LOCATION MAP, PHOTOGRAPHS AND BACKGROUND: 682-688 QUEEN STREET EAST

ATTACHMENT NO. 2F



The **arrow** marks the location of 682-688 Queen Street East (682 and 688 Queen Street East are entrance addresses for 686 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 <u>not</u> shown.



The south elevation of 682-688 Queen Street East (HPS, 2012)



682-688 Queen Street East: showing the west and south elevations (HPS, 2015)



682-688 Queen Street East: showing the property in the 1970s. Please note that 688 Queen Street East was painted green at the time. (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1526, File 69, Item 41)

682-688 Queen Street East: Background

Located at the north east corner of Queen Street East and Hamilton Street, the property at 682-688 Queen Street East includes two buildings; the two-storey building at 688 Queen Street East constructed in 1885-1886 and the three-storey building at 682-686 Queen Street East constructed in 1892-1893. The buildings were built on the same property owned and developed by Joseph White, flour merchant.

688 Queen Street East is a typical example of a late Victorian style building with its red brick cladding and buff brick trim still evident on the second floor. The windows with their segmental arched headers with the buff brick trim folding around their tops and down the sides to terminate in pendant motifs are typical of this period. It corresponds as a type representing a particular phase in Riverdale's history with 668 and 670 Queen Street East. Although the shop front likely dates from the early 20th century and is a later alteration to the original building, it is typical of shop-front types with its recessed central entry and angled window-walls to either side.

682-686 Queen Street East, built just seven years later in 1892-3 is part of Riverdale's growth and development following annexation and the transformation of Queen Street East. It fits with other three-story mixed use blocks on Riverdale's Queen Street built within three years of each other such as the Smith Block, 1890,(639-655 Queen St. E.) the James M. Purvis Building, 1890 (666 Queen St. E.) Dingman's Hall, 1891-2 (704 Queen St. E.) and the Alan Hoover Dingman Block, 1889 (736-742). What characterizes all of these buildings, apart from their three-storey height (Dingmans's Hall was 4 stories) and red brick cladding, is their affiliation with the Richardsonian Romanesque Style.

Joseph White's building features the Richardsonian Romanesque Style in the inclusion of large-scale arched openings often rising two stories, varied combinations of window openings and richly textured brick details. As the last completed in the sequence of Richardsonian Romanesque Style buildings however, it seems to have out-stripped the others in the fanciful handling of the bay windows which pop out of the arched openings and in their details, with richly carved wood elements and multiple- paned sash over single panes, originate in the Queen Anne Revival Style, England's equivalent to the Richardsonian Romanesque under the leadership of the British architect Richard Norman Shaw. The narrow proportions of the three bays, enhanced by the double-storey pilasters and the tall parapet at the centre which still bears the name Joseph White and the date, A. D. 1893, makes this a particularly dramatic and eye-catching structure. The craftsmanship evident in the stepped brick corbels and string courses tracing the heads of the windows as well as that of the elaborate wood details is exceptional.