

# **Municipal Register of Designated Heritage Properties**

St. Marys, Ontario

A Resource Inventory

Town of St. Marys/St. Marys Museum



*Aerial view of St. Marys, looking northwest, ca 2010*

Last Updated: May 2025

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*Grand Trunk Railway (Via) Station, view c. 1910*

*Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this inventory, as with all historical data, mistakes and contradictory sources of information are inevitable. If you have contributions or corrections that would improve this document, please contact the St. Marys Museum at 519-284-3556 or [museum@town.stmarys.on.ca](mailto:museum@town.stmarys.on.ca)*

# **Heritage St. Marys**

## **What is Heritage St. Marys?**

Recent changes to the Ontario Heritage Act include updating the names of groups formerly known as Local Architectural Conservancy Advisory Committees to **Municipal Heritage Committees**. In St. Marys this group is known as **Heritage St. Marys**.

Heritage St. Marys' responsibility is to **advise** Town Council about structures of historical and architectural significance in the municipality. The committee **recommends** properties for heritage designation to Town Council and also advises on and monitors restorations to designated structures.

## **What is Heritage Designation?**

Heritage designation is a formal process to recognize the significance of a structure. Town Council designates a property by passing a by-law that is registered on the property title. Designation is usually done at the owner's request and with the owner's consent.

Contrary to rumour, owners can alter their designated structures. Elements of a building not specifically identified in a heritage designation can be changed as the owner wishes. For example, the owner of a house that has had its exterior designated can renovate the interior. However, property owners must request approval from Town Council through Heritage St. Marys before renovating or altering any designated elements of a property.

## **What structures are considered for Heritage Designation?**

A structure may be considered for designation if it meets one or more of these criteria:

- It has significant architectural value in the context of this community;
- It is associated with a person or event significant to the history of this community ;
- It is an example of the work of a significant architect or builder;
- It has/adds value to the streetscape or to the cultural landscape.

## **What is the process to designate a building?**

The property owner contacts a member of Heritage St. Marys or the St. Marys Museum and requests to have a structure considered for designation. (Committee members are listed on this page. The St. Marys Museum can also put a property owner in touch with the committee)

The structure under consideration is on agenda at the next monthly meeting of Heritage St. Marys and a subcommittee is formed to visit the site and talk to the owner. The owner and the committee determine the actual property elements for inclusion in the designation.

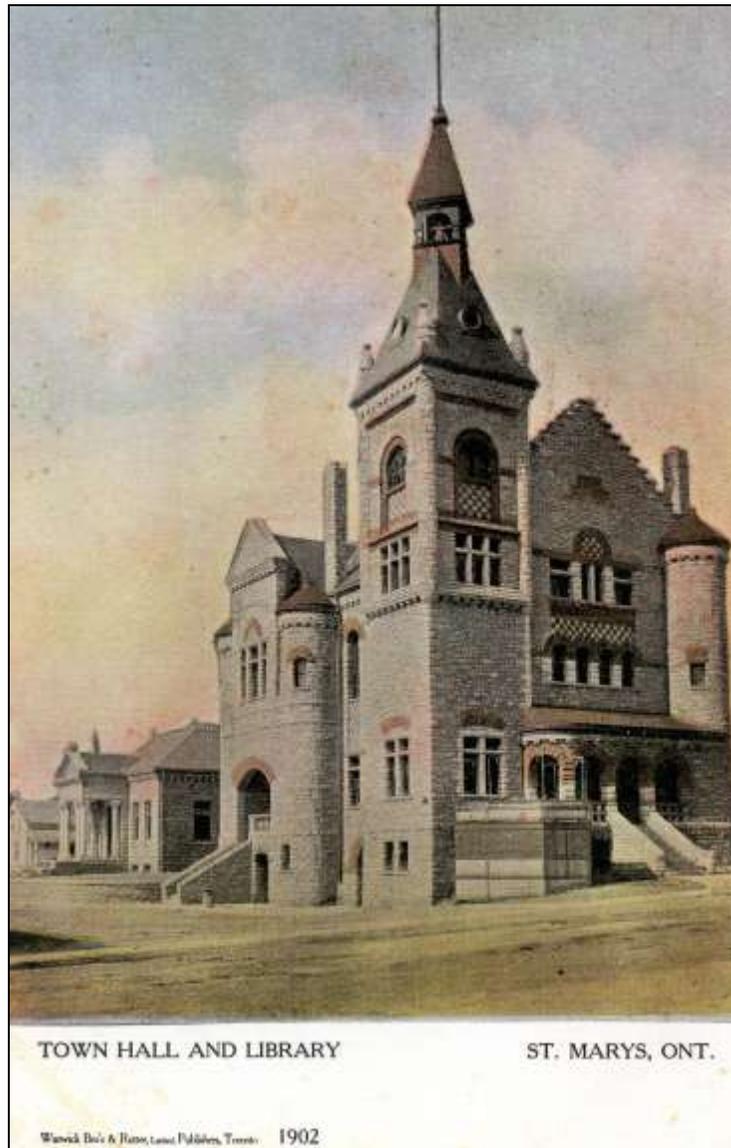
The owner provides the legal description of the property. Heritage St. Marys is responsible for historic and architectural research data. If the committee considers the property worthy of designation, an official statement containing “Reasons for Designation” is prepared to submit to Town Council and to be part of the permanent record.

