

Collingwood Heritage Walking Tours is a special project of the Heritage Advisory Committee. This project would not have been possible without the support of our community partners:

Architectural Conservancy, Business and Economic Development, B.I.A., Collingwood Historical Society, Collingwood Museum, and Collingwood Library.

Editor: Laurel Lane-Moore

discover
COLLINGWOOD



HERITAGE
WALKS
West Heritage Walk

www.heritagecollingwood.ca

Travelling through
Collingwood's history

For more information regarding numbered historical photographs, architectural features and descriptors of properties, please refer to:

Collingwood Historical Homes and Buildings.
Text: Laurel Lane-Moore, Photography: Eileen Cryslér
Butchers, Bakers and Building the Lakers: Christine Cowley
Genealogy Department: Collingwood Public Library
Collingwood Museum (Photographs from the Collingwood Museum Collection)
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Reflections COLLINGWOOD An Historical Anthology Editor: B. Arp



take a walk around
COLLINGWOOD

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Welcome to **Heritage Walks: West**. The Discover Collingwood Heritage Walks have been divided into three areas. Each of the three walks are accessible and start and end at the Town Hall. The estimated times and distances for the self-guided tours are without stopping. The longer walks are easily subdivided into shorter walks as individual time permits.

The **Downtown Heritage Walk** and the **East Heritage Walk** are each included in separate brochures. The Downtown walk is approximately 1 km in length and takes 20 minutes to complete. The East Heritage Walk is approximately 3 km in length and takes about 1 hour to complete.

The **West Heritage Walk** is also approximately 3 km in length and takes about 1 hour to complete. This walk will take you along the “tree streets” and the “number streets” in the residential area to the west of Hurontario Street.



After the town was incorporated in 1858, mainly frame and log houses were being constructed west of Hurontario Street. With the major building material being wood, when the fire of 1881 swept through the town, it destroyed most of the buildings on Hurontario Street. Determination on the part of business owners resulted in replacing these buildings in time for the local merchants to take

advantage of Collingwood's growth as a strategic port during the 1880s.

As Collingwood became known as the “Chicago of the North”, the population grew. The merchants took advantage of this increased harbour trade and used their wealth to build Italianate brick homes along Third Street

on the west side of town and along Minnesota and Ste Marie Streets on the east side of town.

Many of these homes were constructed by prominent businessmen. They were built in the Queen Anne revival style and were overwhelming in size and in attention to ornamentation and detail.

As you walk on this self-guided tour, look up to find a unique feature in the gables of some of the two storey homes. These Flowerpot Houses show examples of a motif used by particular builders as a symbol of their craftsmanship. Regency bungalows can also be found on the west walking tour as well as on the east walking tour.

We hope you enjoy discovering Collingwood.

West Heritage Walk: Common Architectural Styles

Regency 1820-70



British officers stationed in hot countries from Australia to India brought back the idea of an informal, low-slung house with deep eaves and verandas. Combining the aristocratic cachet of the officers,

fashionable Romanic notions of closeness to nature, and a casual pragmatism, the so-called Regency cottage caught on in some of the coldest outputs of Empire. Ideally situated with a view or in a large garden, the Regency cottage minimizes the indoor-outdoor distinction with a relatively unimportant main door, and verandas on one, two, three or four sides. A one-and-a-half storey with a central peak is called the Ontario cottage.

Italianate 1850-90



The nineteenth century considered this a “modern” style. In Ontario, the flexible type could be a squarish bracketed house or a more irregular one with the characteristic tower (a very popular model, published in the Canada Farmer, could not forgo the so-called Ontario peak). The brackets were de rigour, so much that the style was sometimes called the Bracketed style. Look also for round-headed windows, often in pairs; plans both symmetrical and L-shaped; cupolas or square Tuscan towers, sometimes called campaniles.

Queen Anne 1880-1915



This misnamed style would hardly have pleased the eighteenth-century English queen in its free-for-all mixing of the picturesque (towers, turrets) and the classical (Palladian windows, classical orders, and other trimmings). A hospitable, sprawling look that suits the broad lawns of Ontario towns, Queen Anne has deep porches, towers, complicated rooflines, a multiplicity of materials.

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Scan the QR code to access links to the Heritage Website, with links to each walk along with maps of each tour.



