This location map is for information purposes only and is oriented with
North at the top. The exact boundaries of the property are not shown.



668-670 Queen Street East: Showing the
south elevation (*HPS, 2015*)



668-670 Queen Street East: showing the
details of the dormers and brick work on
the south elevation (*HPS, 2015*)

668-670 Queen Street East: Background

Located at the north side of Queen Street East between Munro and Hamilton streets, the Richard K. O'Keefe houses, (1886-1887) are a two-and-a-half storey, brick clad pair of semi-detached house form buildings with Victorian period details.

Richard K. O'Keefe, a sailor, who owned a house at 668 Queen Street East which was set back from the street on a lot measuring 120' x 30.' In 1886 O'Keefe divided the lot into three lots creating two narrow lots, each 15 x 60' deep, fronting on to Queen St. E. He built a pair of semi-detached houses with L-shaped plans typical of urban housing in the 19th century. By 1887 the houses were complete and occupied by John William, a grocer and Emma Bowering, a widow. O'Keefe continued to live in the house at the rear.

O'Keefe's development of his property responded to the demand for growth and development following the annexation of Riverdale to the City of Toronto in 1884, which bought the provision of services and streetcars as well as the City's first international baseball stadium. The development of street-front properties on lots which had previously been larger holdings with houses set back from the street in a more typically rural pattern is part of the transformation and urbanization of Riverdale in the late 19th century. Other lots such as that at 658 Queen St. E. followed a similar pattern.

The pair of houses features red-brick cladding with distinctive buff-brick details popular in the second half of the 19th century. This is seen in the quoins but also in the more unusual pair of yellow brick string courses tying the upper windows together and in the trim around the window heads which with their curved corners are typical of the 1880's. The shingles in the gable ends of the dormers add to the late Victorian vocabulary of the houses. Nothing remains of the original design of the first floor elevations facing Queen Street.