After notifying the property owner, Heritage St. Marys makes its recommendations to Town Council. If Council decides to proceed with designation, “Intent to Designate” notices are published in the local newspapers, allowing the public 30 days to make written objections. If there are no objections, Town Council enacts a designation by-law and the property owner receives official notice.



*196 Widder Street East, 1980 view*

**Designated Heritage Sites**  
Part IV (Section 29)  
Ontario Heritage Act



TOWN HALL AND LIBRARY

ST. MARYS, ONT.

Warwick Deane & Fettes, Limited, Publishers, Toronto. 1902

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*109 Wellington Street North, 1980 view*

# St. Marys Public Library

15 Church Street North



**Date of Designation:** July 14, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 56-1981

**Date of Construction:** 1904-1905

**Architect:** J.A. Humphries

**Contractor:** Robert Clyde

## **Reason for Designation:**

The St. Marys Public Library was built in 1904-1905 with a \$10,000 grant from the Andrew Carnegie Foundation. Town Council agreed to provide a site and to maintain the library at ten per cent of the grant per year.

J.A. Humphris, a local architect designed the building using what came to be the accepted Carnegie Temple plan. The general contractor was Robert Clyde, a local stonemason, who used St. Marys limestone with artificial stone (concrete) pillars.

**Architectural significance:** Six plain “Roman stone” pillars at the front portico surround the entrance. Eleven stone steps lead to the portico which has a pediment with decorative dentils and a large ball-shaped finial on top. These steps are flanked by the sides of a limestone retaining wall along the street. The caps of the wall are massive slabs of limestone that also extend step-like upwards on both sides of the entrance stairs.

Inside the building, some of the original oak shelves are still in use as is a fine Pequegnat wall clock. An original marble fireplace with its oak mantle remains in place in the board room (now the reading room). The coloured glass window over the door is another important original feature.

# Church Street Bridge

## Church Street North



*Church Street Bridge, 1980 view*

**Date of Designation:** January 23, 1979

**Municipal By-Law:** 16-1979

**Date of Construction:** October 13, 1884

**Architect:** William Williams

**Date of restoration:** 1979

### **Reason for Designation:**

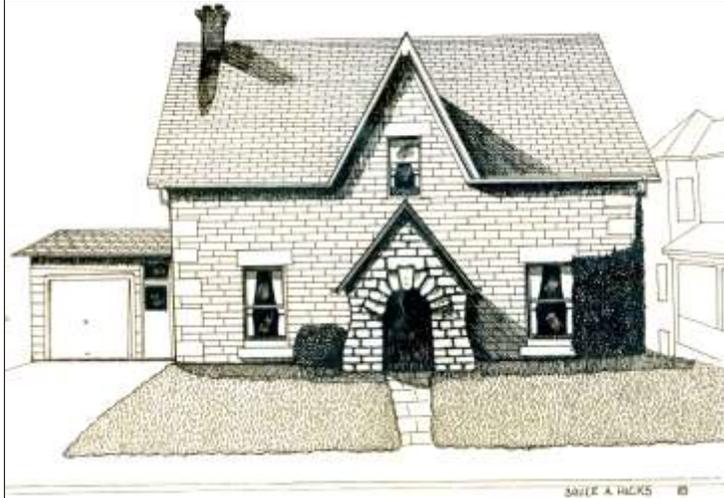
The 19th century limestone bridge over Trout Creek at Church Street has two arches that span 80 feet. Its width accommodates two lanes of traffic. Designed by local architect William Williams (who was also the municipal clerk), it was built by of St. Marys stone by local contractors and stonemasons, James Clyde and John Elliott at a cost of \$3800. It was opened in October 1884.

This graceful two arched structure blends harmoniously into the landscape along Trout Creek. It has been designated with the Victoria Bridge as the only surviving examples of stone bridges in the town and one of only a very few 19th century stone arched bridges in Ontario.

In 1979, it was fully restored by the Town of St. Marys, its arches reinforced and the service conduits more unobtrusively placed below the pedestrian walkway.

# James Eaton House

100 Church Street South



**Date of Designation:** January 9, 2024

**Municipal By-Law:** 07-2024

**Date of Construction:** 1864

## **Reason for Designation:**

As outlined in the timeline in the designation statement, the house at 100 Church Street South has a long and interesting history, with direct ties to the Eaton family. It also served as a manse for the St. Marys Methodist/United Church, located across the street.

The house is situated on the lot with the front entrance facing east on the west side of Church Street South. Perched atop the ridge of the Thames River, the back of the property overlooks much of the downtown river valley below.

The home at 100 Church Street South is located two blocks south of Queen Street, where the Eaton family opened their first business in St. Marys. It is located across the street from the St. Marys Methodist/United Church, where it served as its manse for approximately 30 years.

