

**HERITAGE PROPERTY RESEARCH AND EVALUATION REPORT**



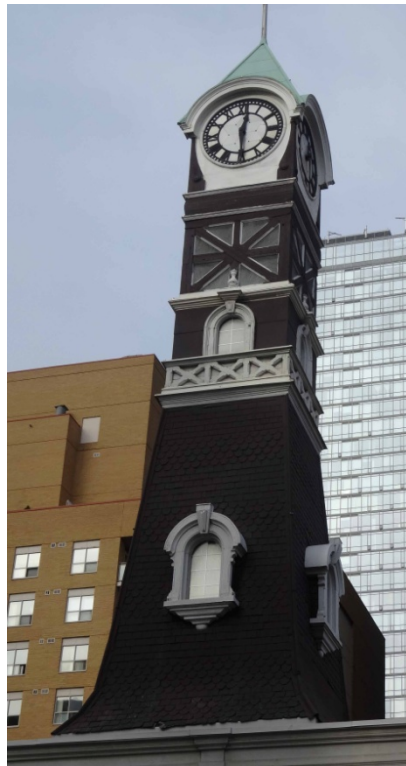
**YONGE STREET FIRE HALL CLOCK TOWER  
484 YONGE STREET, TORONTO**

Prepared by:

Heritage Preservation Services  
City Planning Division  
City of Toronto

August 2015

## 1. DESCRIPTION



Cover: east elevation of 484 Yonge Street with the clock tower from the former Yonge Street Fire Hall; above: clock tower  
(Heritage Preservation Services, 2015)

<b>484 Yonge Street: Yonge Street Fire Hall Clock Tower</b>	
ADDRESS	484 Yonge Street (west side, north of Grenville Street)
WARD	Ward 28 (Toronto Centre-Rosedale)
LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Plan 159, Lots 1-12
NEIGHBOURHOOD/COMMUNITY	Yonge Street
HISTORICAL NAME	Yonge Street Fire Hall (Fire Hall No. 3)
CONSTRUCTION DATE	1871
ORIGINAL OWNER	City of Toronto
ORIGINAL USE	Fire Hall
CURRENT USE*	Commercial * This does not refer to permitted use(s) as defined by the Zoning By-law
ARCHITECT/BUILDER/DESIGNER	James Grand and William Irving, architects
DESIGN/CONSTRUCTION/MATERIALS	Brick cladding with brick, slate and wood trim
ARCHITECTURAL STYLE	See Section 3
ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS	See Section 3
CRITERIA	Design/Physical, Historical/Associative and Contextual
HERITAGE STATUS	Listed on City of Toronto Heritage Register
RECORDER	Heritage Preservation Services: Kathryn Anderson
REPORT DATE	August 2015

## 2. BACKGROUND

This research and evaluation report describes the history, architecture and context of the property at 484 Yonge Street and applies evaluation criteria to determine whether it merits designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act. The conclusions of the research and evaluation are found in Section 4 (Summary).

### i. HISTORICAL TIMELINE

Key Date	Historical Event
1797 Sept	James Macauley receives the patent for Park Lot 9 on the west side of Yonge Street between present-day Queen and Bloor Streets
1799 May	Macauley and John Elmsley, his neighbour and the owner of Park Lot 10 exchange land, with Elmsley receiving the north halves of the lots
1855 July	Elmsley sells part of his land to Alexander Clark
1856 June	Clark registers Plan 159 on the Elmsley Village Estate
1862	Browne's Plan of the City of Toronto illustrates Plan 159
1869 Nov	City Council considers opening a combined fire hall and police station on Yonge Street
1870 Mar	A Council Committee declares "a lot on the northwest corner of Yonge and Grenville Streets" suitable for an additional "fire engine station" in the northern part of the city <sup>1</sup>
1870 July	The City of Toronto purchases Lots 11 and 12 under Plan 159 from Clark
1870 Nov	City Council directs the preparation of plans and specifications for two new fire halls "with hose and bell tower attached", including one on the recently acquired Yonge Street property <sup>2</sup>
1870 Dec	City Council awards the contracts for the Yonge Street Fire Hall, and the tender calls name James Grand and William Irving as the architects
1871 Feb	A committee of Council recommends engaging a construction supervisor to oversee the building of the new fire halls
1871 Apr	The subject property remains vacant according to the tax assessment rolls
1871 June	Council is advised that more money is required to complete water and gas connections to the new fire halls on Yonge and Portland Streets
1872 Apr	The "Yonge Street Fire Hall" is first referenced in the assessment roll and recorded in Irwin's Directory as "Yonge Street Fire Hall No. 3"
1875 Jan	The city directory records the building as Engine House No. 3 at 476 Yonge
1880	"Fire Station No. 3" is depicted on the first Goad's Atlas for Toronto
1889 July	A building permit is issued for alterations to the Yonge Street fire hall
1898 Mar	City Council approves the purchase of a new steam fire engine and the hiring of additional personnel for the Yonge Street Fire Hall
1898 Aug	Building permit #279 is issued for an addition to the Yonge Street Fire Hall
1928 July	Following the decommissioning of the fire hall, the City of Toronto sells Lots 11-12 to Percy Rapp, who rents the building for commercial uses
1929 Sept	The fire hall stands vacant according to the assessment roll
1930	The City of Toronto reacquires Lots 11-12 through default
1930 Sept	A car wash occupies the former fire hall (as recorded in the assessment roll)

<sup>1</sup> Minutes, Standing Committee on Fire, Water and Gas, March 4, 1870

<sup>2</sup> Minutes, City Council, November 21, 1870

1931 Sept	A used cars business is recorded on the property
1940 Feb	Plans are prepared for a single-storey addition to the front (east) elevation of the former fire hall for the Evencure tire repair company
1948 Apr	The City sells Lots 11-12 to Colling Tire Services (sic)
1948 Nov	Restaurateur Charles Hemstead acquires the property as the location of the St. Charles Tavern
1958 Oct	Hemstead conveys the property to St. Charles Foods Limited, which retains the site until 1974
1974	City Council includes the property at 484 Yonge Street on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties (now the Heritage Register)
1987	The St. Charles Tavern closes
2002	Harrow Holdings Limited acquires the property and restores the clock tower from the Yonge Street Fire Hall
2012	A by-law is introduced to study Historic Yonge Street from College Street to Davenport Road as a potential Heritage Conservation District, including the property at 484 Yonge

## ii. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

### Yonge Street Neighbourhood

The subject property at 484 Yonge Street was originally subdivided in the late 18th century after the founding of the Town of York as one of the 100-acre “park lots” between present-day Queen Street and Bloor Street that were granted to members and associates of the provincial government for country estates. Yonge Street, which was surveyed in 1796 as the route to the northern hinterland, formed the east boundary of physician James Macauley's Park Lot 9. In a series of land exchanges, Macauley and John Elmsley, owner of the adjoining park lot, exchanged portions of their properties to allow each access to Yonge Street. Elmsley, who served as the Chief Justice of Upper Canada, retained the north portions of Park Lots 9 and 10 where he developed his “Cloverhill” estate. About 1837, Elmsley commissioned, but never occupied a second residence on the south part of his allotment. “Elmsley Villa” was converted for Knox College prior to its sale to land developer Alexander Clark in the mid 19th century. In laying out his subdivision northwest of the intersection of present-day Yonge and College Streets, Clark created the basis for the residential neighbourhood that followed, which was served by commercial and institutional buildings along the latter streets. The steady growth of the surrounding area resulted in its selection as the location of a new fire station on Yonge, north of College in the 1870s.

