



HERITAGE BARRIE

Walking Tours Guide





Mayor's Message

Barrie has a rich past and our historic neighbourhoods are a major source of pride. As our city has grown and changed over the years, many of our historic buildings have remained.

The buildings that you will see during these tours tell the story of our city's past. These important buildings have been restored and preserved by many people in our community who are passionate about Barrie's history and want the stories to continue to live on for future generations.

There is renewed enthusiasm for our local history in recent years and this is very encouraging to me, as we can learn a lot from our past. In order to know where you're going, you have to know where you came from.

So, feed your curiosity and travel through time on the Heritage Barrie Walking Tours. I hope you enjoying learning about our city's rich history. If only the walls could talk...

Sincerely,

Jeff Lehman, Mayor



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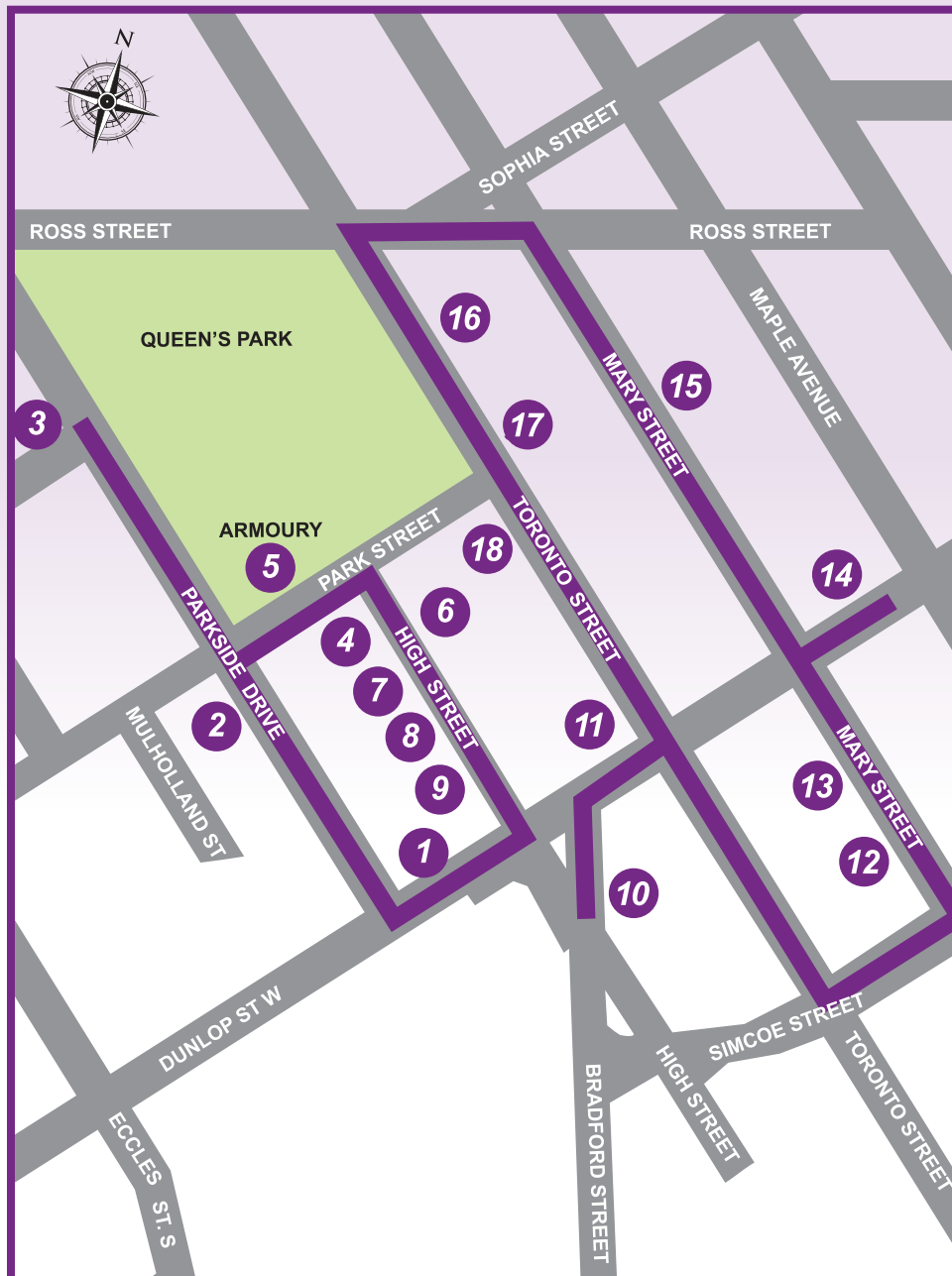
Tour 1



Downtown West WALKING TOUR

Tour 1 MAP

Downtown West WALKING TOUR



2



1

124 Dunlop Street West

In 1864, William Manly Nicholson established the Barrie Examiner newspaper. After his death in 1871, his son Byron took over the business and became Editor. The following year, Byron had this handsomely detailed Classic Revival style dwelling built at 124 Dunlop Street West. Against the background of light coloured plaster, dark colour highlighted the heavy cornice supported by large brackets, neatly integrated with the window frames and the decorated gables. Today, exterior plaster is covered with siding and what may have been the original open verandah is enclosed.



2

32 Parkside Drive

This is an example of the L-shape plan, Gothic Revival dwelling popular in Ontario from the mid nineteenth century. Built about 1890 by mason Charles Lightfoot, it features a bow window, steep gables, segmental window openings, and the desirable element of working shutters. Renovations have removed the verandah and added a stone veneer and Classical doorcase. Nearby, note numbers 26 and 34 Parkside with their sunburst gable ornaments.



3

68 – 70 Parkside Drive

This 1875 duplex is an interesting vernacular style featuring end gables with three instead of the usual two window openings on the upper level. On the front façade there are two gables, not centered over a lower opening, but at the third points in the length of the structure. This technique gives a visual unity to the double house. Number 68 was the boyhood home of Andrew F. Hunter, Editor of the Barrie Examiner newspaper, noted historian, and author of The History of Simcoe County as well as other historical and scientific publications.

3



74 High Street

Now a retirement home, this house and its neighbour at 72 High Street were associated with Simon Dymont, son of the lumber magnate and industrialist Nathaniel Dymont. The family's Brookdale Stables horses won the King's Plate race several times in the early twentieth century. Simon, who was living at 72 High Street, had this house built in 1907 as a wedding gift for his son Harold M. Dymont and his bride Agnes L. Campbell. This stylish dwelling with its impression of Tudor, sports a second level shingled bow window or oriel on its north facade, a five-sided bow window facing High Street, a large verandah, and parapeted gables. The building has been reclad using matching brick and extended to the West. The neighbouring baronial armoury in Queen's Park was built at the beginning of the First War to replace the undersized armoury that stands at 36 Mulcaster Street.



Barrie Armoury

Construction on this large, red brick mansard-roofed structure began in 1911 through 1913. It features a fortress motif with a three arch entrance, projecting towers and a large drill hall and is a recognized Federal Heritage Building because of its historical associations as well as its architectural and environmental value. The Barrie Armoury is associated with the provision of drill halls for active volunteer Militia in Canada under Sam Hughes, Minister of Militia and Defence from 1911-16, which were essential as conscription and training centres of the overseas expeditionary force.



