



Property Inventory Evaluation

Clergy Street East

Property Inventory Evaluation – Clergy Street East

5 Clergy Street East

Built: 1853,
rebuilt 1876**Architect: attrib.**
William Coverdale (1853);
Robert Gage (1876)
Rating: S (Part IV)



Designated by the City of Kingston under the Ontario Heritage Act on 1 March 1984 (by-law 84-65), Sydenham Public School is a two-storey, stone building, which has been attributed by architectural historian Jennifer McKendry* to the City Architect William Coverdale -- who designed some eight schools between 1848 and 1863.

Its history is summarized on a plaque erected by the Ontario Heritage Trust:

This building, opened in 1853 as the Kingston County Grammar School, replaced the earlier Midland Grammar School, a log and frame structure located at King and Gore streets. The new building consisted of two classrooms and accommodated over 100 students on each storey. Its elegant symmetrical exterior, dressed stonework and expansive .8 ha site testified to the importance of education to the local community. In 1876, the school was severely damaged by fire and subsequently reconstructed and enlarged through the addition of a rear wing. After the Kingston Collegiate Institute opened on Frontenac Street during the 1890s, Kingston County Grammar School became a primary school. It was named for Lord Sydenham (1799-1841), Governor General of British North America in 1839. The structure was expanded again in 1952. The successful operation and survival of this school is a testament to its architectural and historical significance to Kingston and to the development of public education in Upper Canada.

* Jennifer McKendry, "William Coverdale and the Architecture of Kingston 1835 to 1865." PhD. thesis, University of Toronto, 1991, I: 231-241.

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In 1862, the Queen's Preparatory School merged with the Grammar School, which became in 1872 Kingston Collegiate Institute. Fire severely damaged the upper part of the building in 1876 (*Daily British Whig*, 23 May 1876). Robert Gage's plans to rebuild it with a new rear stone, two-storey wing were accepted in June (*Daily British Whig*, 26 June 1876). In 1893 it was in use for a veterinary college when a new collegiate was built on Frontenac Street. By 1908 it was the Frontenac Business College. By 1924, it was described as vacant (fire insurance plan). Since 1936, it has housed Sydenham Public School although, on the 1963 fire insurance plan, it is labelled Denham Public School with a large addition on the south.

The style of the building is Gothic Revival style with a pointed arched transom above the stone porch with its applied buttresses, a triad of lancet arches in the upper centre pavilion, and a pair of arched louvered openings in the end gables. There is a blind oculus near the apex of the gable, which is ornamented with open timberwork; the finial once surmounting the gable peak is missing.

The street-facade windows to each side of the centre pavilion have been radically altered from the original arrangement of a pair in each storey. Each of the small-paned windows had a heavy cross shaped frame.

A wooden louvred belfry in the centre of the roof proclaims the building's function as a school.

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36 Clergy Street East

Built: by 1875

Rating: C



Now pierced by six windows and a centre door, the street view of 36 Clergy Street has no openings on the 1875 Brosius bird's-eye view. Then, as now, it jogs out towards the street from the side wall of its neighbour to the south (185 Earl Street) and meets up with the lane running east-west across the Clergy, Earl, William and Barrie block. On the 1892 fire insurance plan, an internal connection with 185 Earl is shown, suggesting its function may have been a service wing perhaps with openings facing a courtyard formed by 185 Earl, 34 Clergy, a two-storey stable (ranging along the lane but removed by 1963) and the rear wing of 189 Earl. Shown in 1892 as two-storeys in brick, the courtyard wall of 36 Clergy is stone. All this suggests considerable alterations over the years, including functioning as a "dwelling" by the time of the 1924 fire insurance plan. It may be just before this time that the windows and doorway were installed. In the directory of 1918-1919, it is finally listed with its own street number (as 36 Clergy) and with Lewis Routhard as the occupant.

Atypically, the four upper windows do not align with the lower storey openings, the latter composed of two windows and a doorway. There is a stone foundation.

Although altered over the years, this building forms in its height and materials an important visual link between the side wall of 185 Earl and the stone row at 38-42 Clergy Street.

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37 Clergy Street East

Built: 1959-60

Rating: N



No buildings were on this location -- the rear yard of 179 Earl Street (built after 1877) -- until 1959-60, when the present structure was constructed. It was first owned by Charles and Irene Shaver, President and Secretary-Treasurer of Shaver's Wholesale.

