

**TORONTO STAR****History will have renters surrounded**

The Toronto Star  
Saturday, September 30, 2006  
Page: P23  
Section: Condo Living  
Byline: Catherine Patch  
Source: Toronto Star

Toronto renters can enjoy a piece of the city's history at Jazz, a new 388-unit rental property at Church and Shuter Sts.

Built by Vancouver-based **Concert Properties**, the \$68-million development knits past and present, retaining the historic facade of the original building at 167 Church St. within the base of a 28-storey highrise.

The architecture of the adjoining buildings at 167, 163 and 157 Church mesh smoothly with its modern interiors, landscaped courtyards and amenities, such as a small in-house theatre and fitness centre.

Jazz is part of a new housing hybrid that offers the ease of condo living - with professionally designed interiors, open-concept kitchens and access to high-speed Internet - with the convenience of rental housing.

Rental prices range from studio apartments for \$910 permonth to two-bedroom-plus-den units for \$1,945.

The northern and largest of the three buildings, 167 Church, began life in 1891 as the Athenaeum Club, designed and built by the architectural firm of Denison and King in the Moorish style - a rarity in Toronto, says Ernest Buchner of Toronto Heritage.

Dennison was a well-known Toronto-born architect and several of his remaining works are included in the city's Inventory of Heritage Properties. The property at 167 Church was listed in June 1973. The other buildings are unlisted.

The four-storey facade of the building features fine brickwork on the second and third floors, with areas of masonry features such as basketweave, mouse-tooth and zigzag patterning.

Buchner says the building at 167 is also remarkable for its significant Moorish revival architecture, including the arches over the second- and third-floor windows.

Thirteen years after it was built, the building became the Labor Temple - the spiritual home of Toronto's labour movement and the scene of "many heated dialogues," until 1967, notes Buchner.

The buildings at 163 and 157 have been replicated and incorporated into the base of the new structure.

Leasing is being offered in stages, with first occupancy on April 1 and final occupancy in August. So far, about 180 units have been leased, says Lizette Parsons Bell of **Concert Properties**.

For more information, call 416-366-5299 or visit [www.jazzbyconcert.com](http://www.jazzbyconcert.com).

© 2006 Torstar Corporation

Illustration:

• The older buildings at 167, 163 and 157 Church St. are being incorporated into the Jazz project, a housing hybrid that offers the ease of condo-style living for renters.