The historical maps and atlases in section 6 of this report assist in tracing the changes to the neighbourhood adjoining the Yonge and College intersection. The development of the area was accelerated in the late 19th century when the competing department stores of Robert Simpson and Timothy Eaton further south at Queen Street turned Yonge into Toronto's "Main Street." In the first part of the 20th century, the unveiling of Eaton's College Street department store at the southwest corner of Yonge and College, as well as the opening on Carlton Street of the headquarters of Toronto Hydro and the Maple Leaf

Gardens hockey arena made the intersection an important commercial and recreational destination in the city.

### Yonge Street Fire Hall (Fire Hall No. 3) and the Surviving Clock Tower

In 1870, the City of Toronto acquired the subject property on the west side of Yonge Street between Grenville and Grosvenor Streets for a new purpose-built fire station to serve the northern district of the city. The origins of the fire department dated to 1826 when a volunteer brigade was formed and the first fire engine procured. Following the organization of the inaugural hook and ladder company in 1831 and the operation of four stations by mid-century, the fire service added nine engine companies, one hose company and the first hand-drawn steam engines before 1861. By the third quarter of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with the remodelling and enlargement of the existing fire halls on Bay and Berkeley Streets and the completion of two purpose-built facilities on Portland and Yonge Streets, the City provided engine houses and equipment serving the four quadrants of Toronto.<sup>3</sup>

The Yonge Street Fire Hall where the clock tower remains was designed by James Grand and William Irving, Toronto practitioners who received the joint commissions for the subject building, along with the new fire hall on Portland Street and the alterations to the existing facilities on Bay and Berkeley Streets. The architects never entered into a formal partnership, but were engaged separately by the City of Toronto to collaborate on the projects.

Born and educated in England, James Grand (1819-1871) moved to Toronto in the 1850s with the Royal Engineers and worked with the notable local architects Cumberland and Storm. After Grand opened a solo office, he practiced alone apart from a short-lived association with architect William Osborne. Grand designed a variety of building types, but received attention with the commission for the Ontario Veterinary College (1869) on Temperance Street, as well as alterations and additions to the Crystal Palace complex on the City's exhibition grounds (1870). His younger colleague, William Irving (1830-83) was a Scottish-born and trained architect who was recorded in Toronto in 1852 as an apprentice to local practitioner Joseph Sheard. Opening his own architectural office in 1862, Irving worked alone until his death in 1883. His virtuosity in applying architectural styles, ranging from Italianate for residential projects and ornate Second Empire for financial institutions "helped confirm his position as one of the leading architects of Ontario in the late 19th century" and is apparent in the appearance of the clock tower on the former Yonge Street Fire Hall.<sup>4</sup> Following their joint designs for the fire halls on Yonge and Portland Streets, Irving completed the bell tower on the Berkeley Street Fire Hall, Grand oversaw the alterations to the Bay Street Fire Hall, and both undertook subsequent but separate projects for the City's fire department.

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<sup>4</sup> Biographical Dictionary, unpagged

The Yonge Street Fire Hall opened as "the first engine and hose company combined...in No. 3 Fire Station, Yonge Street, namely the J. B. Boustead Engine and No. 3 Hose Company."<sup>5</sup> The station was headed by veteran fireman Richard Ardagh who, following the reorganization of the Fire Department with paid personnel in 1874, was elevated to Toronto fire chief.<sup>6</sup>

The Yonge Street Fire Hall remained an important part of the Toronto Fire Department for the next 60 years. The enlargement and remodelling of the station during the late 19th century was the result of improvements in technology: the introduction of a new fire alarm system in 1889, the stabling of horses (which had been contracted out until 1890) and the addition of a second steam engine in 1896. Archival photographs reproduced in Section 6 below (Images 11 and 15) illustrate some of the changes to the building:

"It was originally a single hall but later the large single door was changed, the walls cut back and a pair of doors installed. Still later an addition was made on the south side making the building capable of housing three rigs. A hose wagon, chemical engine and a steam engine were stationed here for many years...In the rear large stables were built and all the spare horses for the department were kept here and sent out as required."<sup>7</sup>

By the World War I era (when it was pictured in Image 14), the Yonge Street Fire Hall was among the last in Toronto using horse-drawn steam engines. Following the conflict, "one triple combination truck replaced all three horse-drawn rigs at old Yonge Street..." and, combined with the difficulty accessing the site on "the busiest street in the city," it was replaced by the Grosvenor Street Fire Hall in 1928 (Image 25).<sup>8</sup> During the latter year, the City entered into an agreement to sell the Yonge Street property to Percy B. Rapp, who rented the site to a car wash business. The transaction fell through and, in 1940 the City leased the property to Evencure Limited, a tire repair company that commissioned the single storey addition on Yonge Street that is shown in Images 16-18. In 1948 when Charles Hemstead purchased the property, the City excluded "the clock and the mechanism thereof in the tower" from the sale.<sup>9</sup>

### St. Charles Tavern

Following Hemstead's acquisition of the subject property, the prominent Toronto restaurateur and race horsing enthusiast opened the St. Charles Tavern on the site (Image 21).<sup>10</sup> The additions he made to the former fire hall, which brought the building closer to Yonge Street while retaining the clock tower are depicted in the fire insurance atlas

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<sup>5</sup> History of the Toronto Fire Department, 1923, 95. No. 11 Pump Company was later added to Fire Hall No. 3

<sup>6</sup> Ardagh, who resided on Grenville Street near the fire hall, died in 1895 during a fire at "The Globe" newspaper building

<sup>7</sup> Pursley, Tour, 2

<sup>8</sup> Pursley, Tour, 10

<sup>9</sup> Land Registry Office, City of Toronto, Plan 159, Lots 11-12, Instrument 63413

<sup>10</sup> Parker, unpagged

attached as Image 20. Using the iconic clock tower as the symbol for his restaurant, Hemstead's business evidently started out as "just another restaurant-cocktail lounge answering the call from war vets for good times (including booze and music) in Toronto the Good."<sup>11</sup> However, the St. Charles Tavern became one of the best known gay nightclubs in the city where, beginning in the 1960s it hosted annual Hallowe'en drag queen revues that drew increasingly larger crowds of onlookers, including both supporters and protesters, to the Yonge Street block:

"Despite amendments to the Criminal Code that effectively decriminalized homosexuality in 1969, queer people nevertheless remained targets for homophobic violence. As the drag shows became more public, they also attracted vicious assailants who would attack any drag queen or patron spotted coming into or leaving the bar. Some threw eggs or rotten tomatoes; others offered up taunts or jeers filled with vitriolic language. There were also reports of gay-bashing. Although organizers and activists repeatedly called police to come disperse the angry mobs that formed outside of the bar, officers rarely intervened, claiming that they had no power to stop people from using public streets. The media also downplayed the violence, often referring to the annual event as a "good-natured carnival" (Image 22).<sup>12</sup>

During the 1970s under the leadership of Toronto's Gay Alliance Toward Equality (GATE) and the Metropolitan Community Church, activists joined with local politicians and business owners to increase the police presence at the events and provide additional protection for revellers. As the LGBTQ community combated homophobia, members gravitated away from the St. Charles Tavern to other venues. The business closed in 1987. Fifteen years later the property at 484 Yonge Street was acquired by Harrow Holdings Incorporated, which restored the iconic clock tower. The site was listed on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties (now known as the Heritage Register) in 1974.