WEST HERITAGE WALK

3 km | 1 hour

1. Bodelwyddan 1885-1888



82 Pine Street
William Williams, the first headmaster of Collingwood Collegiate Institute and editor of the Collingwood Bulletin newspaper,

purchased this property from former Mayor George Moberly in 1888. It was named for the town in Wales from which his family emigrated. In 1946, Clare Trott purchased the property from Williams' estate for use as a funeral home. In 1960, Clare sold the funeral business to Clarence J. Fawcett, one of his longtime employees. X969.794.1

2. The Collingwood Club (Huron Club)

94 Pine Street

This home was originally constructed for Samuel Trott, who, along with his son, founded Trott's Furniture Company. In 1902, it was purchased by the newly-formed Collingwood Club and converted to an elegantly furnished gentlemen's club where businessmen and their guests could meet. In 1914, the name was changed to The Huron Club.



◆ 1858 (frame) 1875(brick)

110 Pine Street

This home was originally a frame house with a workshop in back for Collingwood decorator and glazier William Wensley. In 1890, Wensley sold the property to his son-in-law, who built the current building. William moved to Camperdown Road and founded Wensley's Mineral Springs.

3. Pine Street School 1858



16 Schoolhouse Lane

The original frame building on this site served as Collingwood's first public school until 1884 when two new schools were constructed. The property for the school was donated

by Sheriff B.W. Smith prior to incorporation of the Town of Collingwood in 1858. The original bell from the school tower was donated to the Collingwood Museum. The frame structure was expanded in 1879-80 with a brick addition. X971.548.

◆ 144/148 Pine Street

Flowerpot houses

Many homes built in the early 20th century in west-end Collingwood feature a potted sunflower motif between two small windows in the gable. Little is known about this curious ornamentation, but it has been speculated that it may have been the signature of local builder and architect, John Wilson, who was active during this period.

4. First Baptist Church 1879

160 Pine Street


The original property, on the west side of Ste. Marie Street, was donated by William McMaster in 1875. The congregation decided to sell that lot and purchased this property in 1877. A fine brick building, with seating for 400, was erected in 1879. X970.379.1



◆ Queen Anne Revival Houses

198, 202, 206, 212, 220 Pine Street

used to represent additional interesting properties along the self-guided tour.

Public Washrooms  are located at the South East corner of Second and Pine Street.

5. Bodidris 1901-1902

234 Pine Street



David Williams, who succeeded his father as owner of the Collingwood Bulletin newspaper, was a greatly respected historian and founder of the Huron Institute (precursor of the Collingwood Museum). He was also a mayor of Collingwood and chair of the Simcoe County Board of Education. The house, named after a hamlet in Wales, was built for \$8,500 and fitted with one of the first wood furnaces. X968.800.1

◆ Home of George and Fanny Moberly 1880-1885

242 Pine Street

George Moberly was a well-known Collingwood lawyer. He was mayor of Collingwood from 1872-1876.

◆ Home of R.W. O'Brien 1890-1894

268 Pine Street

O'Brien, a prominent businessman in Collingwood, owned R.W. O'Brien & Co Fur Store, which sold fine furs directly from the trapper to the customer.

◆ Home of James and Sara Archer 1883-1885

265 Pine Street

James Archer operated a grocery business on Hurontario Street and was founder of the GNE. He also served on Collingwood and Simcoe County councils.

◆ Stoutenburg House 1904

291/293 Pine Street

Local sawmill owner Peter Stoutenburg built this multi-unit dwelling to provide a home for two of his many daughters. Note the similar Victorian semi-detached across the street at 276/278 Pine Street.



◆ **Kirkland/Trott House 1905-1906**

297 Pine Street
Built for Emma Kirkland, widow of Dr. A.S. Kirkland, this home was one of many constructed during a local building boom. Later owners included Master Mariner James Montgomery and Clare Trott, an undertaker and member of Collingwood's venerable furniture manufacturing family. The house is one of several "Trott houses" (also 220 Pine Street and 114 Ontario Street).

6. Smart Cottage c. 1873

310 Pine Street
John Smart, a conductor on the Northern Railway, bought this cottage from the original owner and probable builder, Calvin Steinoff, for \$450 in 1874. John's sons, William, George and Norman, started a farming operation called Smart Brothers and later opened a canning division on First Street, which employed up to 300 people. The youngest son, Henry, was a tailor at a shop on Hurontario Street and sold flowers from the family farm. This shop later became Smart's Flowers. In 1893, John Smart commissioned a larger house to be built just down the street at 50 Fifth Street.