73 – 75 High Street

Typical of functional workers' houses, this duplex was constructed early in the twentieth century. A contrast to the genteel and stylish dwellings across the street. Their bold, three storey towers, large window openings, and high, semi-hipped roofs, give them a solid presence and allow each occupant privacy in their defined quarters.



72 High Street

Maplehurst was built in 1883 by Nathaniel Dymont for his son Simon and daughter-in-law Annie. Although Simon's endeavour into manufacturing the Barrie Bell automobile ended in his financial ruin, the family owned this residence until 1967. This fashionable dwelling has impressive bracketing at the eaves, a semi-circular ornament capping the stacked bow window, a sunburst gable decoration, and attractive bargeboard. The sweeping verandah and second storey, closed porch are twentieth century replacements of the originals. The grey paint hides the red brick and contrasting buff brick accents. The property is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its architectural and historical significance.



62 – 64 High Street

Lawyer George Willet Lount had his dwelling, Glenholme, built in 1872. An unusual form of the Gothic Revival style. His uncle was the famed Samuel Lount who was the Reform member for Simcoe County in the 1834 to 1836 Legislative Assembly. Samuel was hanged for treason following the 1837 Rebellion of Upper Canada. This romantic house has several steeply pitched gables, tall windowed turrets, and pointed arch windows. When owned by Judge Marjorie Hamilton, Barrie mayor from 1951 to 1952, it was divided into a duplex and the brick was covered in stone veneer.



60 High Street

Shoe factory owner, Ross H. Underhill, built this home in 1929 in a pleasing English Tudor or Romanesque style popular for substantial dwellings. The rustic stone base has a classic Tudor-arch doorway; the upper floor contains imitation half-timbering; the windows flank the chimney. This style is also referred to as Stockbrokers' Tudor as it was the choice of many financial brokers interested in expressing their success, that is, before the historic crash of the stock market at the end of 1929.



9 Bradford Street

Known as Roselawn, this attractive dwelling was built about 1865 by Major Joseph and Ann Rogers. Joseph was a key figure in the community. His various roles included bailiff, copyist for the Land Registrar's Office, auctioneer, member: Simcoe Foresters militia, warden: Trinity Anglican Church, and fore brigade captain. In 1864, he was appointed High Constable for Simcoe County, a position he held for fifty years. Roselawn is delightful with its proportioned symmetry, verandah featuring a bell-cast (concave) roof and decorative railing, Classical door-case, second floor balcony, and bargeboard with drop finials.



94 Dunlop Street West

Known as the Royal Hotel, the local newspaper described this business as "excellent and well established" when bought by James Johnson in 1870. Later the King Edward Hotel, then Lowe & Son Furniture, this building shows traces of its former self through the hip roof, outline of the original window openings, and closed-in verandah. In its heyday, the hotel laid claim to a well-stocked bar and excellent stables, rented pleasure boats and fishing tackle, and offered vehicles for the conveyance of summer guests and tourists to nearby steamboat wharves.

16 –18 Mary Street

Built in the early 1840's this symmetrical, Georgian with Regency influence style house is one of the oldest in Barrie. Sections to the rear and north of the original building were added about 1900 and other changes have taken place since 1990. The house features nine fireplaces, a rare basement bake oven, Classical door-case, low-pitched roof, eave brackets, multi-paned sash windows, and attractive double stack chimneys. The front hall reveals panelled doors, moulded trim, and a curved staircase. The property is designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its architectural and historical significance.



30 Mary Street

A vernacular style popular in the Victorian period was built in 1874 for Robert Simpson, who was the first mayor of Barrie. Simpson's earlier Georgian style house was a few doors south, nearer to his brewery business, but now a municipal parking lot. The L-shaped plan, stacked bay window, segmental window openings, eave brackets, gable treatment, and complex roof are typical of the style. The missing element is the porch that would have tucked within the L-shape to protect the main entrance door.

46 Dunlop Street West

In December 1930, Barrie fruitier John Saso retained Collingwood architect John Wilson to design "a wonder screen palace" patterned after Toronto's renowned Hollywood Theatre. The new Picture House opened in August with the latest technology in the talking film industry. With entrepreneurial spirit, John and Gaetana Saso extended their fruit store hours to midnight so patrons could make purchases when the movie ended. They also opened a pool hall at the rear of the theatre building. The Roxy was a movie theatre until the early 1980s. It also was a venue for live entertainment, and still is today.



77 Mary Street

In 1896, Alfred J. Carson, a grocer specializing in teas had this Tudoresque house built under the supervision of local architect Eustace Bird. Typical of the style are the imitation half-timbered second floor, leaded art glass windows, sculptured chimney, and Romanesque-arched entry. The original open side porch has been bricked closed. Variations of this Queen Anne influenced design by Bird stand at 11 Rodney Street, 88 Sophia Street East, and in Elmvale. Across the street is 76 Mary, the childhood home of Dr. William Edward Gallie. Born in 1882, Gallie was a pioneering surgeon and medical educator at the University of Toronto who achieved notoriety in Canada, England, and the United States.





16

105 Toronto Street

This is a graceful example of the Second Empire style of architecture. The work is attributed to architect George Brown and builder George Ball, as they were responsible for most of the Second Empire style buildings in Barrie. Built in 1872 for American stove manufacturer Charles W. Robinson, it was sold in 1887 to Martin Burton. Burton, in partnership with his brothers, was a lumber dealer, pioneering public utilities entrepreneur, and owner of the steamer *Ida Burton*. The trademark mansard roof, pierced by elaborate bent-corniced window openings, is missing its patterned slate shingles and cast iron cresting. The dwelling has lost its landscaped gardens, complete with a fountain, but continues to enjoy a view of Queen's Park.



17

91 Toronto Street

John Laidlaw, a carpenter, built this fine Gothic Revival style house in 1873 for himself, his wife Elizabeth, and their young children. Its high centre gable with vine-like bargeboard trim frames a pointed arch window typical of the style. These elements, along with the segmental window openings with contrasting brick voussoirs above, and the doorcase with sidelights and a transom, are also traits of this style. An added feature is the bay window.



18

80 Toronto Street

This remarkable house is believed to have been built in 1876 By John Palmer for William F. A. Boys, a barrister, judge, and mayor of Barrie. Designed by Boys, it reveals several stylistic influences that might best be described as Italianate. It is a frame structure, clad in plaster, and fronted by a relatively plain verandah. The zigzag frieze encircling the eaves contrasts with the soft round of the window mouldings. Farther on at 79 Toronto Street is an early Regency or Ontario Cottage style dwelling, upgraded with a gambrel roofed centre gable enclosing an oriel window.



Tour 2

Downtown East
WALKING TOUR

Tour 2 MAP Downtown East WALKING TOUR



31 Bayfield Street

Built for Michael Shanacy to replace a hotel destroyed in the Bayfield Street fire of 1876, the Simcoe Hotel is designed to fit its wedge-shaped lot between Clapperton and Bayfield streets. Local builder George Brown is attributed with the Second Empire style design. Barrie's George Ball, possibly with help from the Davenport brothers of Hillsdale, is believed to be the builder. A 1908 gazetteer about Barrie claimed that the town was known for its hard drinking and many taverns. It was condemned in 1875 by the Young Men's Christian Association as the worst town east of Winnipeg.