### iii. ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Current photographs of the clock tower from the Yonge Street Fire Hall are found on the cover and in Sections 2 and 6 of this report. As shown in the archival illustration and photograph attached as Images 5 and 6, the clock tower was designed with elements drawn from the predominant styles of the late Victorian era, particularly the Italianate and Second Empire features that are evident in the campanile (tower) with the mansard roof. Towers were first added to fire halls in North America in the mid 1800s as decorative features and observation posts. However, they became a necessary addition by the 1850s after a system of pulleys with hooks and ropes was invented to elevate, hang and dry the leather fire hoses that were otherwise subject to rot. Towers were equipped with bells to call out volunteer fire fighters and alert the neighbours in times of crisis. The clocks

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<sup>11</sup> Parker, unpaginated

<sup>12</sup> <http://clgaengagement.blogspot.ca/2012/10/halloween-is-so-gay-happy-halloween.html>, unpaginated

added to the edifices became invaluable in the era when personal timepieces were less common. "In time, the tower became one of a fire station's typical identifying features (the oversized door was another)", as well as a symbol of its purpose to the community.<sup>13</sup> In Toronto, the Berkeley Street Fire Hall (1859) was the first in the city to incorporate a tower, but it was rebuilt and modified in the 20th century (Image 25). The Yonge Street Fire Hall and the complementary Portland Street Fire Hall followed in 1871, with the latter building demolished a century later (Image 24).

With the alterations to the former Yonge Street Fire Hall during the late 19th and 20th centuries, only its distinctive clock tower remains intact and continues to rise over the adjoining buildings from its original position that is set back from and overlooks Yonge Street. Above a brick clad base, the clock tower retains its three dimensional four-sided form and wood and slate detailing. The base with trios of round window openings (Image 26) supports the bell-cast mansard roof and the extensions that incorporate the clock and terminate in the hipped roof. Each side of the tower features round-arched window openings with classical keystones and cornices, sections of cross-hatched woodwork and the clock faces. The clock tower remains a visible feature on Yonge Street where it is viewed from both directions.

The clock tower from the Yonge Street Fire Hall is the second oldest of its type remaining in the city. It is preceded only by the Berkeley Street Fire Hall (Fire Hall No. 2 dating to 1859), which was remodelled by William Irving in 1872, partially rebuilt in the early 20th century and retains only the lower part of the tower.<sup>14</sup> The Yorkville Fire Hall (built in 1876 as former Fire Hall No. 10 and now Station No. 312) and the Bellevue Avenue Fire Hall (former Fire Hall No. 8 from 1878 and now Station No. 315) are the only surviving fire stations from the 19th century that remain in active service, but the buildings and their clock towers have been modified.<sup>15</sup> Former Fire Hall No. 12 (1878) at 16 Ossington Avenue and Fire Hall No. 5 (1886) at 110 Lombard Street, also designed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with towers (now altered) were converted to other institutional uses and, with the others noted above are listed on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register.

#### iv. CONTEXT

The location of the property at 484 Yonge Street is shown on the property data map attached as Image 1. The clock tower from the former Yonge Street Fire Hall is placed on the west side of the street, north of College Street in the block between Grenville and Grosvenor Streets. The property directly south at 480 Yonge Street contains a commercial building that dates to the same era as the fire hall clock tower, but was updated in the early 20th century with an additional storey and classical detailing. Located in the Historic Yonge Street Heritage Conservation District Study Area, the

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<sup>13</sup>Zurier, 65

<sup>14</sup>Decommissioned in 1970, the fire hall was remodelled for the Alumnae Theatre according to the plans of noted Canadian architect Ron Thom

<sup>15</sup>The fire hall at 134 Yorkville Avenue was restored in the mid 1970s, while its contemporary at 132 Bellevue was damaged by fire while undergoing renovations in 1972 (its current tower is a replica of the original)



property at 484 Yonge Street is among a group of late 19th and early 20th century sites that are recognized on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register, including the Oddfellows Hall (1896) at the northwest corner of Yonge and College. In the residential neighbourhood west of Yonge Street, the John Irwin House (1872-73) on Grenville Street and the Grosvenor Street Fire Hall (1929, and current Station 314) are listed on the Heritage Register.

### 3. EVALUATION CHECKLIST

The following evaluation applies Ontario Regulation 9/06 made under the Ontario Heritage Act: Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. While the criteria are prescribed for municipal designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, the City of Toronto uses it when assessing properties for inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties. The evaluation table is marked “N/A” if the criterion is “not applicable” to the property or X if it is applicable, with explanatory text below.

<b>Design or Physical Value</b>	
i. rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method	<b>X</b>
ii. displays high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	<b>X</b>
iii. demonstrates high degree of scientific or technical achievement	<b>N/A</b>

**Representative and Early Example** – The property at 484 Yonge Street has cultural heritage value for the design of the clock tower from the former Yonge Street Fire Hall, which was one of two purpose-built fire stations commissioned by the City of Toronto in the early 1870s that, while providing fire fighting services to the northern neighbourhoods became a familiar symbol of community identity. The clock tower displays architectural elements typical of the late Victorian era, particularly the classical detailing from Italianate precedents and the mansard roof associated with the popular Second Empire style.

<b>Historical or Associative Value</b>	
i. direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community	<b>X</b>
ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture	<b>X</b>
iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community	<b>X</b>

**Communities** – The property at 484 Yonge Street has important historical associations with the LGBTQ community of Toronto. Operating as the St. Charles Tavern, for nearly 30 years the site was particularly associated with Toronto's gay community as a popular nightclub and, beginning in the 1960s the site of annual Hallowe'en drag shows. The latter revues, which mixed enthusiastic patrons and on-lookers with violent protesters,

resulted in the alliance of LGBTQ activists, supportive politicians and local businesses in initial steps to combat homophobia. These events, which occurred beneath the clock tower at 484 Yonge, are regarded as milestones in the recognition of the diversity and contributions of LGBTQ culture in the city.

