

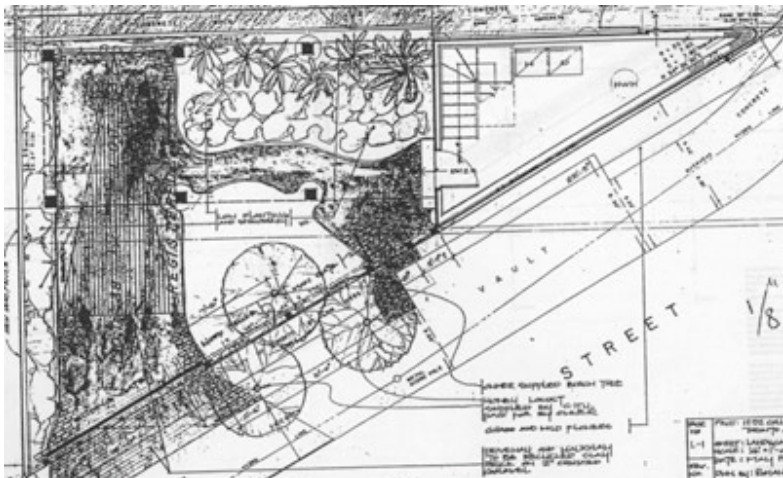
# READING TORONTO

the city is a book with 100,000 million poems

[home](#) [about](#) [contact](#) [join us](#)

## 2005 09 26

### Triangle House Part 4



#### Think Toronto

Reading Toronto is an online community dedicated to the design, culture, and politics that shape our city. If you have a great story or want to become a member, email us at [info@readingtoronto.com](mailto:info@readingtoronto.com)

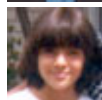
#### Regular Contributors



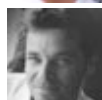
Kelvin Browne



Ken Greenberg



Ang Iarocci



Mark Kingwell



Gary Michael-Dault



Jules Morielli



David Oleson



Robert Ouellette



Jeff Rogers

[Members' Login](#)  
[Get the RT newsletter](#)

#### Toronto Temperature

Temperature: 41F (5C)

#### Other Cities

[Reading Montreal](#)

#### Podcasts

[RT for your iPod](#)

#### Toronto Stories by

[Authors](#)

[Date](#)

#### Stats

[MOSAIC Top Ten Cities](#)  
[City Population Growth](#)  
[Think Toronto Large](#)  
[Toronto Weather](#)

#### Toronto Links

[Arts Attractions](#)  
[Media Sources](#)  
[Reference Sources](#)  
[Sports](#)  
[Towns Within the City](#)  
[Transit](#)  
[Info and Attractions](#)

#### Your Opinions

[Recent Comments](#)

#### Topics

[Idea Bank](#)  
[Living](#)  
[Architecture](#)  
[Club Life](#)  
[City Landscapes](#)  
[Art](#)  
[Cyber Life](#)  
[Dance](#)  
[Design](#)  
[Eats](#)  
[Experiencing](#)  
[Film](#)  
[Gardens](#)  
[Music](#)  
[People](#)  
[Performance](#)  
[Poetry](#)  
[Urban Design](#)

#### Routing

[Cycle](#)  
[Drive](#)



After the completion of my 'little' house I had a little party. I invited my friends, my family, the local community, the project's tradesmen and suppliers to come and share their experience with the then unknown triangle.

My friends and associates first response was to, naturally, congratulate me for my courage soon to be followed by the question, why did you do this? As if to say; why this manifestation? Why here?

The trades had a different response. They would bring their buddies and give them private tours without me. I would overhear them recite the nuances. Like the combined heating and domestic hot water system, orchestrated electrical and plumbing designed with baseboard and pilasters, comparing the vibrations and sound of this frame home with that of a masonry home because of the concrete topping on top of the joists and limiting the building footprint with pier construction, the concrete positioned to act as a 'thermo mass' assisting in heating and cooling depending on season, and so on....