74 Dunlop Street East

This commercial, was built in 1880 for a jeweller, Leander Sanders, who had his name spelled in brick in the cornice. Sanders Block, its companion on the east known as Bothwell Block, and a corner building at Owen (demolished) were designed by the noted Barrie architect, Thomas Kennedy. The imaginative treatment of the windows and playful manipulation of proportion and decoration make this one of Barrie's finest facades. The metal clad finials at the roof are still intact. The property is designated for its historical and architectural significance under the Ontario Heritage Act.



94 Dunlop Street East

The Queen's is Barrie's oldest hotel and also its most handsome. Called the Barrie Hotel until 1924, this Georgian style building has been in continuous operation as a hotel since it was opened by Edward Marks in 1850. In a village filled with frame and log structures, and still without a brickworks, Marks made a bold (and likely expensive) decision to use buff coloured brick for his hotel. A passage on the west, bridged by an addition in 1866, led to the rear stable yard. A slight setback from the street still draws attention to the location. The Queen's is an important part of Barrie's built heritage.



4 South Side Dunlop East

The area known as the Boys Block, running west from Mulcaster on the south side of Dunlop, burned in 1873. Henry R. Boys then sold the land to several owners who agreed in 1876 to build one block of nine stores. The first three from Mulcaster had one owner, Samuel Wright, who instructed mason Robert Orr to create matching street facades for each of his three units. The various owners of the other stores hired mason William Macey to design a grouping of six facades, each with minor variations. Numbers 123 and 125 have unique terracotta keystones in the form of scowling human heads looking out from between the window openings. The Block is supported by Corinthian style iron columns that were cast locally at the Sewrey Foundry.

5 130 Dunlop Street East

The former Clarkson House Hotel at the northeast corner of Mulcaster and Dunlop is a plain, frame and roughcast structure in a Georgian style. It was built in 1871 for local dry goods merchant and politician, Thomas "Oily Tom" McConkey. The first proprietor of the hotel was Joshua Clarkson. A two-storey verandah added in 1872 must have been both decorative and useful for watching regattas on the bay. The Clarkson has been renovated several times but retains its original form and architectural elements.

6 36 Mulcaster Street

The unusually shaped building on the west side of Mulcaster was erected in 1888-89 as a military drill hall, company armoury, orderly room, quartermaster's stores, and band room. A project of Barrie, Simcoe County, and the federal departments of Public Works and Militia, many were critical of its size, comparing it to "the historic black hole of Calcutta." It was the headquarters of the 35th Battalion Simcoe Foresters until 1914 when it became auxiliary to the new Queen's Park armoury. In 1948, it was transformed into a farmers' market location. In recent years, the building was revitalized by a committee of City Council and is designated for its architectural and historical significance under the Ontario Heritage Act. It is now the Grey and Simcoe Foresters Regimental Museum.



7 37 Mulcaster Street

The unique Beaux Arts Classicism style building was built as a public library in 1915 using a \$15,000 grant from the Carnegie Corporation. Industrialist Andrew Carnegie believed that libraries should be free and he sponsored their construction in hundreds of locations across North America. Designed by Toronto architect Alfred H. Chapman, the structure features large Romanesque style windows, a patterned frieze under the eaves, and glazed tile. The building was vacated in 1996 when a new library opened at Owen and Worsley. It reopened in 2001, as a gallery and office space for the MacLaren Art Centre and is designated under the Ontario Heritage Act for its architectural and historical significance.

8 58 Collier Street

In 1845, John Weir bought a lot on the north side of Collier, west of Mulcaster, and had this elegant townhouse built as his residence. Many long term residents recall that, during and after the Second War, it was the home and office of Dr. MacPherson. In the Georgian style, the house has an unusual four bay front façade. An 1870's photograph reveals decorative brackets along the eaves, three roof dormers, and a two storey verandah with handrails, columns, and bargeboard that probably was added to update the style. There is evidence in the attic of fire damage to the roof structure. This dwelling dates from Barrie's early history and, although altered, is still characteristic of the period.

9 24 Collier Street - Trinity Anglican

The first Anglican church in Barrie was erected in 1835 near Poyntz and Worsley. When that frame building proved too small (and cold) for the growing congregation, a new church was built in 1864. has occupied its prominent hilltop site on the north side of Collier, between Owen and Clapperton, since that date. It is Gothic Revival in style and has traditional tower-nave-chancel plan. In 1934, lightning ignited a fire that destroyed the tower and caused extensive damage to the interior. The structure is now topped by a castellated parapet.



10

47 Owen Street - St. Andrew's Presbyterian

This historic church built in 1882-3, has imaginative masonry with corbels, panels, checkerboards, and bricks cut into circular and rhomboidal shapes, accented with spire-like roof finials. Buff brick is used as a foil to the predominantly brown orange façade. Following its construction, there was surprising criticism and disappointment at its plain appearance. This is a well preserved and attractive landmark in downtown Barrie.

23 Theresa Street

This residence on the south side of Theresa, east of Berczy, was built about 1863 for Henry and Sara Creswicke. Henry was an engineer and surveyor for Simcoe County and also served on Barrie Council. He died in 1883, but the family owned the property until selling in 1924 to Henry's executor and son-in-law, Charles Hewson. In 1950, Hewson sold to Ralph and Valerie Snelgrove, the founders of Barrie's CKVR television and CKBB radio. Although new wing sections and a garage partially obscure the original design, the house still has many classic Gothic Revival elements such as the steep pitched roof, bargeboard, finials, gables, and shaped window openings.

33 Theresa Street

William D. Ardagh returned to open a law practice in 1856 on Dunlop Street. Two years later, he was appointed Deputy-Judge for Simcoe County by his brother-in-law, Judge James Gowan. In 1873, he began construction of his large dwelling known as The Hill, on the south side of Theresa Street. The design is attributed to Barrie architects Gaviller and Thomson. Although Ardagh left Barrie in 1882 to become the Deputy Attorney General of Manitoba, then died in 1893, the family owned The Hill until 1968. Even without its expansive verandah, and with a modern kitchen addition, this is an extraordinary Gothic Revival style house. Built of earthy-orange brick, it has sophisticated window labels made of cast stone. The variety in gable ornamentation appears like elegant trusses.



11



12

14



13

149 Collier Street

This house was built in 1865 for William and Jane Caldwell. William operated a blacksmith and carriage shop on the east part of the lot, which may explain why the house seems crowded to the west. It is in the neoclassical style, rare for Barrie, with a dentil cornice at the eaves and a graceful doorcase with a fanlight transom. Paired and arched window openings over the entrance and in the gables are a pleasant window variation. The gable roof has raised parapet ends, which in a more tightly packed urban setting, offered some fire protection from abutting structures.