The style is modern with a nod to Classicism. A brick building of 2-storeys, it is asymmetrical on the street facade and is box-like under a hipped roof. The building's entrance features a pediment-roof with return eaves and a barrel-vaulted ceiling of wood planks. Plain columns with simple capitals and bases, resting on a small concrete porch, support the front of this roof. Embedded columns at the rear of the roof are fluted. The façade fenestration consists of three pairs of 1/1 windows on ashlar sills, flanked by shutters. The southern part of the main facade has no openings. The north facade has an off-centre vertical row of picture windows. The southern elevation contains a side door and four windows.

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38-42 Clergy Street East

Built: 1853

Rating: S (Part IV)



Designated by the City of Kingston under the *Ontario Heritage Act* on 4 December 1978 (by-law 9389-197838), the three unit terrace was known as Milner's Buildings.* 38 and 40 Clergy face Clergy Street, while 42 Clergy faces William Street with its side wall on Clergy. It does not appear on the Gibbs map of 1850 but is on the Innis map of 1865.

The terrace was built in stone by Joseph Milner, son of James Milner who had the masonry contract for the Kingston City Hall. The windows have been restored to six-over-six sash with pairs of shutters in 1979 by architect Lily Inglis, who replaced the missing wood balconies supported on pairs of stone brackets. There are three shed-roof dormers on the gable roof and three brick chimneys. Pronounced brackets support the cornice, which returns on the gable walls. The lower storey windows have gently

* City of Kingston, *Buildings of Architectural & Historic Significance* (Kingston: 1980): 22-3. No sources are cited for the name and building date.

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rounded arches, as do the transoms over the panelled doors. A pair of string courses on the main facade draws one's eye to the balconies. By 1892 there are three, two-storey, brick wings in place on the terrace's rear facade (fire insurance plan; they are not on the 1877 Rowan & Moore map). A low iron fence and gates from 1979 define the narrow front yards.

The graceful bulk of the terrace in a corner location adds significant value to this part of Sydenham Ward.

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44 Clergy Street East

Built: by 1857

Builder: William Irving

Rating: S

The house, built by William Irving, Builder, is not Gibbs' 1850 map but is in the Canada Directory of 1857, when it is noted "on Clergy at the corner of William". His sash-making and planing shop appears to have been on William Street, approximately where 197 William is located. By 1861 he is assessed for the dwelling, rental and shop. The 'rental' may refer to 46 Clergy Street, which he appears to have built

shortly after constructing his own residence. The range is on the Innis map.

William Irving was one of the foremost builders in mid-19th century Kingston. Eventually with his son, William Jr., the firm undertook commissions for the leading Kingston architects of the period including William Coverdale and John Power. Robert Gage originally apprenticed as a carpenter with Irving and Son, developing skills which later contributed to his success as an architect. He married Irving's daughter Mary in 1868.



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44 Clergy Street is a solidly built, thoughtfully if modestly detailed, residence, as would be expected from a master builder such as William Irving when constructing his own home. As well, simplicity was a hallmark of the urban row house of the mid-19th century. It appears to have been built with the concept of a 'double house' always in mind as the composition and detailing of 46 Clergy Street mirrors that of 44 and, taken as one, the double house exhibits symmetry beneath its parapeted fire walls. On the other hand, the brick coursing does not quite line up at the centre pilaster, possibly because they were built in sequence.

Built in double brick with 'stretcher' face (common bond at gable) on a foundation of roughly squared and coursed limestone, it is typical of the brick ranges being built at that time, as good brick became more readily available via the railway and its use considered quite fashionable. The openings of the façade have complex brick arches with limestone sills and a rectangular transom over the main entrance. At both the main entrance bay and the northern end the brickwork is built out, presumably to help support the parapet and chimney respectively. This 'pilastering' was then extended to 46 Clergy Street. A large wooden coved stringcourse extends across the building. The porch, though possibly later, is still quite early and retains modillions at the eaves. At the gable end of the building, the window openings are narrower with arches made up of single voussoirs and a semi-circular arched window at the gable itself. The 'tail' appears to have been constructed much later (it is on the 1892 fire insurance plan but not on the 1875 Brosius view). The dormers also likely date to the late 19th century.