The associative value of the clock tower from the former fire hall is also linked to the historical development of Yonge Street as it evolved in the mid to late 1800s from a local shopping destination for the adjoining residential neighbourhoods to its rebranding as Toronto's "Main Street" after Robert Simpson and Timothy Eaton opened landmark department stores near the Queen Street intersection. The popularity and rapid growth of the area around Yonge and College Streets required local services, including the fire hall with the iconic clock tower that immediately became a focal point in and for the community.

**Architects** - The surviving clock tower on the former fire hall at 484 Yonge Street is valued historically as a rare collaboration between architects James Grand and William Irving, who were recognized practitioners in Toronto in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. While Grand, an English-trained architect and his younger Scottish colleague Irving worked individually and with other architects, they never formed a formal partnership apart from collaborating on two fire halls for the City of Toronto, including the former Yonge Street Fire Hall where the clock tower remains.

Contextual Value	
i. important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area	X
ii. physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings	X
iii. landmark	X

**Character** – Contextually, the fire hall clock tower is valued for its contribution to the character of Yonge Street, north of College Street, which is typified by the surviving buildings that began and supported the transition of Yonge Street in the late 19th century as Toronto's main commercial corridor. The highly visible clock tower from the former Yonge Street Fire Hall is an integral part of the small collection of surviving buildings from this era that includes the neighbouring Oddfellows Hall (1892) at Yonge and College Streets.

**Surroundings** – The contextual value of the clock tower from the former Yonge Street Fire Hall is also related to its historical and visual links to its surroundings on the west side of Yonge Street between Grenville and Grosvenor Streets where property at 484 Yonge Street is located north of the commercial building at 480 Yonge Street, which dates to the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, was updated in the early 1900s and is also recognized on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register.

**Landmark** – A familiar feature on Yonge Street since the 1870s, the distinctive clock tower from the former Yonge Street Fire Hall is a long-standing local landmark in Toronto.

#### 4. SUMMARY

Following research and evaluation according to Regulation 9/06, it has been determined that the property at 484 Yonge Street has design, associative and contextual values as a rare surviving example of a clock tower from a former 19<sup>th</sup> century fire hall that is associated with prominent Toronto architects and, as the location in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century of the St. Charles Tavern is also linked to milestones in the recognition of the city's LGBTQ community. The clock tower from the former Yonge Street Fire Hall is historically connected to the development of Toronto's "Main Street" where it stands as a local landmark in the block, neighbourhood and city.

#### 5. SOURCES

##### Archival Sources

Abstract Indices of Deeds, Park Lots 9 and 10, and Plan 159, Lots 11 and 12  
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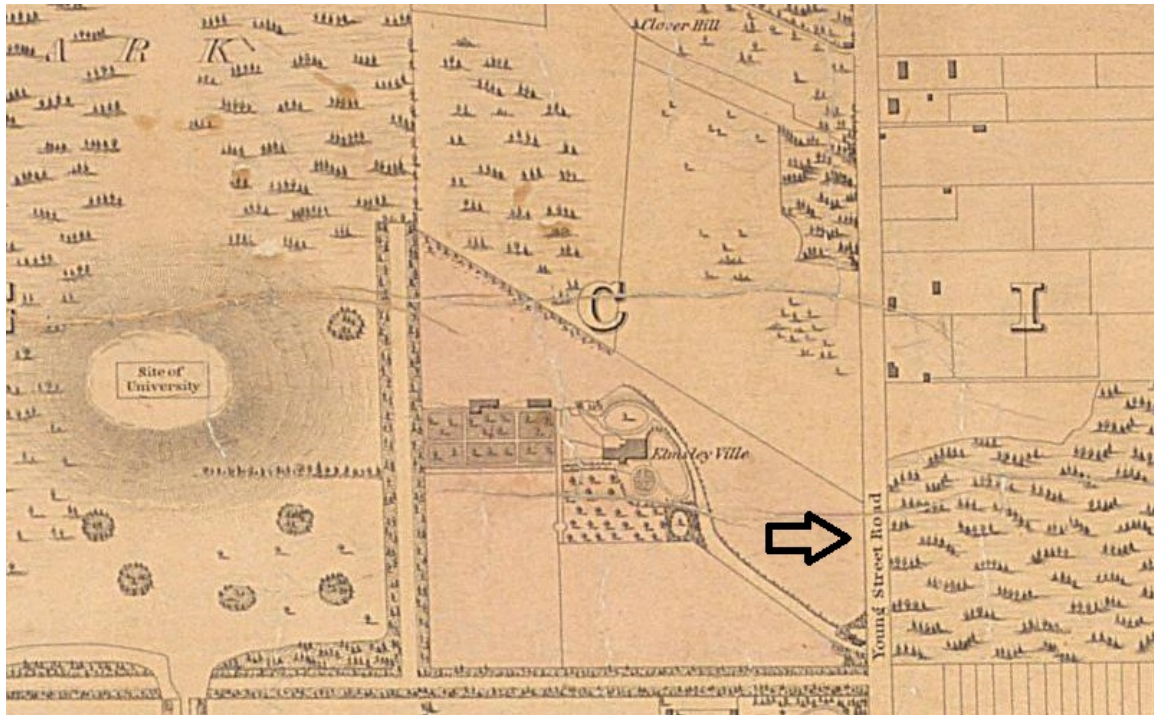
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6. IMAGES – Archival images are followed by current photographs. The **arrows** mark the location of the property at 484 Yonge Street. All maps are oriented with north at the top



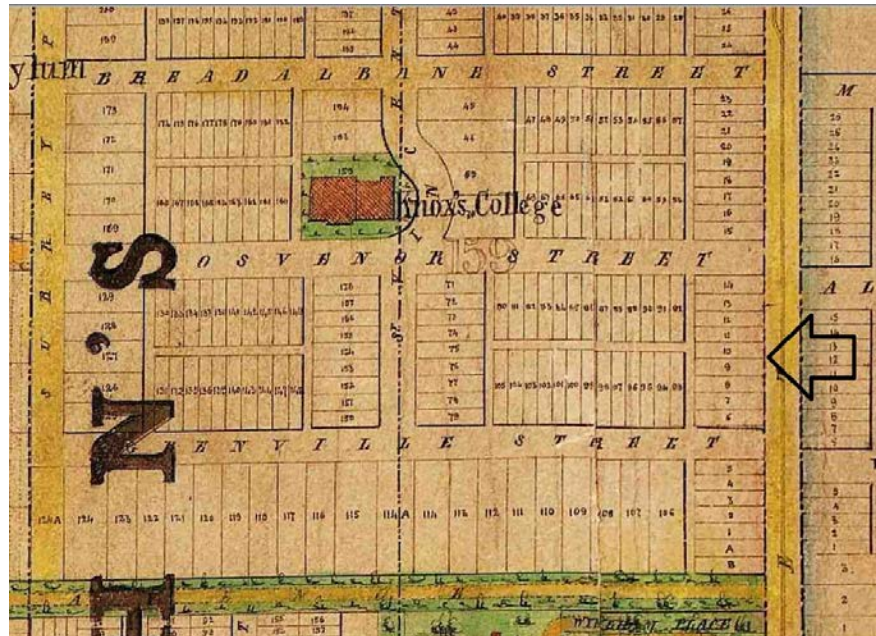
1. City of Toronto Property Data Map: the property at 484 Yonge Street is located on the west side of the street between Grenville Street (south) and Grosvenor Street (north)