14

158 Dunlop Street East

Known as a doctor's house, Barrie's first medical doctor, Dr. Alexander Pass, had a frame house on this site. Dr. Edward D. Morton bought the property in 1865 and ten years later had the Pass house demolished to make way for this bright, buff brick residence. Dr. Morton died in 1916 and there is a tradition that his widow and son opened a guest-house. In 1934, Dr. Ernest Turnbull established his medical practice there, and was succeeded by his son, Dr. A. Ross Turnbull. This is a stately and elegant residence that blends Gothic Revival with Italianate style elements, and features a traditional side verandah overlooking a garden setting. The property is designated under the Ontario Heritage Act for its architectural and historical significance.



15

118 Collier Street

This traditional Georgian style house was built for Edmund and Anne Lally about 1847. Edmund was an agent for the Bank of Upper Canada and an early treasurer for Simcoe County. The characteristic Georgian elements of a rectangular form with a balanced façade, medium pitched roof, central door-case with sidelights and a transom window, and generously sized multi-paned window sashes, represent the best of this early Ontario style. The ground floor has casement or French doors designed to lead into a now vanished verandah.



111-113 Collier Street

This striking dwelling on the south side of Collier, west of Poyntz, is believed to have been partially destroyed by fire about 1890, while owned by barrister and Barrie mayor, Francis Pepler. The reconstruction above the second floor introduced an expressive example of Gothic Revival style with sharp gables and an unusual three-storey bay window. The patterned stonework and pairs of pointed arch windows are particularly engaging. The building was duplexed about 1909 and has accommodated several owners and tenants since then. The east side was an office for Barrie's Gryphon Theatre during its foundation years.



112 Collier Street

The spire of Collier Street United church, embellished with tiny dormers and fleur-de-lis, is the lone survivor among the four church spires that once delineated Barrie's skyline. It tops a firmly buttressed tower centered in the plain but impressive Gothic Revival façade. This 1864 church, which replaced an 1841 frame building to the east, was later enlarged with shallow transepts. This changed the linear plan of the building and introduced the present collection of windows, including two fine rose windows.



101 Collier Street

Across the street at 101 Collier Street is a charming gable-end cottage with lace-like bargeboard trim. There is a tradition that this was the coachman's house at the rear of Judge John Ardagh's residence, Blythe Cottage, which fronted on Dunlop. Blythe Cottage is remembered by many after it was converted to Mayor's Motel, later Bayshore Landing Motel. It was demolished about 1987 to build the Bayshore Landing condominium complex.

Tour 3



Rodney/Blake Streets WALKING TOUR

Tour 3 MAP Rodney/Blake Streets WALKING TOUR



42 Blake Street

On the north side of Blake Street, Sir James Robert Gowan built the cottage at 42 Blake Street for his coachman. Walking west along Blake from the park, this cottage appears as the one story red and black brick house with the decorative porch nearest to the street. It is all that remains of the once prominent Gowan properties.



99 Blake Street

The attractive residence at 99 Blake was built in the 1870's. One early occupant was a gardener, Edward Justice, whose greenhouse operation stood to the west of the house. Although modest in size, this house exhibits one of the more ambitious examples of decorative brickwork in Barrie. A new porch was added in the 1990s.



103 Blake Street

At the southeast corner of Blake and Rodney is 103 Blake Street. This lovely building is believed to have been built in 1886 by Mr. H.B. Spotton. Spotton was the Principal of the Grammar School and Barrie Collegiate Institute from 1868 to 1891. The house was later owned by another Principal, Mr. Redditt.



4

11 Rodney Street

To view 11 Rodney it is necessary to cross Blake Street and walk south on the east side of Rodney. Set back from the street is this Tudoresque Queen Anne style house that was once known as Glen Ormond. This stately residence was built in 1895 for John Dickinson, who had a career as a civil engineer, surveyor and lawyer. For \$3500, Dickinson had George Ball construct the residence according to the design of a local architect Eustace Bird. In 1910, T.D. Rees, the head of a lumber company in New Orleans, Louisiana, purchased Glen Ormond for use as a summer home. Each year Rees and his family, accompanied by their domestic staff, travelled to Barrie in a private railcar. In 1929, Rees sold the property at public auction, complete with furnishings and boats. During World War II, it was rumoured that a gambling den was in operation in the basement. (This may explain the iron doors, false floor in the vault, painted wall mural, and bar that remain in the basement!)



5

113 Blake Street

Looking south to Kempenfelt Bay, it is easy to understand why the Bay has always been the "jewel" of Lake Simcoe and Barrie. Properties such as Glen Ormond enjoyed an unrestricted view of the Bay and boasted their own private bathing beaches. Returning to the southeast corner of Blake and Rodney, the house at 113 Blake was built for the gardener at Glen Ormond.



6

134 Blake Street

Walking east along the south side of Blake reveals the attractive Gothic Revival style residence on the north side at 134 Blake. The first house on the site was built by a banker, William Holt. Holt sold the property in 1874. Sometime later the building was destroyed, probably by fire. Holt himself was found floating in the Bay in 1882, the apparent victim of an unsolved drowning "accident". Two years later, James Pugh acquitted the property and immediately built the house that stands today.



7

126 Blake Street

The first headmaster, Frederic Gore, financed an operation of schools through grants and fees. He supplemented his personal income by providing accommodation for the boarding students. By 1856, Gore had constructed the outstanding Georgian style building at 126 Blake as a boarding house and office. On an upstairs window the words "M. Gaviller" (who inhabited this room in September 1858) are scribed. "M.G." can still be seen today. Gaviller was a student who later became an architect and surveyor.



8

47 Rodney Street

In 1849, Frederic Gore, headmaster for the Grammar School, built the Regency Cottage style residence at 47 Rodney Street. Gore resided there with his wife and, sometimes, as many as twenty-five out-of-town boarding students. In 1863, the building became the home of Benjamin Walker Smith, first Sheriff of Simcoe County. In a dramatic rescue on July 1, 1859, Smith saved the lives of the Hon. John A. Macdonald first Prime Minister of Canada and other dignitaries when their steamer, the Ploughboy, drifted dangerously close to the rocks during a storm on Georgian Bay.



9

Fence/Barn on Collingwood Street

The barn belongs to the Gore/Smith residence and replaced one which burned in 1915. Observing the flames from Glen Ormond, David Rees rushed to the site. Grabbing a ladder and fire axe, Rees cut a hole in the roof of the summer kitchen. He ordered a firefighter to direct a hose into the roof and prevented the fire from spreading to the house. Not original to its present location, the attractive wood fences adjoining the barn dates to about 1850. The solid boards along the base are called pig boards. These were designed to keep stray pigs from entering the yard around the house!



10

142 Collingwood Street

At the top of the hill, 142 Collingwood Street, is the Second Empire style mansion built by dentist Charles Bosanko. Many of the finest homes in Barrie were built on natural ridges of land and faced south to command a sweeping view of Kempenfelt Bay. Dr. Bosanko built his residence, which once featured a centre tower with a mansard roof and iron cresting, in 1879. Unfortunately, he soon found commuting to his dental practice on Collier Street too difficult and sold the house. The Carriage stone on the lawn bears the name Beverly Hall, which is believed to be an early name for the Bosanko residence.



11

310 Codrington Street

On the north side of Codrington Street facing the eastern end of a small park located at the intersection of Cook, Codrington and Highland Avenue, is the delightful structure at 310 Codrington. This home probably was built in 1874 by a local printer, Alexander Laurie.