As the corner building at Clergy and William 44 Clergy Street is an important component of the block particularly as viewed from the southeast. Among the first residences to be built on Clergy Street, and with the cross lane on William directly to its rear, the building helped establish the character of the Clergy St. block in terms of scale, form, the use of brick as the dominant material and setback.*

* Text from Bray et al., *Old Sydenham Heritage Area Conservation Study: Cultural Heritage Resource Inventory and Evaluation Report*, 2009. Research by Jennifer McKendry; description by André Scheinman.

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45-49 Clergy Street East

Built: c1884

Rating: S



John Counter sold Lot 21 to Douglas Preutiss in 1849, who sold it to James Stewart five years later. Stewart mortgaged the property to the Ontario Saving and Loan Society in 1857. He sold the north half of the lot to mariner Lewis Middleton in 1860. The Loan Society divided and sold its south half to John Mitchell and Isaac C. Haven in 1871. Mitchell acquired Haven's part of the lot, via Margaret Horsey, in 1882. Mitchell is listed as a builder in the 1873 Kingston directory, as a mason in the 1881 directory, and as a builder in the 1883 directory.

It is likely that Mitchell erected the 45-49 Clergy Street building between 1883 and 1885. In 1885, Mrs. John Henderson occupied 45 Clergy Street, suggesting that the building had been constructed by that time. In 1881, however, a merchant named James McNaughton had occupied a building at 49 Clergy Street, but that building stood alone, and it was likely demolished for the present row houses. McNaughton occupied the new 49 Clergy unit when it was built. The row is not on the 1877 Rowan & Moore map but appears on the 1892 fire insurance plan.

The three 2½-storey, brick units, each with 2-bays, have off-centre front entrances with rectangular transoms and resting on a stone foundation. There are three rectangular windows with sills in each unit. The 45 Clergy door contains two tall, rectangular lights set over two recessed wood panels. Save for three upper windows, there are louvred shutters on the row's windows. Four dormers with gable roofs are on the row's gable roof (45 has one pair). There is some variation in the shallow projections and recessions of the street facade. 45 Clergy has suffered the most modernization with the loss of the pairs of scrolled brackets under the cornice found on the other units; however, its street door is original.

Each unit in this row has a 2-storey, brick, rear, extension. The southern elevation of the unit at 45 Clergy Street East faces William Street. Its wing contains a side entrance

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with a modern brick addition of no heritage value. Fenestration along this side of the building is irregular, but is in keeping with that of the façade.

A late 19th-century, cast-iron, Rococo Revival fence is found at the corner of William Street.

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46 Clergy Street East

Built: by 1857

Builder: William Irving

Rating: S



46 Clergy Street is a solidly built, thoughtfully if modestly detailed residence as would be expected from a master builder such as William Irving. As well, simplicity was a hallmark of the urban row house of the mid-19th century. It appears to have been built shortly after 44 Clergy with the concept of a 'double house' always in mind as the composition and detailing of 46 Clergy Street mirrors that of #44, and taken as one, the double house exhibits symmetry beneath its parapeted fire walls. On the other hand, the brick coursing does not quite line up at the centre pilaster suggesting that they were built in sequence.

Built in double brick with 'stretcher' face (common bond at gable) on a foundation of roughly squared and coursed limestone it is typical of the brick ranges being built at that time (c. 1857) as good brick became more readily available via the railway and its use considered quite fashionable. The openings of the facade have complex brick arches with limestone sills and a rectangular transom over the main entrance. At both the main entrance bay and the southern end the brickwork is built out presumably to help support the parapet and chimney respectively. At the south it extended the pilaster of 44 Clergy

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Street E. A large wooden coved stringcourse extends across the building. The porch, though possibly later, is still quite early and retains modillions at the eaves.



The house, built by William Irving, Builder, is not on the 1850 Gibb's map but in 1857 Irving is noted "on Clergy at the corner of William" in the Canada Directory. His sash making and planing shop appears to have been on William Street approximately where 197 William is located. By 1861 he is assessed for the dwelling, rental and shop. The 'rental' may refer to 46 Clergy Street which he appears to have built shortly after constructing his own residence. Certainly the range was in place by 1865 as it is shown on the 1865 Gibb's map.