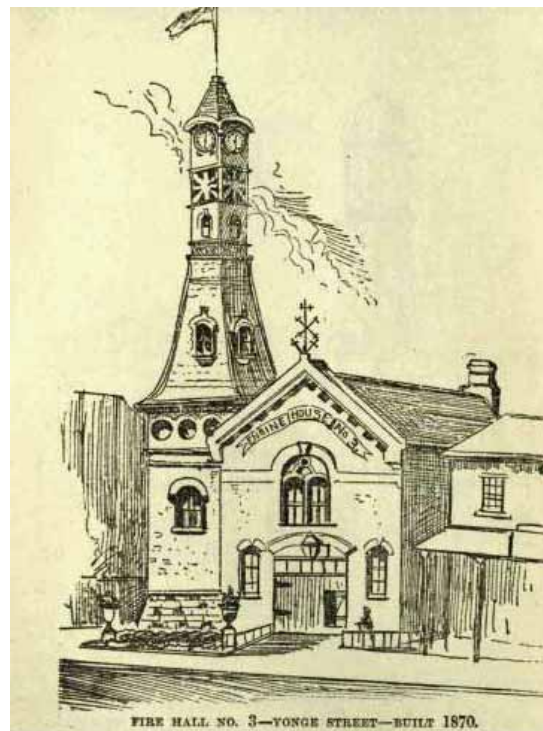
2. Cane, Topographical Map of the City and Liberties of Toronto, 1842: showing the future location of the property at 484 Yonge Street on former Park Lot 9



3. Plan 159, June 1856: showing the plan of subdivision of the Elmsley Villa Estate on part of former Park Lot 9



4. Browne's Map of the City of Toronto, 1862: showing the residential subdivision northwest of Yonge and Grenville Streets



5. Illustration, Fire Hall No. 3, c.1896: showing the Yonge Street Fire Hall with its distinctive clock tower before additions and alterations were made to the building (Robertson, 590)

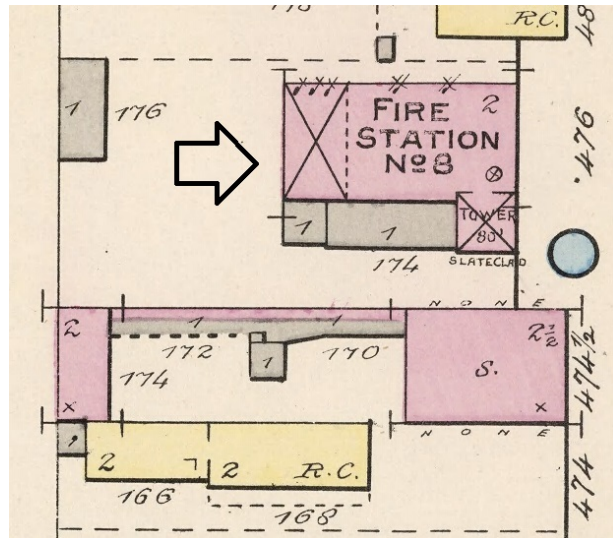
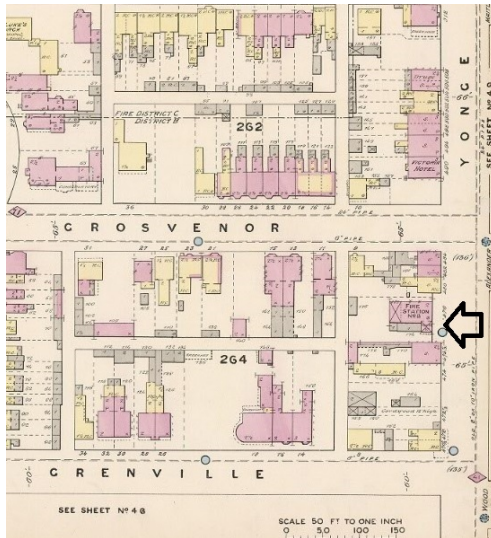


6. Archival Photograph, Yonge Street Fire Hall, 1872: showing the lower stories prior to the south addition and alterations to the openings to facilitate new equipment (the base of the clock tower is shown on the left) (Fireman's Burial Fund, 26)

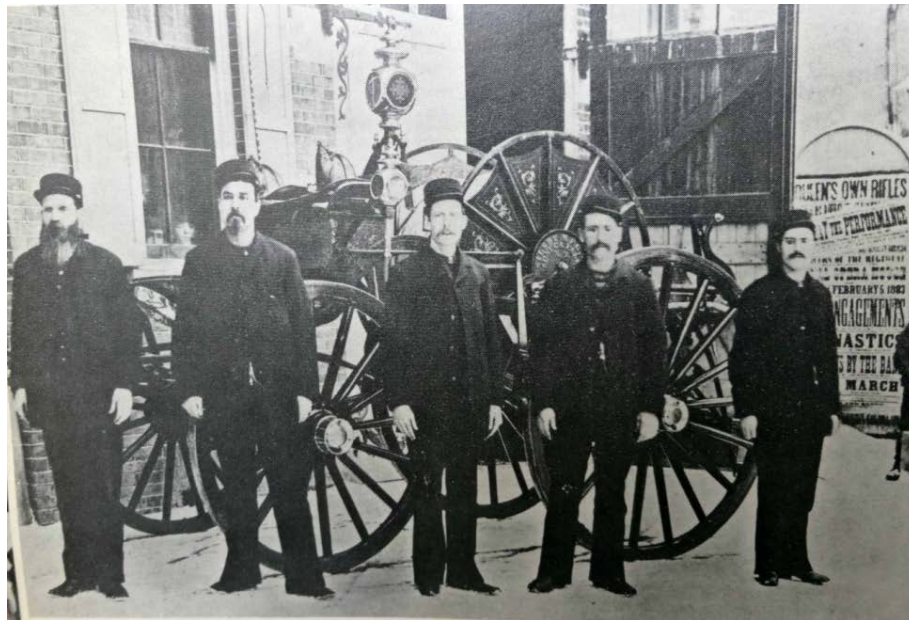


7. Gross's Bird's Eye View of the City of Toronto, 1876: showing the Yonge Street Fire Hall with its distinctive clock tower on the west side of Yonge Street, north of College Street