The public's response was first in the form of questions. Is it finished yet? Is it a house? Why use this 'black paint colour'? For the public, they were not accustomed to seeing plywood painted. A common reaction was also that they thought this building, at first, was ugly and wondered what that hell I was doing. Now that they've had a chance to see the inside and outside, they've changed their minds. The building was surprisingly simple and nice – "odd but cool".

A few weeks prior to the official opening a fully staffed FIRE TRUCK stopped in front of the house. My thoughts – Oh shit! As they all descended from the truck to the front door I asked the firemen what the problem was? The smiling fireman stated they had watched this house being built and collectively could no longer resist the urge to stop by. I gave them a guided tour. It was my pleasure. As an aside, a similar situation occurred at 157 Coxwell Avenue. That time it was a posse of police. I again gave them a tour and dropped by the local precinct with a personal invitation to the opening in a few weeks.

It is still wonderful to have all sorts of people looking around it and sometimes wanting a tour. I give a tour if I can. Occasionally my tenant at 157 Coxwell Avenue (the other house) will let people into the ground floor living room. (see Coxwell video at – [Spaces By Rohan](#)).

I hoped, in the end, that 1292 College Street could be a testament



Peter Rogers

## Guest Editors Producer and Editor

Robert Ouellette

## Publisher

Reading Cities

## What We Are Reading

The Metapolis Dictionary of Advanced Architecture  
The World is Flat  
Voltaire's Bastards  
Google News  
Huffington Report  
Dailykos

## Toronto Galleries

Allan Gardens  
Archives of Ontario  
R.C. Archdiocese of Toronto  
Art Gallery of Mississauga  
Art Gallery of Ontario  
Art Gallery of York University  
Art Metropole  
Bata Shoe Museum  
Black Creek Pioneer Village  
Blackwood Gallery  
Bradley Museum  
Creative Spirit Art Centre  
CBC Museum  
Campbell House  
Museum of Carpets and Textiles  
CNE Archives  
Casa Loma  
Centennial College  
Colborne Lodge  
Collections and Conservation Centre  
David Dunlap Observatory  
Gallery TPW  
George Brown College Archives  
Gibson House Museum  
Glendon Gallery  
Goethe-Institute  
Grange  
HVACR Heritage Centre Canada  
Halton Region Museum  
Hamilton Artists Inc.  
Historic Fort York  
Historic Zion Schoolhouse  
Hockey Hall of Fame  
Hart House, University of Toronto  
The Law Society  
MacKenzie House  
Market Gallery  
Mercer Union  
Metropolitan Toronto Zoo  
Museum of Childhood  
National Ballet  
Ontario Association of Art Galleries  
Ontario Crafts Council  
Ontario Jewish Archives  
Ontario Science Centre  
Power Plant-Contemporary Art Gallery  
Royal Canadian Military Institute  
Royal Ontario Museum  
Ryerson Polytechnical University Archives  
Salvation Army  
Scarborough Historical Museum  
Sharon Temple Museum  
Spadina Museum  
Textile Museum of Canada  
Thomas Fisher Rare Book  
Todmorden Mills  
Toronto Aerospace Museum  
Town of York  
Trinity College Archives  
United Church of Canada  
YYZ Artists' Outlet  
York Museum  
York Quay Gallery

Fly  
Rails  
Walk

### Surfacing

Communities  
Development  
Green Power  
Innovation  
Technologies  
Wired

### Thinking

Critiques  
Planning  
Journals  
History  
Politics  
Theory  
World Events

## Search

## Author



## Blogs By

forum  
bureau

## Syndicate

RSS 1.0  
RSS 2.0  
Atom

to the necessity of imagination, design, economics and urban design even though personal circumstances allowed me only a 'scrap' of land as the canvas. The making of 1292 College Street was a teaching tool for myself: the possible from the improbable. To the public, a future client or a future employer I hoped it would mark a piece of my résumé. What this house conveys will naturally depend on the experience and perspectives of the viewer.

[\[email this story\]](#) Posted by Rohan Walters on 09/26 [Comment Here](#) (2)

