



Heritage Property – *Labatt House*



167 King St. S.

Built c. 1880-1889

Designated Sept. 25, 1978: bylaw 78-184, “The Kuntz-Labatt House”

David Kuntz founded the Spring Brewery in 1844 on property at the southwest corner of King and William streets. Later known as the L. Kuntz Park Brewery, it grew to become Ontario's second-largest brewery by 1910. The entire plant, which stretched back to Park Street, was sold to Carling Breweries Ltd. in 1929, though the name Kuntz was retained for another decade. The brewery was demolished in 1993.

The Kuntz-Labatt house on land adjoining the brewery was built in the mid-1880s for the Kuntz family. It remained, for a time, the principal family residence. Col. Hugh J. Heasley, a former manager of Carling's, lived in the house from 1944 until his death in 1978. Kuntz had several other houses built in the vicinity of the brewery, but most were eventually demolished to allow its gradual expansion.

The yellow-brick Kuntz-Labatt house was designed in the Italianate style. The façade is asymmetrical, with a central, projecting bay capped by a gable with return eaves. Paired eaves brackets and the round-headed window in the gable are characteristic of Italianate detailing. A one-storey verandah begins on the front façade and wraps in a graceful curve around to the northwest side. That northern elevation also has a smaller, delicate second-storey verandah. Both verandahs are supported by elegant columns and a railing with



turned balusters. In 1973, Carling Breweries undertook extensive renovations that were in keeping with the original form and character of the house.