William Irving was one of the foremost builders in mid-19th century Kingston. Eventually with his son, William Jr., the firm undertook commissions for the leading Kingston architects of the period including William Coverdale and John Power Robert Gage originally apprenticed as a carpenter with Irving and Son developing skills which later contributed to his success as an architect. He married Irving's daughter Mary in 1868.

As integrated with 44 Clergy Street, it is an important component of the block particularly as viewed from the southeast. Among the first residences to be built on Clergy Street, the building helped establish the character of the Clergy St. block in terms of scale, form, the use of brick as the dominant material and setback.*

* Text from Bray et al., *Old Sydenham Heritage Area Conservation Study: Cultural Heritage Resource Inventory and Evaluation Report*, 2009. Research by Jennifer McKendry; description by André Scheinman.

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48 Clergy Street East

Built: by 1875

Builder: William Irving Jr.

Rating: S



The house was built by William Irving Jr., sometime between 1865 and 1875, when it appears on the Brosius view of 1875 adjacent to 44-46 Clergy Street E., erected by his father c1857-60. It is on the 1892 fire insurance plan.

William Irving was one of the foremost builders in mid 19th century Kingston. William Jr., entered into a partnership with his father and the firm undertook commissions for the leading Kingston architects of the period including William Coverdale and John Power. Robert Gage originally apprenticed as a carpenter with Irving and Son developing skills, which later contributed to his success as an architect. William Jr. married Gage's daughter and eventually became an engineer.

48 Clergy Street follows very closely the form and construction established by William Irving Sr. at the adjacent 44-46 Clergy Street.

Built in double brick with 'stretcher' face on a foundation of coursed limestone, it too has the distinctive thickened brickwork at the main entrance bay and end wall, likely a structural enhancement to assist in the support of the parapet corbel and chimney end walls. The openings of the facade have complex brick arches with limestone sills and slightly segmental transom over the main entrance. The eave, though not readily visible due to the balcony roof, features modillion brackets and a frieze, likely also the original treatment at 44-46.

It is the later additions, seemingly c1920, the pediment dormer, enclosed balcony and verandah which distinguish the building from the other Irving structures. The verandah piers appear to be cast stone. The balcony floor is cantilevered beyond the support beam/entablature and the walls are clad in wood shingles, as is the face of the

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pediment dormer topped by a finial. Within the verandah the brick wall has been painted a deeper red and the mortar joints painted black - a treatment felt in the period to enhance the outdoor living space.

48 Clergy Street extends the brick range originally established at the corner of Clergy and William Street though distinguished now from those structures by its c1920 verandah/balcony treatment.*

* Text from Bray et al., *Old Sydenham Heritage Area Conservation Study: Cultural Heritage Resource Inventory and Evaluation Report*, 2009. Research by Jennifer McKendry; description by André Scheinman.

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50 Clergy Street East

Built: c1888

Architect: attrib. Robert Gage

Rating: S



The key feature both functionally and aesthetically in architect Robert Gage's facade composition is the bay window. The windows within it are very large relative to the surrounding brickwork providing the maximum light into the interior. Set on a foundation of coursed ashlar with cut stone 'water table' the brick columns are attenuated and the brick arches are of composite voussoirs. The cornice of the bay is bracketed with modillions, as is the main eave above where they are paired.

The dormer, which is original, is highly articulated with fluted and scrolled surround, dentillated frieze, fishscale shingle finish at the gable. The verge has particularly fine bargeboard with 'spool and spindle' work at the peak. The porch too is quite decorative with paneled columns and pilasters, dentilated cornice and pedimented gable. There is a transom over the main door, which is oak and has a glazed upper section with two horizontal panels below.

The residence was designed c1888 (city directories) probably by Robert Gage. Architectural drawings for 50-52 Clergy are at the Queen's University Archives.* Gage was a noted late 19th century Kingston architect and son-in-law and brother-in-law to the owners of adjacent 44, 46 and 48 Clergy, respectively. William Irving Sr. (44-46) and Jr. (48) were partners in an important contracting firm with which Robert Gage originally apprenticed as a carpenter. Gage, who arrived in Canada from Ireland in 1852, went on to design such Kingston area landmarks as the Education Building (now Mackenzie Building) for the Royal Military College (1877). He was the architect as well for the

* Christine O'Malley, Nicola Spasoff & Lorna Spencer. *Clugston Collection of Architectural Drawings* (Kingston: Queen's University Archives, 1992. : 19-20.