12

268 Codrington Street

Captain William Grubbe built this modest home at 268 Codrington about 1851. It was likely the first house built in the area known as "The Commons", and is the only one placed at a considerable distance from the street. Captain Grubbe was born in England in 1812 and entered the service of the East India Company when in his teens. In 1845, he was promoted to the rank of captain for his bravery in storming a citadel in India. Two years later, he and his family settled in Barrie. Trained at a time when cameras were rare, Captain Grubbe was skilled at accurately portraying landscapes. In 1853, he painted a water colour that remains the earliest known panoramic view of Barrie. The water colour is preserved at the Simcoe County Archives in Midhurst.



Barrie Heritage Awards

The Heritage Barrie Committee holds the Barrie Heritage Awards each year for property owners and individuals who've made strides in fostering local identity through heritage preservation and awareness in Barrie. During the nomination period, all residents are invited to submit nominations for a property from any of the following categories:

- Residential Buildings
- Commercial Building with a business including office, restaurant or store
- Institutional Building such as a church, school, or public facility
- Individual or Group of people who stand out in terms of their heritage contribution to the community.

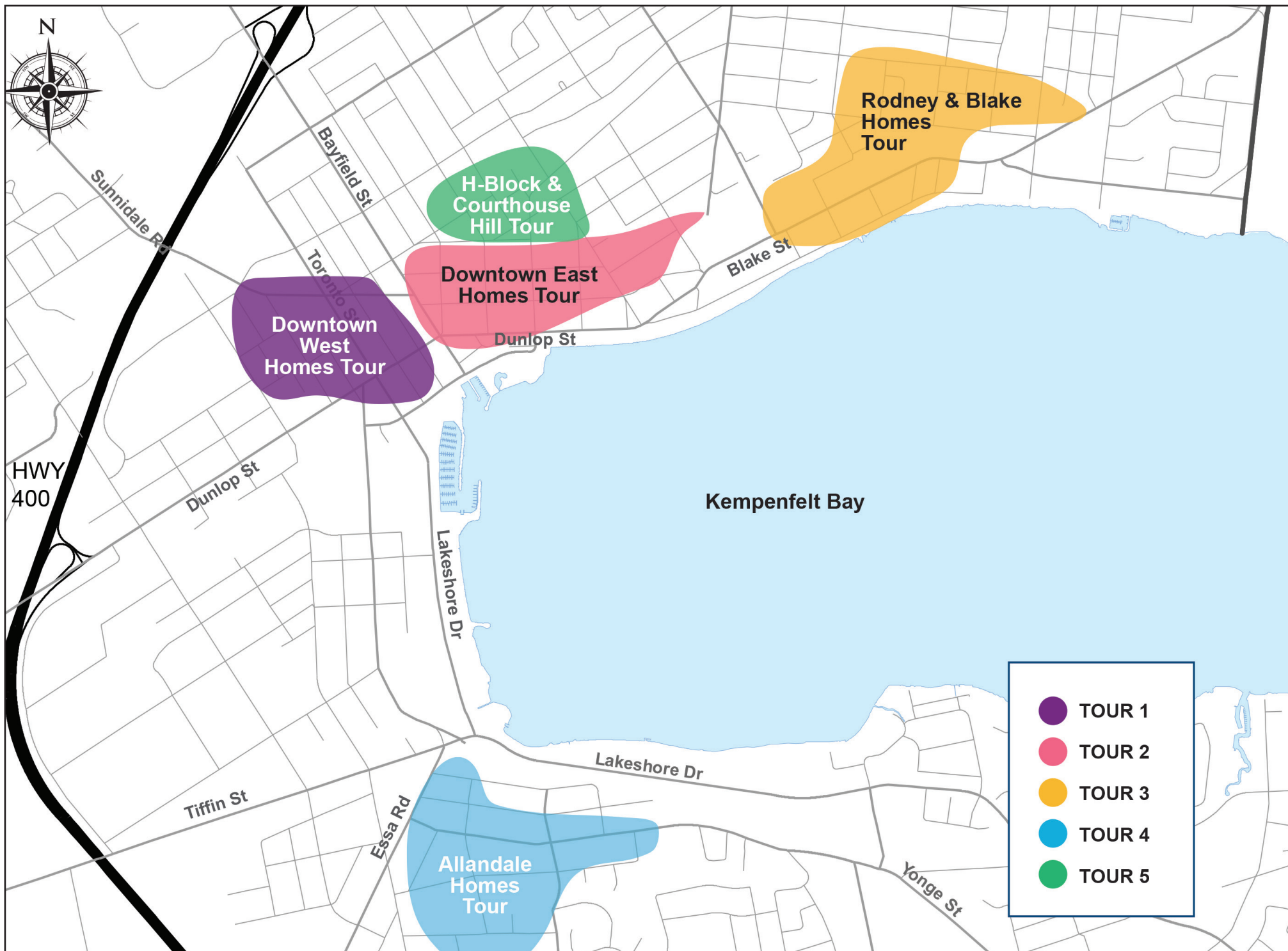
Nominations for **buildings with at least two of the following attributes** will be considered:

- Are at least one hundred years old
- The property and buildings are well maintained
- Are sensitive to the heritage features of the property, especially if the property has been restored, rehabilitated or adaptively re-used
- Enhances the streetscape
- Assists in revitalizing the community through heritage conservation

Nominations for an Individual **with the following attributes** will be considered:

- Demonstrate a commitment to heritage preservation
- Built awareness and understanding of local history and heritage
- Help revitalize the community through building local heritage awareness

Heritage Barrie Committee members will select award winners at a regular Heritage Barrie Committee meeting. Awards are presented at a Barrie City Council meeting in December each year.





What is a Heritage Designation?

Heritage designation is an important aspect of the mandate of Heritage Barrie. Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act allows municipal councils to pass bylaws to protect properties that have architectural and/or historical significance to the community.

The designation bylaw does not prevent alteration nor does it require the owner to restore the building. Its purpose is to ensure that any proposed changes to the designated features are in keeping with, or are sympathetic to, the reasons for designation.

For further information and the list of properties designated or on the Cultural Heritage Resources Inventory, contact Heritage Barrie, c/o Planning and Development, Barrie City Hall, PO Box 400, Barrie, ON, L4M 4T5.

Municipal Heritage Register

A Municipal Heritage Register is a publically accessible list of properties that includes Designated Buildings and Buildings of Heritage Interest. It can be used to determine areas of heritage interest within a municipality. The register is regularly reviewed and updated and serves the following purposes:

- Recognizes properties of cultural heritage value in a community.
- Fosters civic identity and pride by drawing attention to the heritage and development of a community.
- Promotes knowledge and enhances an understanding of a community's cultural heritage.
- Provides easily accessible information about cultural heritage value for land-use planners, property owners, developers, the tourism industry, educators and the general public.
- Used as a central element of a municipal cultural plan that begins with mapping local cultural resources and then leverages these resources for economic development and community building.