7. The Chamberlain Houses 1881



324/328 Pine Street
The small-scale, Queen Anne Revival-style dwelling at 324 Pine was built in 1881 by John Chamberlain, a well-known Collingwood contractor and mason who served as mayor three separate times. The house, built as an income property, was owned by John's wife, Harriet. Note the elaborate fences in both photos, dated 1886. x970.930.1

- ◆ John Chamberlain also built the house at 328 Pine for his family's own use. Both homes feature the distinctive patterned brick associated with Chamberlain.

8. Idlewyld c. 1900



335 Pine Street
Prominent businessman Thomas Long purchased this house in 1902 for \$650. Long was born and raised in Collingwood, attended university, and returned to his hometown to join the

family firm of T. Long & Bro. He carried on the large retail and wholesale mercantile business until his father's death. The home was sold in 1939 to the City Mission Society of the Mennonite Brethren for \$3,500. x968.883.

9. Homes of Berry Sisters and John Smart 1893

343 Pine Street /50 Fifth Street
The stately Queen Anne Revival-style home at 343 Pine was built in 1893 for the Berry Sisters, who lived in the home until 1910. It was one of the first buildings in Collingwood to boast a telephone. A similar home, with a reverse plan, was built across the street for John Smart. The property at 50 Fifth Street was later purchased by Bell Telephone and the house was torn down.



10. Victorian Annex 1894



was added to the Victoria School building. This was later called the Annex. Only the Annex remains today. x007.10.13.

Architect: Francis w. Bryan
400 Maple Street
A 12 room school was built on this site in 1884 to replace the original building at Schoolhouse Lane. In 1887, a four room separate school

- ◆ **1898**
350 Maple Street
This house was built for Hugh Currie, Chairman of Hydro when first elected as Mayor (1908-1911). The house had a stucco exterior for over 100 years.

◆ **1881-1885**

347 Maple Street
This house was built for local businessman Alexander Buist. The front verandahs on both sides of the projecting frontispiece were removed in the 1920s.

◆ **Regency Cottage 1885-1890**

294 Maple Street
Owners Joseph and Martha White operated a hardware store beside the Post Office on the north side of the building at 147 Hurontario Street.

◆ **Blairgowrie 1904**

291 Maple Street
D.L. Darrock named his home after a town in Scotland.

◆ **The Sinclair House 1887**

240 Maple Street
This elegant brick house and its virtual twin across the street at 219 Maple were erected in 1887. In 1902, 240 Maple was sold to the Methodist Church for use as a manse. It served as a parsonage for Trinity United Church for more than 80 years.

11. Frank Moberly/ Qua House 1887

219 Maple Street
This was the home of Frank and Mary Moberly. Frank was one of the local heroes cited for bravery in the rescue of all but eight of the crew and passengers of the steamship, The Mary Ward, which ran aground a few miles west of Collingwood on November 25, 1872. x969_804_1.



12. First Presbyterian Church 1878-1879



200 Maple Street
Construction of this church began in 1878 on the site of the original manse. The impressive brick structure replaced the modest early home of the church at the corner of Ontario and Elgin streets. In 1885, a wing for Christian education was added to the rear of the building. Further improvements, including galleries, a vestry for the minister and a basement kitchen, were made in 1906. x970.361.1

◆ **Flowerpot House 1894**

Architect: John Wilson
162 Maple Street
This was one of the first houses to feature the potted sunflower motif.

◆ **Log Home 1857-1860**

154 Maple Street
This was originally a log home, built by Joseph White. It is shown on the "Bird's Eye View Map" of 1875. This home has been in the Belcher family for five generations. The conservatory was added in 1889.

13. Old Nettleton House c. 1870

153 Maple Street
William W. Nettleton purchased this home in 1881 for \$800. The picturesque cottage, featuring elements of the Carpenter Gothic style, was likely built by Joseph White, the previous owner of the property. Nettleton owned a wholesale liquor business with partner, D.M. Best, at 51 Hurontario Street. William and wife, Louisa (nee Telfer), had 10 children, two of whom died in early childhood. This home still belongs to descendants of the Nettleton family.



14. Wesleyan Methodist Church/Trinity United Church 1863



140 Maple Street
From 1853 until 1858, Reverend Edward Sallows led meetings of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in members' homes. The first Methodist Church in Collingwood was built in 1858 on land donated by Benjamin W. Smith. The wooden church burned down in June 1863 and a few months later, the cornerstone for the present church was laid. A Sunday school building was added and other improvements were made during 1893-95. In 1925, Methodists, some Presbyterians and Congregationalists came together to form Trinity United Church. The church was enlarged in 1930, as it became clear that more space was needed for the larger congregation. In 1958, a larger Christian Education wing, later named Hunter Hall, was added. x971.383.