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'palatial' Allison House, Adolphustown, of that same year. His residential work is well represented on this block with 52 Clergy and 290-292 Johnson. The documentation suggests that architect Robert Gage was designing both this and the much grander neighbouring residence, 52 Clergy Street, at the same time. Certainly, a consideration was to ensure that the two residences, though of different scales, were generally sympathetic in treatment. Indeed the building acts as a transition between the more modest mid-19th century structures to its south and the large home to its north.*

* Text from Bray et al., *Old Sydenham Heritage Area Conservation Study: Cultural Heritage Resource Inventory and Evaluation Report*, 2009. Research by Jennifer McKendry; description by André Scheinman.

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51-53 Clergy Street East

Built: c1884

Rating: S

James Stewart sold the north half of lot 21 to mariner Lewis Middleton in 1860. The Loan Society divided and sold its south half to John Mitchell and Isaac C. Haven in 1871. Mitchell acquired Haven's part of the lot, via Margaret Horsey, in 1882. Mitchell is listed as a builder in the 1873 Kingston directory, as a mason in the 1881 directory, and as a builder in the 1883 directory. The double brick house is not on the 1877 Moore & Rowan map but is on the 1892 fire insurance plan.

While it is likely that Mitchell erected the 45-49 Clergy St. about 1884, it is not clear whether he or Middleton owned the 51 Clergy Street property, when a building with this street address first appears in 1885. Later transactions, however, suggest that it was Mitchell's property. It is likely that he had the 51-53 Clergy Street building erected. The first known resident of 51

Clergy was N.K. Scott, whose grocery was located at the corner of Princess and Bagot Streets.

The double house is 2-storeys, 4-bays, in brick on a stone foundation. The style and forms are very conservative for this late a building date. The end bays project slightly. The entrance doors are topped by a round-arch transom, which is divided by curved glazing bars into three parts at 53 Clergy. Surrounding the doors are three brick round arches. A later gable canopy is positioned over the door of 55 Clergy. There is a pronounced ashlar string course. Each half has three windows with ashlar sills supported by pairs of stone blocks and flanked by wood louvred shutters. The sash windows are distinguished by off centre glazing bars. The foundation contains slightly-



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arched basement windows. The end wall of 53 Clergy forms a parapet with a carved console stone. An S-shaped metal brace -- likely attached to an interior structural metal rod -- is located under the apex of the north side-gable roof.

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52 Clergy Street East

Built: c. 1888

Architect: attrib. Robert Gage

Rating: S



This residence, along with 50 Clergy, was designed c 1888 (city directories) probably by Robert Gage, the noted late 19th century Kingston architect and son-in-law and brother-in-law to the owners of adjacent 44, 46 and 48 Clergy, respectively. Architectural drawings for 50-52 Clergy are at the Queen's University Archives. William Irving Sr. (44-46) and Jr. (48) were partners in an important contracting firm with which Robert Gage originally apprenticed as a carpenter. Gage, who arrived in Canada from Ireland in 1852, went on to design such Kingston area landmarks as the Education Building (now Mackenzie Building) for the Royal Military College (1877). He was the architect as well for the 'palatial' Allison House, Adolphustown, of that same year. His residential work is well represented on this block with 50 Clergy and 290-292 Johnson. His career is another example of a 19th century architect deeply rooted in the building trades.

The building appears on the 1892 fire insurance plan.

* Christine O'Malley, Nicola Spasoff & Lorna Spencer. *Clugston Collection of Architectural Drawings* (Kingston: Queen's University Archives, 1992. : 19-20.

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At 52 Clergy Street, the architect has used a wide range of features and materials to create a prestigious residence at the centre of the streetscape and beside the lane. Its centred entrance inset between two full height projecting bays is unique on the street. However, there is actually asymmetry between these bays, with the angled north bay larger than the rectangular 'standing proud' section of brick wall which constitutes the south bay. While most elements are repeated at both bays, a number are distinct to one or the other. Both share a cut stone foundation and water table; both have 'whorled' terra cotta panels above the 1st storey window openings and a rock-faced limestone stringcourse integrated with the rock-faced voussoirs (center windows) and lintels span the 2nd floor window openings. The windows of the south bay and the center of the north bay are paired while the other units at the north are narrow individual units; the arch over the south bay ground storey window is brick while that at the north is rock faced ashlar integrated into a string course as above. In similar fashion, though the faces of the cross gables are each clad in 'fish scale' shaped wood shingle, the peak of the pedimented treatment of the north bay is extended outward as a gabled hood over the window with a sunburst motif at the face of the gable. Paired brackets are used at the eave of the south and center inset bay while corbels 'carry' the deep eave of the north bay. The center dormer brings yet other features into play with a particularly heavily moulded pediment and round colonettes flanking the window. The porch too is quite decorative with paired paneled columns and a centre-gabled dentillated roof. The main entrance is through double leaved glazed and paneled doors with a distinctive pointed transom.