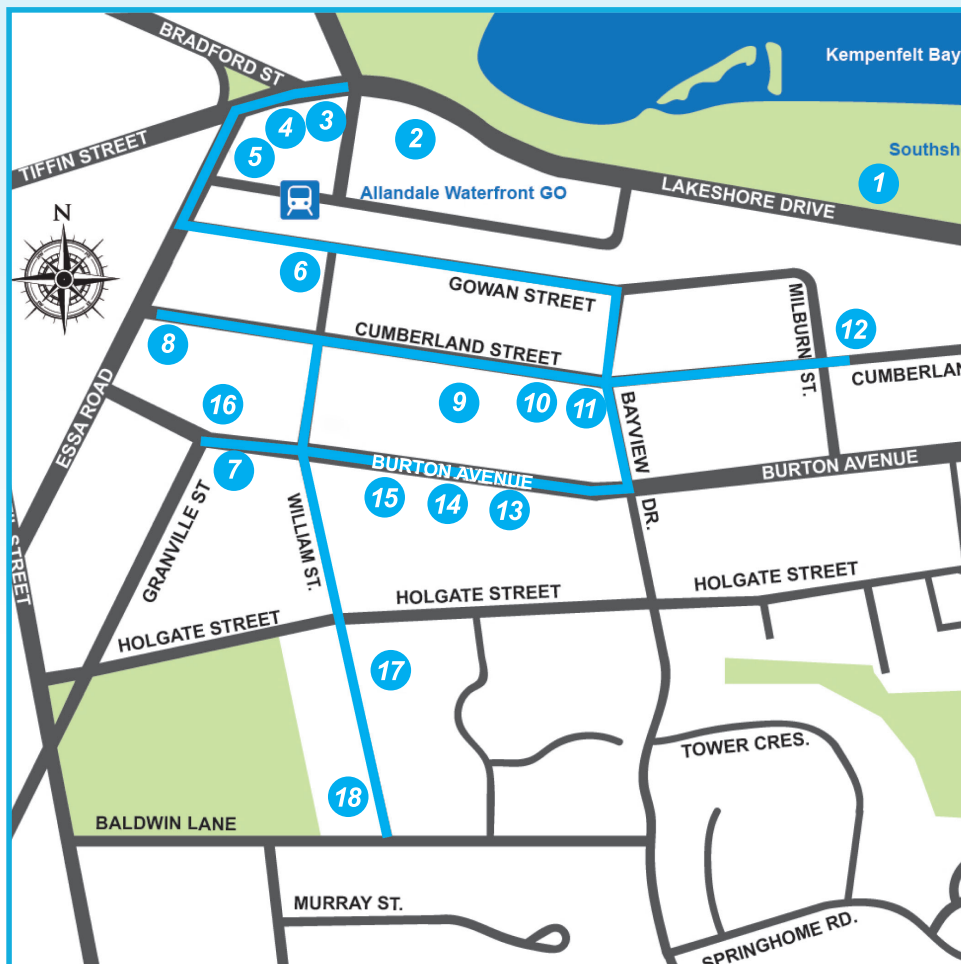
Tour 4



Allandale WALKING TOUR

Tour 1 MAP

Allandale WALKING TOUR



Grand Trunk Railway Office & Stores

This building built in 1903 accommodated the offices of the Master Mechanic and clerical staff as well as the part (stores) department. The building is an early example of poured concrete construction. In 1994, the building was extended on the Bay side by a complementary addition with both nautical and railway expression. Now owned by the City of Barrie, the building is known as the Southshore Community centre.



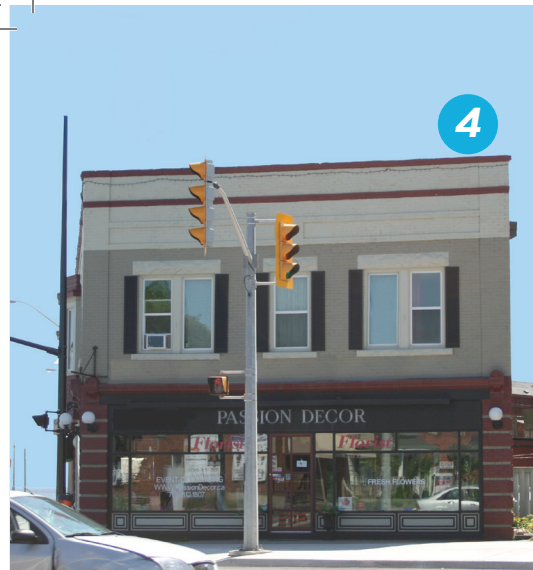
Allandale Station

Allandale's future was guaranteed when the Ontario, Simcoe and Huron Union Railroad Company line, known affectionately as "Oates, Straw and Hay" reached here in 1853. The OSH became the Grand Trunk Railway, which built the present station in 1905. The brick section predates 1905 but was incorporated into the design by architects Spier and Rohns of Windsor. Following the curve of the original shoreline of Kempfenfelt Bay, this lovely three-building composition with its wide eaves, finely detailed windows, columns and breezeways is in an Italianate/Prairie School style. The coronet-ringed waiting room commands views of both the water and approaching trains. A lavish, wood paneled restaurant once occupied the centre block. The design was unified by bands of intricate stencil or screen work around each opening and along the eaves.



268 Bradford Street

Completed in 1907, the Railroad YMCA was built and administered by local citizens primarily to offer overnight accommodations to 'deadheading' railway men. Until 1942, The YMCA supplied a secretary to run the programs and as part of the deal, the GTR supplied fuel and water until 1950 when beds were no longer required. Now a handsomely restored restaurant, late Victorian structure with an exceptional paneled cornice butting into a mansard-roofed tower.



4

4 Essa Road

This is an example of a building made to fit its irregular-shaped lot. George 'Doc' Patterson, established his 'most complete' drug store on this site in 1896 in the former Fisher Brothers Brewery. Here he concocted such remedies as 'Patterson's Cough Balsam' and 'Rhubarb and Dandelion Bitters'. His son, Arthur, continued the business and constructed this 'quite palatial' Edwardian Classicism style building in 1914. Noteworthy features are the generous number of windows, the shingled oriel windows, a cornice, and stone and brick quoin trim.



5

8 Essa Road

Wesley Webb, a graduate of the Ontario Horological Institute in Toronto, opened these fine premises in 1893, adding the family residence to the back about ten years later. He began watch inspection for the railway in 1898, a task which Webb's Jewelers continued for many decades. The store, built of earth-orange tone brick with contrasting buff trim, features a centre gable, unusual on a commercial building of this date. The street level has been renovated several times.



6

27 Gowan Street

This attractive Ontario Gothic Revival style house dating from the 1870s is one of countless examples in Ontario based on plans found in popular journals such as The Canadian Farmer. Although missing the characteristic verandah, the house retains its fine bargeboard decoration on both gables, the bay window and buff brick voussoirs, or 'eyebrows' over each window.



