## **Character Area 21 Sherbrooke and Westmount Park**

Despite its heavy traffic use and decades of pressure for commercialization, Sherbrooke Street has retained its residential atmosphere at its eastern section, in proximity of City Hall, with the earliest apartment houses from about 1913. The western section became the recreational and cultural centre, instigated by the "Côte St-Antoine Improvement Committee", with the establishment of Westmount Park (originally called Victoria Jubilee Park as it commemorated the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 1897), the Westmount Public Library and Victoria Hall buildings.

## **LEGEND**

Category I Exceptional(★) to Important

Category II
Significant

Category III
Neutral

◆ Architectural Ensembles

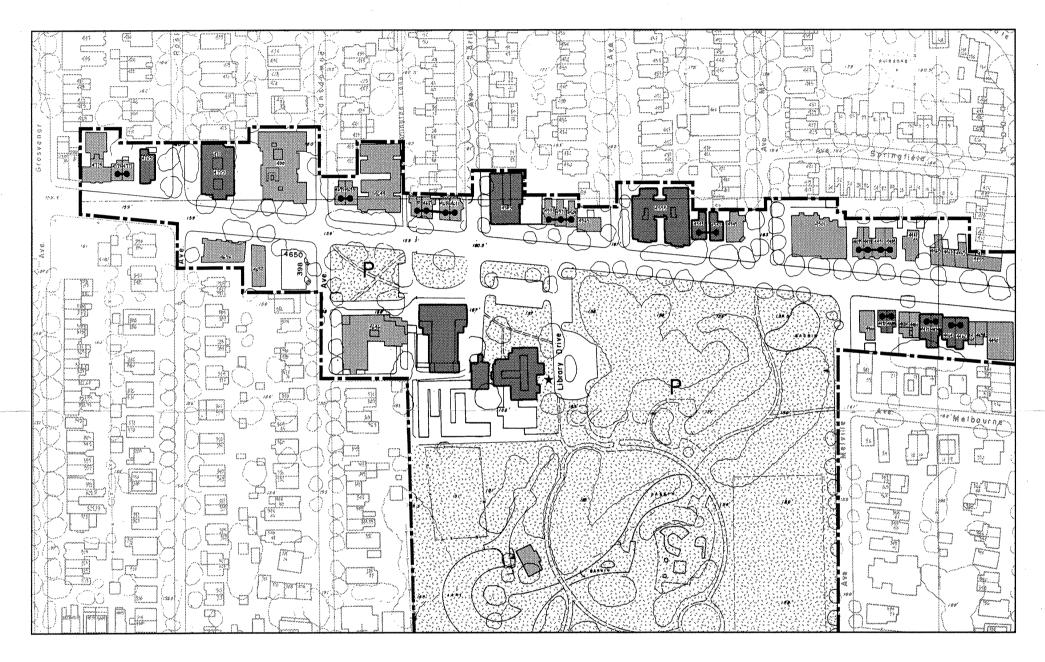
Buildings profiled in the 1988 Westmount Heritage Study

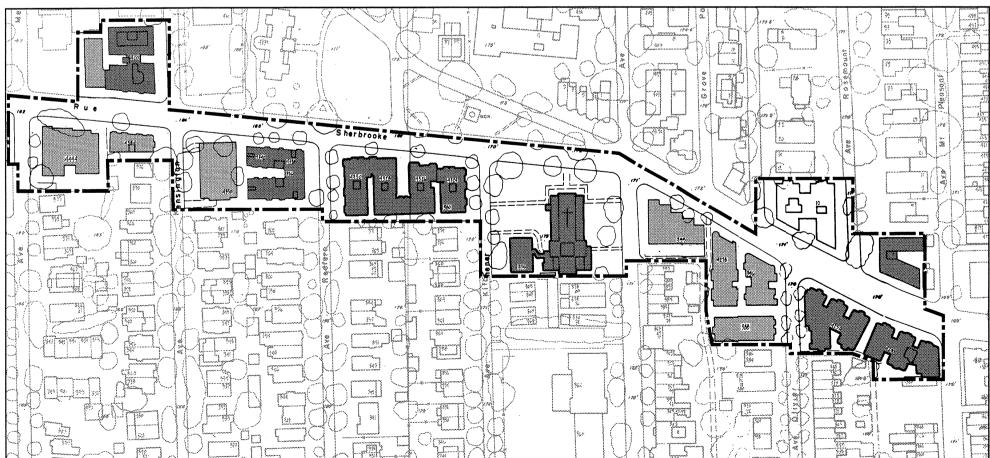
Public Green Space

Semi-private or private
Green Space of importance



Area Heritage Value: MEDIUM Degree of Homogeneity: MEDIUM





## Defining characteristics of Character Area 21 Sherbrooke and Westmount Park

The following are some of the key *defining characteristics* applying to the whole area.

Use and typology: This area is composed of mixed use (residential and office) semi-detached and attached townhouse type buildings (50%), apartment buildings (30%) as well as several institutional buildings.

Siting and orientation: In general, the facades of buildings on Sherbrooke Street are slightly skewed and are perpendicular to the north-south streets. The buildings are set back usually between 1.5 and 6.0 m from the streetline.

Heights and frontages: Buildings are mostly (57%) two storeys high; three and four storey buildings make up a half of the remainder. The smaller townhouse type buildings have frontages almost always between 6.5 - 11.5 m wide while the larger apartment and institutional buildings have frontages virtually always between 20.0 - 40.0 m wide.

**Roofs:** Virtually all roofs are flat. More than two-thirds have parapets, which are generally straight and simple, as well as stone bands or cornices spanning the full width of the facades. There are also some decorative sloping roofs which sometimes have gables or turrets and decorated eaves.

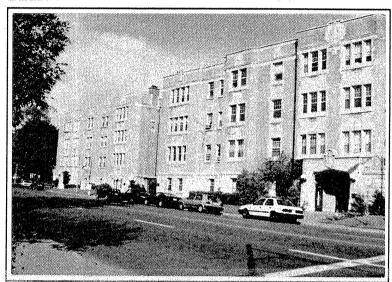
**Materials:** Almost all building facades are in brick, very often with exposed stone foundations.

Entrance conditions: Virtually all entrances are at the front with steps or stairs perpendicular to the street and generally varying between 0.2 - 1.5 m above sidewalk level. The apartment buildings entrances, however, are almost all at or close to sidewalk level.

Facade treatments: The street facades are almost always articulated by bay windows or bay projections from grade to the roofline. Stone is found on almost all buildings but in varying degrees: on the apartment buildings it is used extensively around openings, at spandrels, and bay windows, and often for ground floor facing; on the townhouse type buildings, stone is almost always used for lintels, sills and sometimes for banding.

Windows: In the older buildings, windows are almost always very vertical and are generally in openings of same proportions. Originally, virtually all of these older buildings had double-hung windows and the apartment buildings had muntins as well. At present, almost twenty percent have been modified to other styles, (however, almost all the apartment buildings retain their original windows).

**Parking:** Indoor or outdoor parking is generally provided behind the building line.



Elegant apartment buildings, built mostly between the two Wars, characterize the eastern section of this area.



The Floral Clock at the corner of Sherbrooke and Lansdowne pleasantly terminates the long south Park quadrangle.

## List of Building Addresses with Categories