15. The Melville House 1879-1881

125 Maple Street
Andrew Melville, of Melville Fair and Company, and his wife, Helen, purchased this house from Ebenezer and Margaret Thomson for \$2,541 in 1881. The house was later sold to Captain Francis Bassett. The building at the back of the property was originally brick, but was later sheathed in board and batten. It was used as a stable and the privy was attached to it.



16. The Hall Telfer House 1872



23 Second Street
This house was built for Hall Telfer, a baker, his wife, Mary, and their seven children. Telfer and two of his sons managed

Telfer Bros. Limited, a biscuit manufacturer and wholesale grocer on Hurontario Street. They later expanded the business to mills in Clarksburg. The sons built showpiece homes on Third and Oak streets.

◆ **1886**

139 Second Street
J.P. Stephens built this home for tannery employee James Brown

17. Collingwood Regency Cottage 1889

142 Beech Street
This tidy "cottage" was built for Aaron Tripp, a yeoman and mariner who perished in a shipwreck on Lake Superior in 1902. The beautifully-detailed brick home is a fine example of the charming Regency Cottage style found throughout Collingwood. The simple one- or one-and-a-half-storey dwellings can be identified by their hipped roofs, centre-hall plans and distinctive central dormers. This property received a very early Heritage Designation, in 1981.



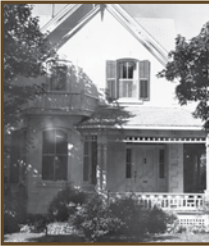
◆ **Shipley House 1890**

147 Beech Street
This home was built for Harold Shipley of Shipley Bros., owner of the mill at 371 First Street (now home to Kelsey's Restaurant).

18. Toner/Gregory Houses 1877-1883

175, 185, 199 Third Street

◆ **1877**



175 Third Street
American coal and lumber merchant William T. Toner bought this house from Emmanuel McKay for \$400 in 1881. Toner, Sr., sold the house to his newly-married son, William Toner, for \$1,200 in 1898. x999.14.65

◆ **1883**

Architect: Kennedy, McVittie & Holland
185 Third Street
After becoming a partner in Toner & Gregory Lumber and Coal, F. B. Gregory had this home built for \$1,200. The verandah, designed by local architect John Wilson, was added in 1904, and was later rebuilt. x999.14.64



◆ **1881**



199 Third Street
The largest of the three Toner/ Gregory houses belonged to William Toner, Sr., senior partner of Toner & Gregory. The understated verandah, designed by renowned architect B. Napier Simpson, Jr., replaced an ornate Victorian bandshell porch. This house boasted Collingwood's first indoor bathroom.

19. Stewart Villa 1883



Architect: Kennedy, McVittie & Holland
217 Third Street
Elihu Stewart purchased the lot for this home from his next-door neighbor, Edward Carpenter of

Elmwood. The estimated cost to build the six-bedroom home, with a modern hot-water system, was \$3,000. The Italianate villa once featured two-level wraparound verandahs. Elihu Stewart served a short term as mayor of Collingwood in 1896, but gained fame as a provincial and national land surveyor, author, and forestry expert. He lived in the house until he was 91. The house was sold in 1959 and converted into apartments.

20. Elmwood/ Dundurn Hall 1880-1882

Architect: Marshall B. Aylesworth
241 Third Street
Elmwood was built for Edward Carpenter, a druggist and chemist, who arrived in Collingwood in 1858. In the 1930s, it was called Terrebonne, under the ownership of the Des Loges family. In 1941, Julian Ferguson, Collingwood mayor, Member of Parliament and founder of Clyde Aircraft Co. Ltd., bought the property. During his occupancy, the central tower was lost in a fire. By the 1960s, the house was operating as a nursing home and had been renamed Dundurn Hall. It was sold in 1984 and restored as a single-family dwelling. x985.9.29t



21. Armadale 1890



Architect: Fred T. Hodgson
275 Third Street
Herbert Y. Telfer, one-time President of the Collingwood Board of Trade, and his wife, Elizabeth, hosted a reception at Armadale for the Governor-General of Canada, Duke of Devonshire and his wife, the Duchess, in 1918. Herbert and his older brother, Frank, took over the family business (Telfer Bros. Biscuits) from their father, Hall Telfer, in 1876. The Gowans' Home for Missionaries' Children purchased the mansion in 1951; it served as the girls' residence for more than a decade. x976.89.1.