7

24 Burton Avenue

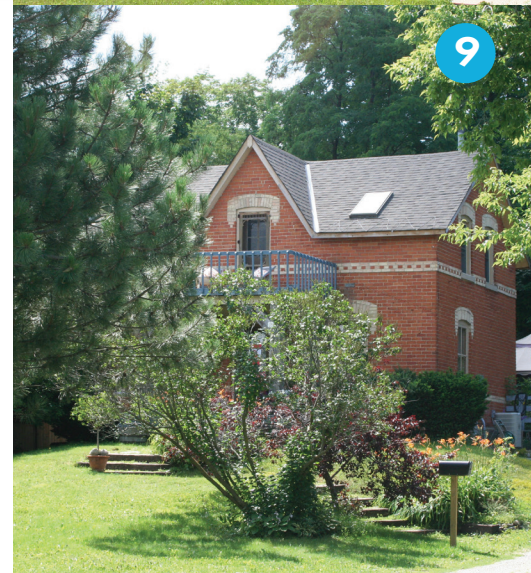
After meeting for twenty years in various buildings around the village, Allandale's Anglican congregation built their homey English Gothic parish church. St. George's was constructed in the short span of four months at the end of 1892. Built at grade level, the broad expanse of the roof rests on low walls punctured by small, arched windows. The belfry and spire rise immediately above the main door. The parish hall was built in 1918.



8

8 Cumberland Street

This plain but sturdy dwelling demonstrates a type of construction known as 'rough cast' or stucco on frame. It was built in 1879 by James Gibson, a plasterer, to house the eight members of his family. Its appearance is a little jarred by the two modern picture windows. Nearby, Numbers 10 and 19 Cumberland Street have exquisite spoolwork in their verandahs.



9

56 Cumberland Street

In the 1870s, quarter acre lots on Cumberland Street sold for approximately \$100.00. At that time, a railroad laborer earned about fifty cents per day and a tradesman up to a dollar per day. In 1879-80, John and Isabella Brunton built this house on a quarter acre lot for their family of eight children. John was a weaver and kept his looms in sheds located just to the west of the house. The earth-orange tone brick effectively shows off the buff brick voussoirs (eyebrows) above each window and the buff bands encircling the house. The centre gable was a popular feature. The original verandah has been replaced several times. Number 41 Cumberland Street features decorative crushed stone in the gable.



82 Cumberland Street

This house appears to be a miniature version of the classic Ontario Gothic Revival farmhouse. The familiar gable, now unadorned by any decoration, frames a pointed (lancet) window. Richard Perry, a carpenter, and his wife Margaret built the house shortly after their marriage in 1873. Originally of frame construction, it was later clad in brick.

88 Cumberland Street

James Brunton, a son of John, and his wife Adelaide built this house in 1887. James had been an engineer with the Grand Trunk Railway and later a partner in a local grocery store. The house has nicely detailed brickwork featuring alternating colors and a decorated gable. By facing one end of the house to the street, the Bruntons were able to use the depth of the lot to gain additional square footage. Note the cast iron cresting and bold bargeboard at 96 Cumberland Street, the sunburst gable at 114 Cumberland Street and the well-maintained house at 122 Cumberland Street with its fine verandah.

129 Cumberland Street

The use of the grand Second Empire style with its characteristic mansard roof is quite charming in such a small house. The height of the roof gives the owner the full use of the upper storey. Likely built in the 1880s, this stucco finished house is thoroughly detailed with a roof cornice, dormer windows with their small pediments and shaped surrounds, a bracketed and paneled frieze under the eaves, a bay window with brackets and window trim and an entrance pediment.



67 & 68 Burton Avenue

Along Burton Avenue watch for the verandah, cast iron cresting and scalloped fascia at 132 Burton Avenue and the attractive gable with its stone-filled geometric tracery at 75 Burton Avenue. The houses at 67 and 68 Burton Avenue exhibit two interesting architectural

details of the late nineteenth century. The cast iron cresting capping the bay window at 67 Burton Avenue was once available by the yard but is now rarely seen due in part to war time scrap drives. The shingled gable framed by embossed bargeboard at 68 Burton Avenue is pierced by a half round window resting on an elaborate wooden projection.

60 Burton Avenue

Occupying land once part of lumberman James L. Burton's farm, this distinctive house was built around 1891 for Dr. Patrick C Armstrong. It is a sombre Queen Anne vernacular style with stone mosaic gables incorporating crushed glass. Also of note are the turned, cross-shaped corner eaves brackets and the projecting Tudoresque third floor dormer with its panels of stone and diagonal wood.

52 & 55 Burton Avenue

These two details are indicative of the high standard of craftsmanship found in houses of the late nineteenth century. The fanciful verandah woodwork on 52 Burton Avenue is still a visual treat even though its original row of spindles is missing. The brick arch and circle in the gable of 55 Burton Avenue create a pleasant relief and the delicate fascia scrollwork complements the masonry.



16



19 Burton Avenue

Although altered, King Edward School (Burton Avenue School) clearly shows itself to be one of the eight-room, centre hall schoolhouse plans popular at the beginning of the twentieth century. The pedimented central bay has a nice Palladian window flanked by angled walls, all with orange-red brick masonry. Edward Shear was principal at the time the school was built in 1906 and for thirty-four years in total. Shear Park located at Innisfil and Holgate Streets is named in his honor.

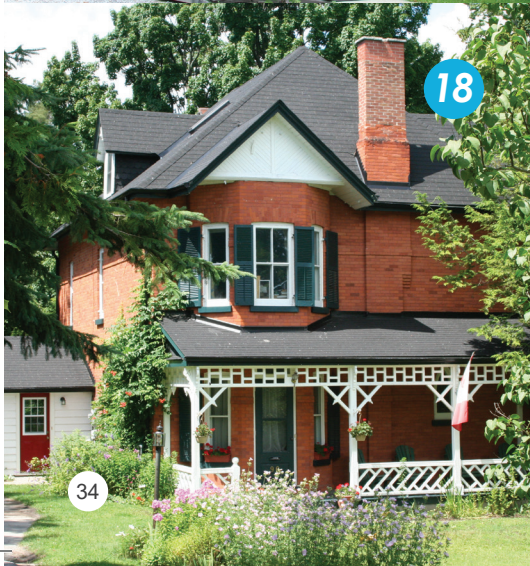
17



73 William Street

Built in 1908, this building is typical of many tract houses of its era, tending towards bulkiness with a minimum of decoration. When built, that familiar and friendly space, the verandah, was beginning to disappear, here being reduced to a porch. It is now missing the upper level porch railing. The house was bought in 1915 by railway engineer Archibald Marshall and was occupied by the family for several decades. The original wood shingling and decorative roof finials of each gable have been removed. Looking back down the street, the tower of Burton Avenue United Church nicely terminates the view.

18



34

90 William Street

Henry Holgate bought this property in 1888 from James Burton and soon after built this 'nice tasty residence' as the local paper described it. The house has two fronts, one facing the street and the other as see here, facing the garden. The garden front appears to be symmetrical but has subtle variations on each side. The street façade presents a fine verandah with striking, geometric woodwork. This is the birthplace in 1892 of Group of Seven artist Edwin Holgate. In 1899, the Gibsons purchased the house and their daughter, Jenny, is remembered as the Allandale night telephone operator.

Tour 5

H-Block/Courthouse WALKING TOUR

Tour 5 MAP

H-Block/Courthouse WALKING TOUR



1

30 McDonald Street

This is a good example of the storey and half; frame dwelling with roughcast siding that dominated this neighborhood throughout most of its history. It was built about 1875 for David Garton, whose career included lumberyard owner, pump maker, and photographer. This is a gable end house that maximizes the narrow width of the lot by placing the gable end as the street façade. It would be a very plain design if not for the fanciful two storey verandah. Similar houses in the area have been clad in brick.