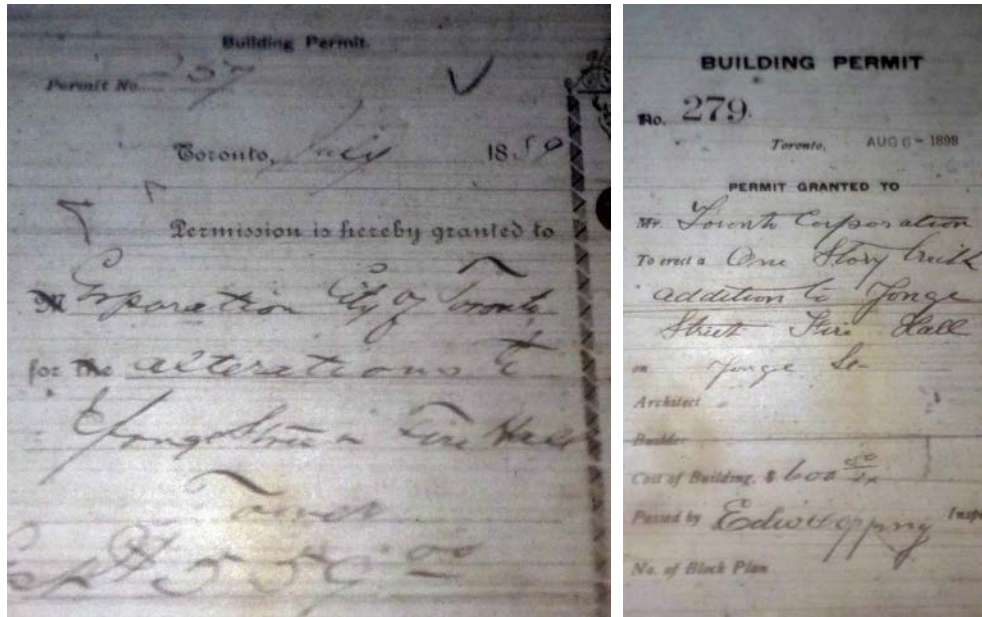




8. Goad's Atlas, 1880: the first Goad's atlas for the City of Toronto shows the fire hall with the tower at the southeast corner of the building



9. Archival Photographs, Fire Hall No. 3, 1883: showing the fire hall with its equipment and personnel in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Toronto Fire Services, 56)



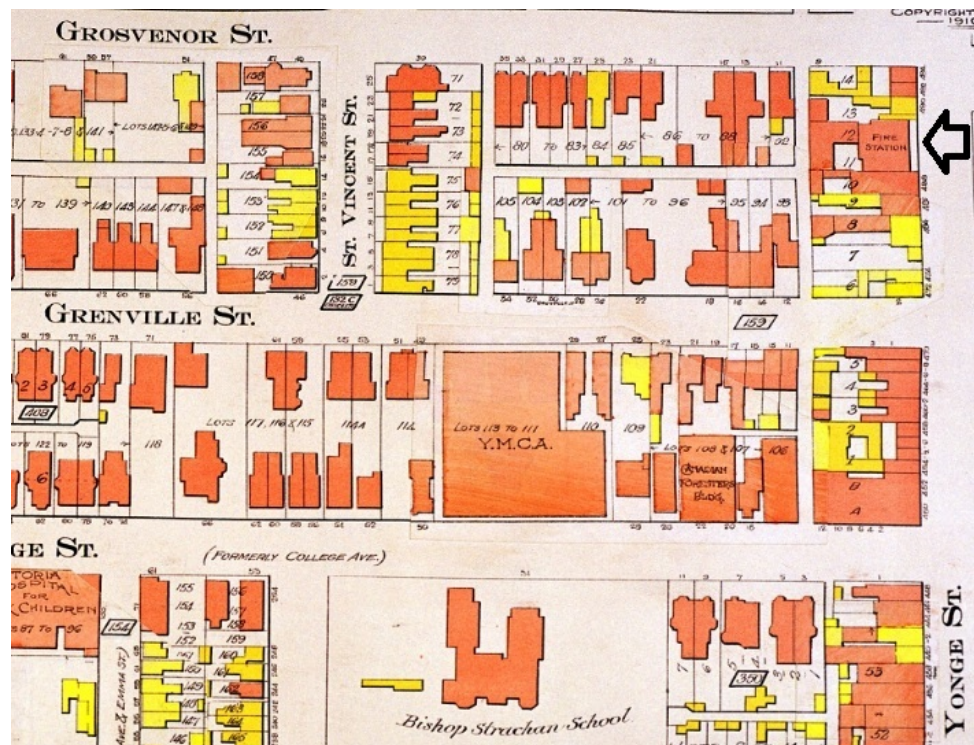
10. Building Permits #257, July 1889 (left) and #279, August 6, 1898 (right): for alterations and an addition to the Yonge Street Fire Hall in the late 19th century (City of Toronto Archives)



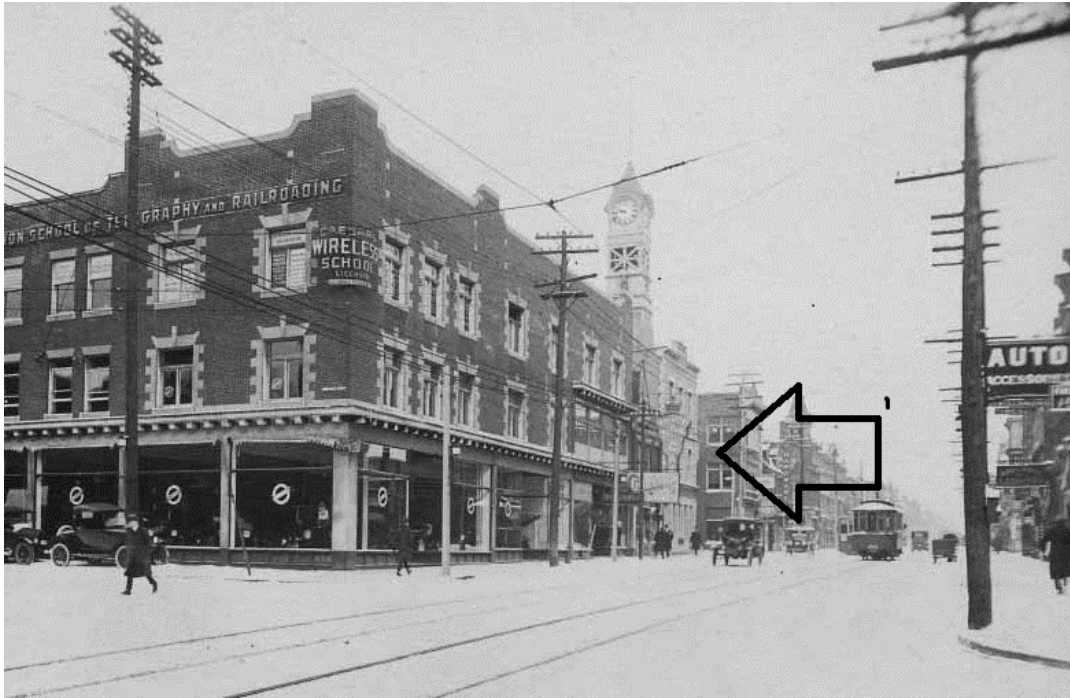
11. Archival Photograph, Fire Hall No. 3, undated: shows the alterations to the door openings and the addition of the south wing south (left) of the clock tower (reproduced in <http://urbantoronto.ca/news/2015/02/484-yonge-renderings-depict-reinvigorated-heritage-clock-tower>)



