

Heritage

BURLINGTON

A Walking Tour of Heritage Burlington

Burlington Downtown Tour

*Educate, Inform and Engage the community on
Burlington's Heritage*



CITY OF
Burlington

Burlington History
Conservation Heritage

The Ontario Heritage Act provides a framework for the conservation of properties that are valued for the important contribution they make to our understanding and appreciation of the history of a place, event or people.

Under the Ontario Heritage Act, municipalities can establish Municipal Heritage Committees to advise council on identifying, protecting and promoting cultural heritage resources that make our communities unique and sustainable places to live. Communities are therefore empowered to ensure the conservation of important cultural heritage resources for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

This guide has been created by Burlington's municipal heritage committee, Heritage Burlington. It is intended to provide an opportunity to explore some of Burlington's most intriguing buildings first hand. Start your journey at the fountain at City Hall (installed at Civic Square in 2000 as part of a millennium project) and make your way over to Ontario Street – refer to the map in this brochure.

In addition to the featured buildings in this tour, there are many more classic heritage properties in downtown Burlington, some of which are featured in "A Walking Tour of Heritage Burlington AGB Neighbourhood".

The tour starts here...

482 Elizabeth Street The Laing-Speers House

This property was purchased by the city in 1952 for the Burlington Public Library, which occupied it for nearly 20 years. This two-storey, three-bay brick structure with low-pitched end-gabled roof and end chimneys is an example of the neoclassical style.



461 Elizabeth Street Knox Presbyterian Church

This small frame church was built in 1845. In 1909 the original frame church was moved to join the main church and covered with matching brick. Features of the sanctuary include the beamed ceiling, a beautiful hand-made pulpit and a pipe organ.



The tour continues...



3

383 - 385 Pearl Street The Acland Houses

Built in 1880 for William Acland, florist, as a rental income property. They were rented until the death of William Acland's son, Joseph, in 1915, when they were sold to separate owners. The building is a two storey semi-detached brick structure with Italianate design details. The second-level arched windows have exceptional and intricate radiating dichromatic brick detail.



4

400 Brant Street Zimmerman House

Built in 1860, this hotel-tavern has operated continuously during its existence, first as the Zimmerman House, then as the Queens Hotel, and later as the Sherwood Hotel. It was built as a frame structure by the nephew of Peter Zimmerman, who owned the sawmill and wood turning factory in the Village of Zimmerman. The structure has long been a historic landmark on Brant Street.

464 Locust Street
The Richard Cole House

Designated in 1985, this well kept original brick home was built circa 1896 and is one of Burlington's early brick structures from the Victorian era. The architectural "fabric" of the facade maintains a consistent street elevation with earlier structures on Locust Street.



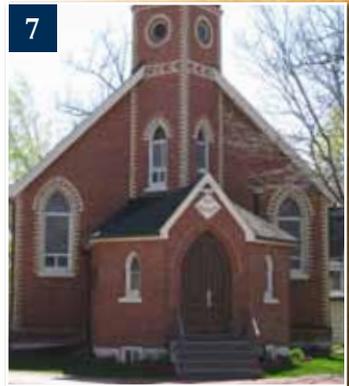
468 Locust Street
The Robert Kentner House

Built in 1884 by George Blair as a retirement home for Robert Kentner, who had farmed on Plains Road. This two storey L-shaped brick structure is built in the Gothic Revival style. The building features hand crafted carpentry most evident in the gingerbread of the gables and the verandah with arched roof supports.



472 Locust Street
L'Eglise St Philippe Church

Built in 1875 by James Cushie Bent. In 1968 the building was bought by the Roman Catholic Church to serve the francophone congregation as L'Eglise St Philippe. The Church blends a simple Gothic Revival style with an Italianate square tower with bulls-eye windows.



The tour continues...

8



**1436 Ontario Street
Middleton House/Blathwayt House**

The original house was built in 1888 by the “master builder” James Bent for his client, Charles Blathwayte; one of Burlington’s major commercial businessmen of the time. 1436 Ontario Street can be described as a “Carpenter Gothic” style of architecture from the picturesque period of Victorian Vernacular architecture of Burlington. It features ornate mouldings, cornices and a finely detailed parapet. This property was designated in 1984.

9



**1442 Ontario Street
The James Cushie Bent House**

An English carpenter-designer known as James Bent constructed the building as a parsonage in 1888. The building is of wood frame construction. Unique features include a covered curved enclosed glassed-in porch and handmade and carved ornamentation for the windows, mouldings, soffits, gables and cornices as well as unusual decorative roof supporting braces.

**472 Burlington Avenue
George Blair House**

Built circa 1885 by George Blair, this is a two-and-a-half storey brick structure with a truncated hipped roof broken by small pedimented gable dormers at the front and side, and by a pedimented offset gable over the projecting front bay-window wing. The professional carpenter's craft is well illustrated by the roof brackets.



447 - 449 Locust Street

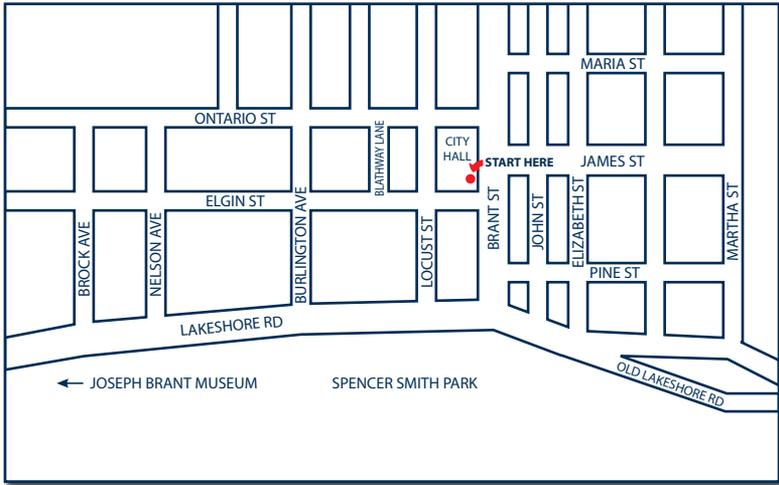
Built in 1867 for Norman Hamburgh. It is a rare example of an historic semi-detached residence and one of the pre-confederation structures still in existence in downtown Burlington. The house retains its original windows, doors, wood trim, storm door and original gallery veranda supported by squared columns with decorative relief details.



**1457 Ontario Street
The Miller-Bush House**

Built in 1875 for Robert Miller a former Reeve of Nelson Township and newly appointed Collector of Customs for the Port of Wellington Square. This 2-storey solid brick residence with a high truncated hipped roof is a very fine example of a late Victorian residence. It is also one of the oldest brick residences still in existence in the former Village of Burlington.





Heritage Burlington would like to thank the Burlington Historical Society for providing resource material used in the creation of this brochure.

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