

**86-39**

Ottawa, Ontario  
**Hardy Arcade**  
130 Sparks Street

## **HERITAGE CHARACTER STATEMENT**

Hardy Arcade was built in 1936-37 by Doran Construction Company of Ottawa to designs attributed to the architectural firm of Davison and Smith. See ~~EHBRO~~ Building Report 86-39.

### **Reason for Designation**

On March 27, 1987, Hardy Arcade was designated Recognized because of its association to the well known photographer Yousuf Karsh whose studio was located on the upper floor of Hardy Arcade for the major part of this career until he moved to the Chateau Laurier in the 1960s.

The two storey modest Art Deco building is also of considerable interest in the national context because it is a rare surviving example - admittedly on a modest scale - of a form of commercial architecture, the arcade. The peculiar approach taken by the architects of Hardy Arcade maximized the number of rentable stalls which could be placed within a 33-foot wide frontage, and this in turn reflects the property values and economic realities of the Great Depression.

### **Character Defining Elements**

The heritage character of Hardy Arcade resides in its exterior design, its decorative vocabulary derived from the Art Deco movement which produces precise angularity and clearly cut lines. The building is also characterized by its internal pedestrian street "the arcade" which links Sparks Street and Queen Street.

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