22. Nettleton House 1894-1897

291 Third Street
This pressed brick home was built for jeweller Frank A. Nettleton and his wife, Tressa. Their jewellery store was located in the south wing of the town hall on Hurontario Street. x969.793.1



23. Tornaveen 1892-1893



Architect: Fred T. Hodgson
200 Oak Street
When this ostentatious residence was being built for leading citizen (and mayor at the time) Frank Telfer in 1892-93, it was the talk of the town. At

10,000 square feet, the three-storey Queen Anne Revival was the largest and fanciest private home in Collingwood. Frank hired the same architect (Fred T. Hodgson) and contractor (Bryan Manufacturing Company) that his younger brother, Herbert, had used for his house across the street, but Frank made sure that Tornaveen eclipsed Armadale in both size and style. The brothers were partners in Telfer Bros. Biscuits, which made a name for itself as the exclusive supplier of biscuits to the Prince of Wales on his cross-Canada rail journey in 1919. Tornaveen became the Gowans' Home for Missionaries' Children until the mid-1960s. It is now the home of the National Ski Academy and was one of the first properties designated as a significant heritage building in Collingwood. x971.545.1

24. Charles Pitt House 1907-1908

Architect: John Wilson
242 Third Street
This grand six-bedroom mansion was built in the Colonial Revival style for Charles Pitt, a retired lumber mill manager who served on Collingwood's Town Council for several years. Subsequent owners, after Pitt's death from typhoid fever, were Dr. Alexander McFaul and Dr. Donald H. McKay. The property remained in the McKay family for more than 60 years. x999.14.62



25. The B.C. Cottage c. 1881



147 Third Street
The unusual design of this wood-sided house is more typical of architecture from British Columbia than that of 19th-century Ontario. George Morgan, a druggist, and his wife, Amelia, bought the property in 1878 for \$350 and likely built the house in 1881, after taking out a \$1,000 mortgage. The property changed hands several times until 1905, when William T. Allan, a prominent lawyer and MPP, bought the property. It remained in the Allan family until 1960.

26. Hochelaga 1905

Architect: S. Smith, Architectural Department of the Bank of Montreal
72 Third Street
The lot for this property was sold to the Bank of Montreal for \$1,550 in 1904. The name Hochelaga is in reference to the original name for Montreal, where the bank was founded. This well-crafted structure served as home and reception hall for a series of Bank of Montreal managers. Bank managers in small towns such as Collingwood were provided with stylish accommodation as an important part of the Bank's image in the early 20th century. The building has functioned as a multi-unit rental for more than 40 years. x970.944.1



27. The Beild 1909-1912



Architect: Eden Smith
64 Third Street
It took three years to build this unusual English Cottage-style home, designed by renowned Toronto architect Eden Smith.

The residence-cum-office was built for Dr. Joseph Robbins Arthur and his wife, Katharine, daughter of pioneer lawyer Henry Robertson, and an active community leader in her own right. Dubbed the Beild, after the Old English word for "shelter", the house lived up to its name. During the Depression years, the doctor's office, located in the north end of the house, became known as a place where transients could find a meal and fresh clothes. Dr. Arthur served as mayor in 1919 and from 1923-1929, and continued to practise medicine well into his 80s. The home remained in the family until 1969. Until recently, it was operated as a bed-and-breakfast called Beild House Country Inn. In 2018, this property was redeveloped. x969.807.01

28. Thurso 1902

Architect: Philip C. Palin
37 Third Street
Dr. Donald McKay, Sr. had this home built as a wedding present for his wife, Elsie, daughter of wealthy merchant Charles Stephens. Constructed with pink stone hauled by horse and cart from the Credit River Valley and featuring exuberantly decorated gables, Classical detailing and a striking corner turret, the elaborate residence-cum-office cost a princely \$15,000 to build. The McKays' daughters, well-known artist Mary McKay and her widowed sister, Isobel, lived in the family home until their deaths months apart in 1987. At that time, it was sold and became a restaurant and later a bed-and-breakfast. x969.544.1



29. YMCA 1902

30 Third Street
William A. Copeland, William A. Hamilton and Herbert Y. Telfer arranged for the financial support to establish the Young Men's Christian Association of Collingwood at this location. When it later became the headquarters for the Sea Cadets, the name was changed to the Hood Building, named after the H.M.S. Hood, a training ship. x999.14.61