12. Archival Photograph, Yonge Street south from Bloor Street, 1910: showing the tall clock tower of the Yonge Street Fire Hall on the horizon along with church steeples and (to the right of the arrow) Toronto's Old City Hall with its own distinctive tower (Toronto Public Library, Item 144)



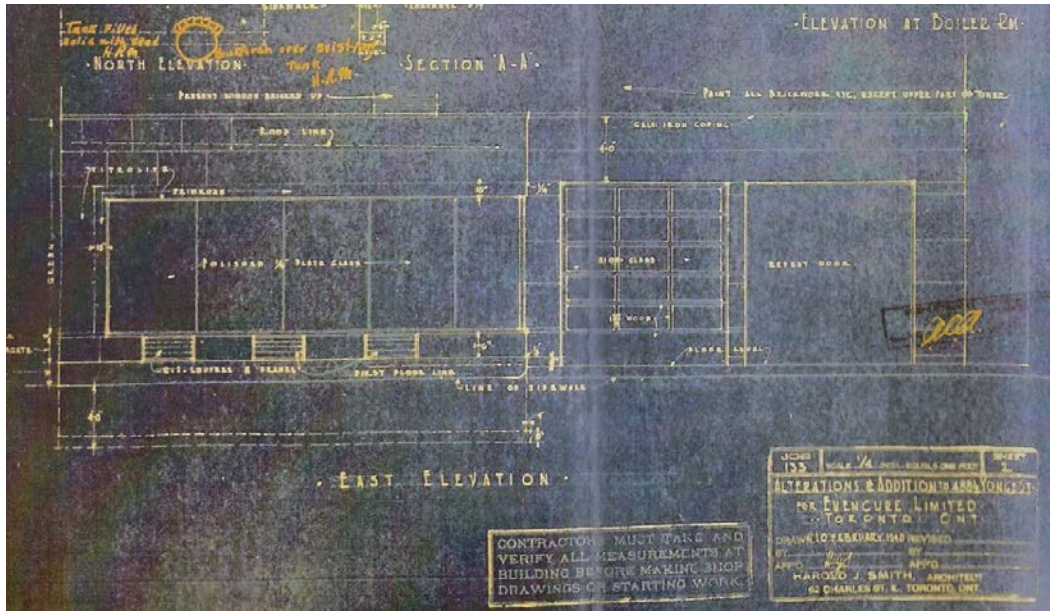
13. Goad's Atlas, 1910 revised to 1912: this updated version shows the south and rear (west) additions to the fire hall



14. Archival Photograph, Yonge Street, north of Grenville Street, 1916-19: showing Fire Hall No. 3 set back on the west side of the street where the clock tower rises above the adjoining buildings (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1244, Item 1562)



15. Archival Photograph, Fire Hall No. 3, 1923: showing the fire station with staff and equipment prior to its decommissioning in the late 1920s (Firemen's' Burial Fund, 96)



16. Architectural Drawing, Alterations to 488½ Yonge Street for Evencure, 1940: showing the single-storey addition in front (east of) the clock tower, which is visible in Image 17 below (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 200, File 2384)



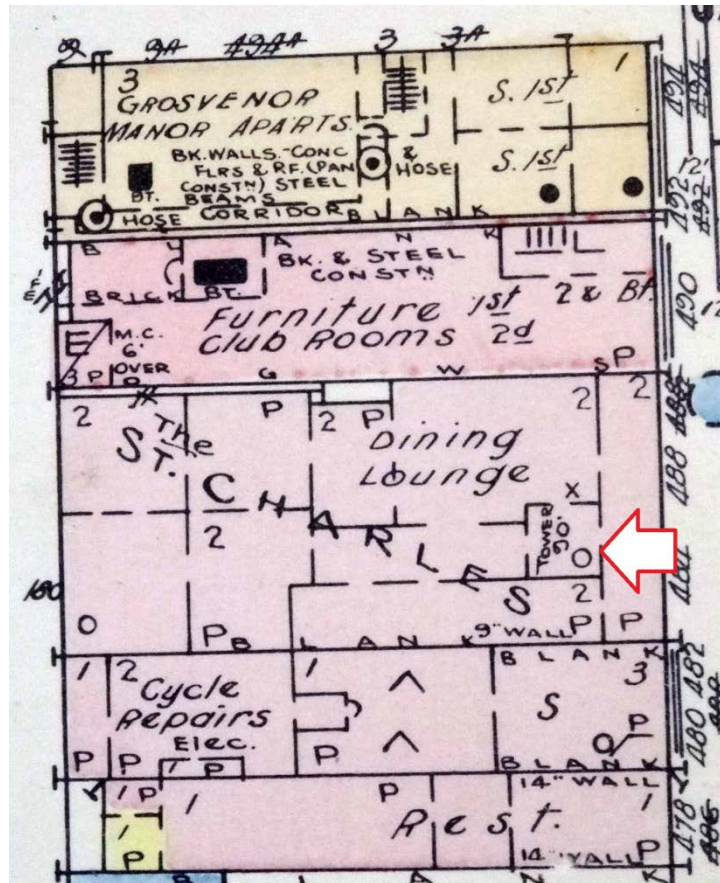
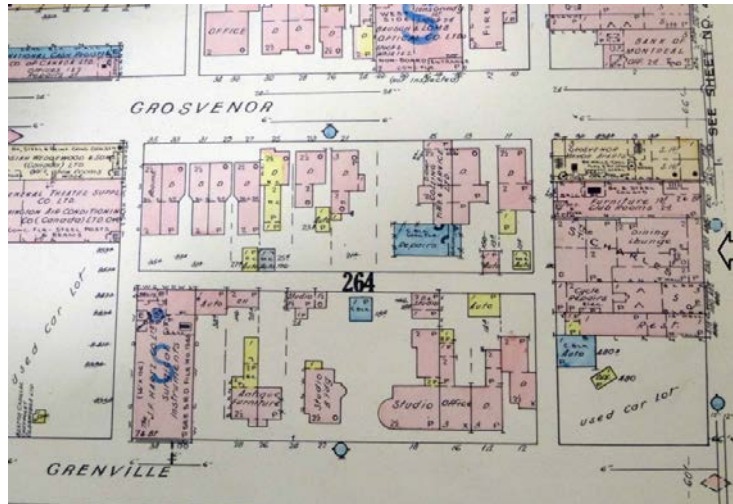
17. Archival Photograph, Fire Hall No. 3, c. 1940s: showing the decommissioned fire hall with the built-out wing on Yonge Street (the image post-dates 1939 when Ross Cycle began its 15-year tenancy in the neighbouring building at present-day 480 Yonge) (Filey, 171)



18. Archival Photograph, 484 Yonge Street, 1941: showing the former fire hall after the single-storey addition was built out to the street (City of Toronto Archives, Series 372, Item 162)



19. Archival Photograph, Yonge Street Fire Hall, 1952: showing the clock tower as a neighbourhood landmark viewed from the Toronto Hydro Building on Carlton Street (Toronto Public Library, Item 5656)



20. Underwriters' Survey Bureau Atlas, 1954; showing the former fire hall when it was occupied by the St. Charles Tavern with the location of the tower indicated on the close-up



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21. Archival Photograph and Avertisements, St. Charles Tavern, undated: showing the building with the alterations to the lower stories (top image) and the identification of the fire hall's clock tower as a symbol of the business (CGL Archives)



## Lots of treats, few tricks for kids on Hallowe'en

At least five Metro youngsters found razor blades hidden in Hallowe'en fruit they collected Saturday, but none of them bit into one.