While the facade treatment is interesting with its conscious tension between both major elements and details the total composition is somewhat less integrated and detailing less subtle than many of Gage's works.

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52 Clergy Street is a prominent structure at the center of the streetscape. Its profile is enhanced by its position adjacent to the lane, particularly as viewed from the northwest and by its architecture featuring extended bays surmounted by large cross gables.*

* Text from Bray et al., *Old Sydenham Heritage Area Conservation Study: Cultural Heritage Resource Inventory and Evaluation Report*, 2009. Research by Jennifer McKendry; description by André Scheinman.

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54 Clergy Street East

Built: 1907

Rating: S

This land, until the early 20th century, was part of the yard of 260 Johnson Street but, in 1907, was developed for 54 Clergy Street and other houses. It matches the brick house at 56 Clergy Street, built shortly after 54. The street number for 54 appears for the first time in the 1907-1908 directory, when it was lived in by Thomas Lambert. It is not on the fire insurance map of 1892 but is on the one from 1908.

54 Clergy Street is an example of the detached residences, in a basic version of the Queen Ann style, popular throughout Kingston in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Built of brick on a limestone foundation of broken ashlar, a gable section extends out from the main wall plane with its hipped roof in typical Queen Ann fashion. With large arched openings and the much larger available glass sizes the interior was well lit. With details such as relief brickwork at the window arches and columned porches it provided a good, capacious, if somewhat standardized dwelling type for the middle class. Within the form however, there certainly is variation in detail often best expressed in this period by the front door, which here, is a combination of large elliptical glazed upper section within a decorative margin with a panel below. The gently curved arch over the main window is emphasized by decorative brickwork over the voussoirs.



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54 Clergy Street forms an integral part of the mid to late 19th century brick fabric of the streetscape (with the exception of 260 Johnson at the corner). Indeed within the brick structures there is a general progression from south to north in terms of age of construction. The building is given further prominence by its location adjacent to the lane, which splits the block of Clergy, Johnston, Barrie and William.

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55 Clergy Street East

Built: mid 1850s

Rating: S

John Counter sold Lot 21 to Douglas Preutiss in 1849, who sold it to James Stewart five years later. Stewart sold the north half of the lot to a mariner, Captain Lewis Middleton, in 1860. Middleton served as City Tax Collector from 1879 until at least 1883. He is already listed as a resident of Clergy Street in 1857, and presumably had been renting from Stewart. No

structures appear on this property on the 1850 map of Kingston, suggesting that the present building was erected between that time and 1857. The Middleton family owned the property until 1893. It seems to be on the Walling map of 1860, the Innis map of 1865 and the Brosius view of 1875.

55 Clergy Street is a 2-storey, 2-bay, over-painted brick building with a hip roof and a stone foundation. There is a full-height bay window on the side wall, which fronts a laneway, and 2-storey rear extension (both features are on the 1892 fire insurance plan). The bay window has slightly arched 2/2 windows. There are projecting strips at the corners of the main facade. Each storey contains two windows on the northern bay, while the south bay contains the front entrance and a balcony door above. The street door is wood, with three recessed panels under a brass mail slot and four square windows. A rectangular transom, divided in two, is above the door.

The most distinguished feature of this house is its ornate wood porch/balcony, which spans the width of the building and may date later than the 1850s. Each level has a balustrade with wood panels. The porch's panels contain regularly-spaced cut-out designs with curves and circles. Those on the balcony are pierced with scrolls. The



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porch handrails are flat, but topped with large wood rails of rounded-wood. The balcony balustrade features plain square newel posts with pointed tops. The balcony itself is slightly smaller than the porch, and is recessed behind a small section of slanted porch roof. Wood pillars with large, tiered, square capitals support the porch roof, which contains closely-spaced, heavy wood dentils under its cornice. Above each pillar capital is a set of large wood brackets, with scrolling cut-outs, which extend out and to each open side of the pillar.