2

87 Owen Street

This was the home of noted Barrie architect Thomas Kennedy. Examples of his designs survive throughout Barrie, Simcoe County, Toronto and New York. Kennedy owned this lot for about a decade before 1882 when he added a second storey to the existing dwelling. Known as Lilac Villa, there is a tradition that Kennedy used this American style home to illustrate to his clients the latest architectural elements available.



3

22 Peel Street

At the southwest corner of Peel and Sophia is a square, red brick house in a modified Georgian style. George Arthur Radenhurst and his family are linked with this 1870s dwelling. Radenhurst was a barrister when he arrived in Barrie about 1874, and later became a police magistrate and mayor. He was a descendant of Lieutenant Radenhurst who commanded of the boats under Lieutenant-Colonel Worsley in the capture of the American warships Scorpion and Tigress during the War of 1812.



16 Peel Street

This is a more traditional Gothic Revival style house than the example at 17 Peel. The gables are adorned with almost oversized cut out wheels that form part of the decorative bargeboard. Height and decoration date this dwelling to the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Hiding under the present siding may be a brick house.

13-15 Peel Street

Set on a rise within a large lot, this is a well-designed double house that incorporates wide cross gables and a low profile. It may have been built in the late 1860s as a rental property for surveyor and engineer Maurice Gaviller. Richard Lee Barwick and his wife Margaret (Cotter) lived in number 13 for several years before building a house on Owen Street about 1897. Members of the Barwick family served in the British army and were stationed in St. Petersburg, Russia, where they probably met another British officer's family, the Moberlys of Barrie. Richard worked for the railway in Barrie, then retired and became an insurance agent.



9 Peel Street

This home has a hip roof, three bay façade, Classical doorcase with sidelights and transom, and 6x6, double hung, sash windows. These features are typical of the early nineteenth century Regency or Ontario cottage style



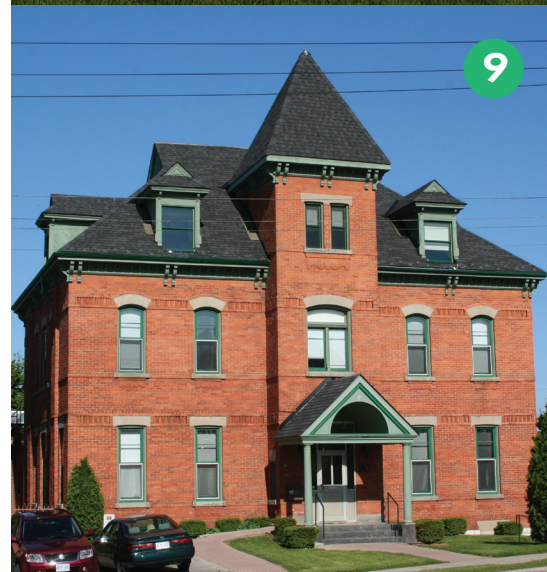
3 Peel Street

This is at the corner of Peel and Wellington: it is the late Victorian period dwelling. This large structure presents an assortment of Gothic Revival style elements including a steeply pitched roof, several gables adorned with carved bargeboard, bays of contrasting brick, stacked bay windows and brackets. The curved porch is one of several added to existing dwellings in the 1920s. This one surrounds what may be the original portico at the entrance door. It was Samuel McCutcheon who had this house built about 1880, but most long time Barrie residents refer to it as the Lynch house. Patrick Lynch began his career in 1879 with the Northern Railway at Allandale. He moved into 3 Peel when he became Superintendent of the North Bay division in 1913.



Court House Hill and Jail

In 1837, the magistrates of the Home district agreed to set apart Simcoe District from the Home District and make Barrie the new administrative centre. They gave authority to raise 4000 pounds for building a Court House and Jail on lands already reserved for that purpose. The final cost was 9000 pounds plus the legal fees for a series of lawsuits over contract problems. Barrie contractor Charles Thompson was hired to undertake the project and began the slow process of hauling limestone from the quarry at Longford on the east side of Lake Couchiching. The jail is the only remaining institutional building in Barrie related to its origin as the County of Simcoe administrative centre. It is the focal point for the historic core and Court House Hill.



90 Mulcaster

In 1885, the Sisters of St. Joseph had this built as their convent, in the somewhat Italianate style. In 1946 it became the Roman Catholic Separate High School known as St. Joe's. In the 1990s, it was converted to law offices.



10

77 McDonald

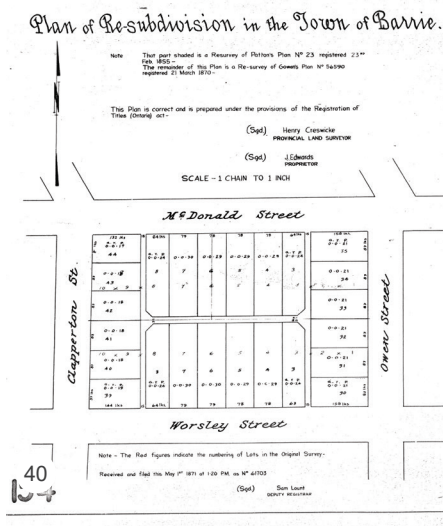
On the southwest corner of Mulcaster and McDonald is this two-storey house with modern siding. Although worn after more than a century of use, a careful look reveals its early history. The front entrance has remnants of a Classical design with sidelights and transom, and there are a few decorative brackets at the eaves. This is the 1860s house of an early Barrie merchant and politician, Andrew Miscampell.



11

68 Mulcaster

This home is at the corner of Worsley and Mulcaster: it is another early dwelling obscured by years of renovation. It is a Georgian style house built about 1845 for prominent Barrie resident David Morrow. It has an early addition to the north.



The H-Block

The label originates with an owner, J. Edwards, who commissioned a survey plan of the area in 1871. Edwards redivided the block by keeping lots 3 to 8, south McDonald and north Worsley, and creating lots 39 to 44, east Clapperton, and 30 to 35, west Owen. He divided some of the lots into east and west halves, each with twenty-nine feet of frontage, and laid out a network of internal laneways in an H-pattern.



The Heritage Walking Tours are self-guided tours sponsored by Heritage Barrie to highlight the heritage of the City of Barrie.

What is Heritage Barrie?

Heritage Barrie was established in 1977 by a City of Barrie bylaw as the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) under the Ontario Heritage Act to advise Council in heritage conservation matters and to implement the heritage policy of the Official Plan. Members are volunteers appointed by Council, an alderman, and a liaison from the Planning and Development Department. Funds for Heritage Barrie are provided annually as part of the city operating budget.

Waterfront Historic Locations

Tour the delightful waterfront and discover part of Barrie's History! View the six interpretive plaques, all sponsored by the Barrie Historical Association in cooperation with the City.

Heritage Barrie would like to acknowledge the following for their contribution to the Heritage Walking Tours booklet:

Heritage Barrie
Barrie Historical Association
Fred Day

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City of Barrie

For more Information

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Barrie Public Library
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library.barrie.on.ca

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Come and experience our walking tours

1 Downtown West



2 Downtown East



3 Rodney & Blake



4 Allandale



5 H-Block & Court House Hill



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