Last Hallowe'en police received 20 such complaints but decided many were false.

The worst year was 1968, when there were more than 70 complaints about doctored treats, including needles buried in chocolate bars and pop corn treated to make children sick.

This year there was little Hallowe'en destruction in Metro, apart from a few small rubbish fires that may have been set deliberately.

Northeast of Toronto, in the Claremont area, the sons of farmers carried on a tradition that goes back for many years. They piled straw on the roads, set it on fire, then fled before police and firemen could arrive.

One of these fires spread to the Salem Rd. bridge over the railway. The bridge was destroyed with an estimated loss of \$4,000, Ontario Provincial Police reported.

Hallowe'en was two days long this year for the farm

superintendents of an apartment building on Gowan Ave., set up shop with tables loaded with goodies in the apartment lobby.

Neighborhood children trooped in to find Mrs. Smith dressed as a witch.

Twenty-five patients—mostly in wheelchairs—went out trick or treating in Rose-dale from Bloorview Children's Hospital. Their ages ranged from 4 to 14 and each was accompanied by a volunteer.

## Crowds jam Yonge see 'gay' Hallowe'en

Thousands of spectators jammed sidewalks on Yonge St. Saturday night as members of Toronto's homosexual community held their annual Hallowe'en parties.

Traffic slowed to a crawl from about 10 p.m. until 1 a.m. Sunday and side streets between College and Wellesley Sts. were closed to automobiles.

Police blocked off the sidewalk for a full block in front of the St. Charles Tavern, the centre of party activities, and only admitted and obvious homosexuals were allowed through police lines.

Many of the male homo-

sexuals were dressed in elaborate gowns and were wearing wigs as they were escorted between the St. Charles and the Parkside, another tavern a block and a half farther north. There were hoots and shouts from the crowd.

Police estimates of the crowd ranged from 5,000 to 8,000.

Members of the University of Toronto Homophile Association passed out leaflets urging understanding of homosexuals. The leaflets said heterosexuals "hide behind a sexual mask; every day you suppress yourself and perform a sexual role."



22. Newspaper Article, 1971 and Archival Photograph, St. Charles Tavern, 1986: in the second half of the 20th century the former fire hall was occupied by the St. Charles Tavern where, beginning in the 1960s the annual Hallowe'en drag shows highlighted the struggle for LGBTQ equality in Toronto (Toronto Star, November 1, 1971 and CLG Archives)



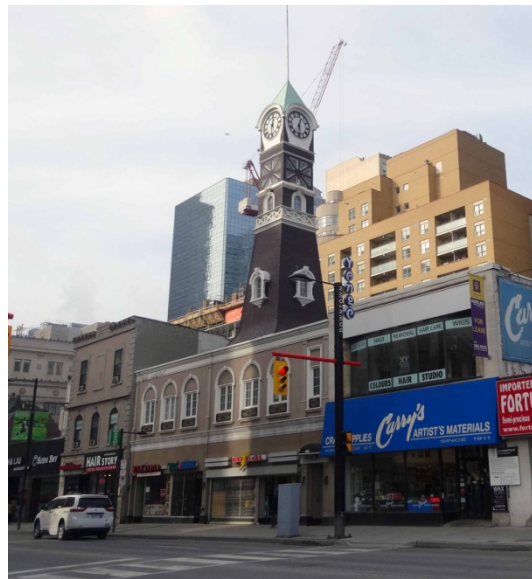
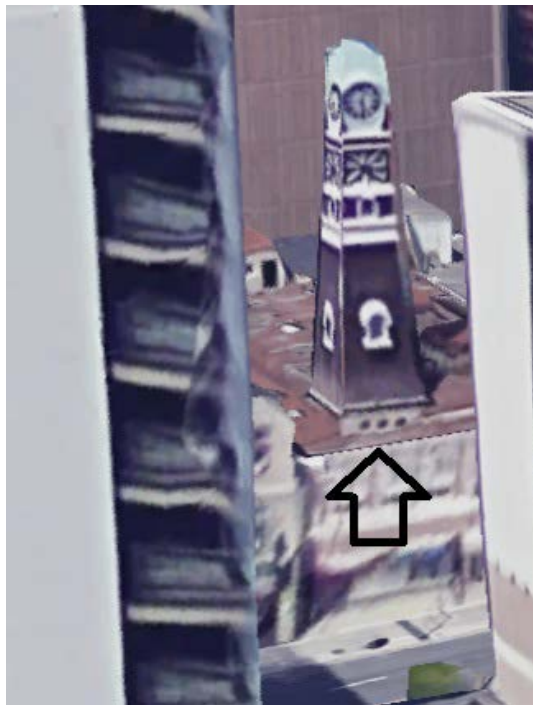
23. Archival Photographs, 484 Yonge Street, 1974 (top and below left), 1983 (bottom centre) and 1999 (bottom right): showing the clock tower over the decades (City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 124, Item 75 (top), and Toronto Historical Board)



24. Archival Photographs, Portland Street Fire Hall: built at the same time as the Yonge Street Fire Hall, the Portland Street's similar tower (without a clock) is shown in the late 19th century (left) and with the alterations and additions to the building prior to its decommissioning and demolition in 1968 (right) (Toronto Fire Services, 2002, 31 and Channing, unpagged)



25. Archival Photographs, Berkeley Street Fire Hall (left) and Grosvenor Street Fire Hall (right): shown in 1960, the fire hall on Berkeley Street is the oldest surviving former fire hall in Toronto, which was built in 1859 and modified prior to and after its closing in 1970 when it was converted to the Alumnae Theatre. On the right, the Grosvenor Street Fire Hall is shown in 1929 when it replaced neighbouring Fire Hall No. 3 on Yonge Street and was assigned its station number (Pursley, unpagged and City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1231, Item 370)



26. Current Photographs, 484 Yonge Street, 2015: showing the east elevation (above left) and contextual views from and to Grenville Street (below). The image from Google maps (above right) shows the trios of round windows surviving on the base of the tower (Heritage Preservation Services and <https://www.google.ca/maps>)