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56 Clergy Street East

Built: 1908

Rating: S

This land, until the early 20th century, was part of the yard of 260 Johnson Street, but in 1907, was developed for 54 Clergy Street and other houses. It matches the brick house at 54 Clergy Street, built shortly before 56. The street number for 56 appears for the first time in the 1908-1909 directory, when it was lived in by Thomas Lambert. It is not on the fire insurance map of 1892 but is on the one from 1908.

56 Clergy is an example of the detached residences, in a basic version of the Queen Ann style, popular throughout Kingston in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Built of brick on a limestone foundation of broken ashlar, a gable section extends out from the main wall plane with its hipped roof in typical Queen Ann fashion. With large arched openings and the much larger available glass sizes the interior was well lit. With details such as relief brickwork at the window arches and columned porches it provided a good, capacious, if somewhat standardized dwelling type for the middle class. Within the form, however, there is certainly variation in detail often best expressed in this period by the front door, which here, is a combination of large elliptical glazed upper section within a decorative margin with a panel below. The gently curved arch over the main window is emphasized by decorative brickwork over the voussoirs.

56 Clergy Street forms an integral part of the mid to late 19th century brick fabric of the streetscape (with the exception of 260 Johnson at the corner). Indeed within the brick structures there is a general progression from south to north in terms of age of construction.



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58 Clergy Street East

Built: 1901

Rating: C

The street number of 58 Clergy Street appears for the first time in the directory of 1901-1902, when it is lived in by Charles Quinn, a dealer in coal and wood. It is not on the fire insurance plan of 1892 but is on the one from 1908.

The house is oriented with its short end facing the street which acts as the entrance facade. This was a popular plan at this time to accommodate narrow urban lots. There are two main storeys constructed in brick surmounted by a tall pediment formed under the gable roof and covered with bands of curved shingles, as well as plain shingles. A Palladian window is positioned in the centre of the pediment. In the upper storey, a bay window is front a balcony with a railing. It is asymmetrically positioned, because there is an enclosed porch, resting on the verandah roof on the other half of the upper storey. On the main storey, the wood verandah spans the width of the street facade and shelters an off-centre doorway and a large, plate-glass window with a transom. A rectangular transom is over the door. There is a tall brick chimney on the south side of the roof.



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The decorative shingles, pediment and Palladian window are derived from American shingle-style house of the late 19th century.

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71 Clergy Street East

Built: 1935-6

Rating: C



Lot 1 of Plan B21 was originally part of Selma Park. In 1889 the Roman Church subdivided the city block bound by Johnson, Clergy, Princess and Sydenham Streets. Plan B21 was known as the “Episcopal Corporation Subdivision.” Benjamin and William Steacy acquired Lot 1, selling it to Annie Steacy in 1910. In 1918, Thomas Sargent purchased the property for \$1850, selling it to a physician named Charles H. Elliot for \$1700, in 1931 during the Great Depression. Elliot had the present building erected in 1935-36. It is not on the 1924 fire insurance plan, but appears on the one from 1947. It now houses doctors’ offices.

71 Clergy Street is in a Georgian Revival style. It is a two storey, three bay brick building with a centre door, surrounded by 4-piece sidelights and a rectangular transom bordered by two square lights. The door has 6 solid, fielded panels. The door surround is Classical in style with a pediment and pilasters. The double-hung windows have 8 panes over 8 and stone sills. There are matching windows on the upper wall facing Johnson Street. The northern elevation contains an 8/8 window in the gable and two 6-piece windows on the second storey. A plain brick chimney sits in front of the roof’s peak on the southern side of the building.

71 Clergy Street occupies an important corner lot, across from St. Mary’s Cathedral, where Johnson and Clergy Streets intersect. Its location is highly visible from this busy intersection close to the downtown Kingston area. Although the building’s side extensions have no contextual value, the main massing is appropriate, in terms of style and composition, to the intersection. Although built much later, its Georgian design is fitting to the historic character of its neighbourhood. The height and composition of the building complements the row of brick buildings erected along Johnson Street east of Clergy.