



around the original town hall of the city of York, is full of fresh vegetables, fish and butcher stalls, and shoppers.

Over 8,000 people will soon be housed in townhouses and high-rise apartments. Some homes will be supplemented housing for lower-income families, and some will be let at high, unsupplemented rents. One block of smaller townhouses was fully occupied by last summer, and the more expensive ones around the corner were filling up.



John Hunt, sixty-seven, is a retired post office employee who once, long, long ago, stacked celery in the old St. Lawrence market. In June he moved into the corner house on Jenoves Place with his wife and granddaughter, Katherine, and their Chihuahua, Pepper. The house is air conditioned and has two bedrooms and a 34-

by 12-foot basement, which can be converted into a recreation room.

"This is a great improvement," Mr. Hunt said, shortly after he moved in. "The walls are thick, and you can't hear your next-door neighbours." Mrs. Hunt is pleased that there are no hills to climb and that the mid-city bus stops are only a block away.

St. Lawrence has five projects: one is city owned and all are non-profit co-operatives. The co-ops are

an established Canadian institution in which ownership is collective, residents are members with well defined rights, and the whole shebang is run by them through a board of directors.

The new neighbourhood is cheek by jowl with the O'Keefe Centre, the Young People's Theatre, the Toronto Free Theatre and some of the best restaurants in the city. It is a half-dozen blocks from Union Station, which has subway and train connections to all parts of



the spread-out metropolitan area.

It is not without its mild critics. Penina Coopersmith, writing in the *Globe and Mail*, noted that the new neighbourhood is buffered from noise by a line of 45-foot high buildings backed up against the Gardiner Expressway. These and a variety of utility buildings along the major streets create a kind of walled town or, as Ms. Coopersmith put it, "superblocks which surround and overlook the townhouses." The park's "elegant green spine" along Esplanade will serve the residents well and should attract office workers and strollers to the public square at the western end, near the O'Keefe Centre, but she fears nothing will bring outsiders to the eastern end, which is devoid of shops and other enticements.

In 1842 Charles Dickens noted that Quebec City was a place "not to be forgotten or mixed up in the mind with other places or altered for a moment in the crowd of scenes a traveller can recall." It may be the best example on the continent of the intelligent adapted use of old towns. The seventeenth century remains intact within the old city walls, as shown below, and the \$100 million commercial array of Place Québec, Place Haute-Ville and Place de la Capitale surrounds it.