# St. Marys Museum

177 Church Street South



**Date of Designation:** October 13, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 71-1981

**Date of Construction:** 1854

**Architect/Builder:** Robert Barbour

## **Reason for Designation:**

Constructed in 1854 of smooth dressed St. Marys limestone, the Museum was the earliest large stone residence in town. The structure, built for the family of George Tracy, one of the town's earliest settlers, replaced the original log cabin on a nearby site.

The builder and designer was a New York man, Robert Barbour, while the masonry was done by local stone masons, Frank Anderson, Andrew Knox and John Whimster. Set in a prominent location atop the hill, this house served as an important residence for many years. It was owned from 1878 until the 1920s by John Weir who was responsible for landscaping the grounds. His brother, William Weir, who served as the town's mayor in 1916 and 1917, also lived there.

The large blocks of limestone used in the building complement the sturdy Georgian proportions, while the picturesque curling bargeboards (added sometime after George Tracy left the property), the inset double-storey veranda and the unusual chimney groupings, set on an angle in the roof, are special features of this important property. Its setting, historic Cadzow Park, and the stone wall along Church Street are important components in its designation.

The Tracy/Weir house is now the home of the St. Marys Museum.

# St. Marys Central School

189 Elizabeth Street



**Date of Designation:** September 8, 2009

**Municipal By-Law:** 50-2009

**Date of Construction:** 1914

**Architect:** Watt and Blackwell

**Contractor:** Walter J. Leslie

## **Reason for Designation:**

Central School is a large and imposing building in the Classical Revival style. The roofline is adorned with a large cornice and the two main entrances with Doric columns supporting massive pediments. The building is constructed of solid limestone quarried from local quarries and laid in the broken-coursed ashlar style by local stonemasons. A letter from a local brick-layer maintained that it would cost one-third more to build the school in stone than in brick but members of both the School Board and Town Council were adamant that the famous local limestone be used. The owner of the local Horseshow Quarry offered to cut costs and donate \$500 if St. Marys stone was used.

Fashion in school layout during this period required separate playgrounds and separate entrances for boys and girls. Two monumental two-storey bays project from the main façade and mark these entrances – boys on the east side and girls on the west.

In 2010, Central School was closed by the Avon Maitland Board of Education and vacated by staff and students. It has been sold to private owners for conversion into condominiums.

# Hooper House

285 Emily Street



**Date of Designation:** January 9, 2024

**Municipal By-Law:** 08-2024

**Date of Construction:**

**Architect/Builder:**

## **Reason for Designation:**

The house at 285 Emily Street is a two-storey limestone house. The property of 285 Emily Street is a small part of Township of Blanshard Lot 16, Concession 17. Its legal description became more specific in 1858 when some properties lying at the limits of the Village of St. Marys were surveyed to create residential lots. A portion of Lot 16, Concession 17 was included in this survey and 285 Emily Street became Town Lot73, east side Water Street North. (Note that the name Emily Street for this part of the street did not come into use until later)

As outlined in the timeline in the designation statement, the house at 285 Emily has a long and interesting history, with connections to the flax milling industry in St. Marys, the Knox Presbyterian Church, a family of Olympic runners, and Thamescrest Farms.

# John Robinson Residence

322 Emily Street

**Date of Designation:**

April 22, 2008

**Municipal By-Law:** 32-2008

**Date of Construction:** 1860

**Probable Architect:** William Robinson, London, Ontario



**Reason for Designation:**

This early brick house, a country villa, was built in 1860 for John Robinson, a civil engineer responsible for the construction of the Sarnia Bridge for the Grand Trunk Railway. Its design strongly suggests that it was the work of London architect William Robinson.

Of Italianate design, it is asymmetrical with high central chimneys. It has two main facades – one for the entrance from Emily Street; the other facing the river and the grand view up and downstream. Each of its main rooms originally contained a marble fireplace and one of these is still in place. The wing to the northwest was built to contain the kitchens and servants’ quarters. This property is a good example of the “picturesque” style, popular in England at the time of its construction.

John Robinson only remained on this property for a short time before selling it to prominent St. Marys merchant/businessman Milner Harrison.

# Junction Station

480 Glass Street



**Municipal Designation:** October 12, 1993

**Municipal By-Law:** 55-1993

**Date of Construction:** 1858

**Designer:** Sir Casimir Gzowski

**Builders:** Alexander McDonald and Francis Anderson, masons and contractors

## **Reason for Designation:**

St. Marys Junction Railway Station, a National Historic Site, is a mid-19th century single-storey limestone building in the Italianate design typical of the Grand Trunk Railway's original Ontario stations. It stands beside the junction where Canadian National Railway's mainlines from Toronto once diverged to cross the Canada / United States border at Windsor or Sarnia. (The Sarnia line has been abandoned but the line to Windsor remains active.)

Architecturally, it follows the model favoured by the Grand Trunk, which includes round-arched openings, a low-pitched roof and extended eaves which protected a platform. These openings still contain their original French doors with transoms above; in all the other early stations on the line they have been filled in to sill height and made into windows. The St. Marys limestone has been beautifully coursed and finished: the corner-stones are alternately smooth and rough-faced. The voussoirs over the door openings have rock-faced keystones. The four massive capped stone chimneys are still in place. Most remarkable of all is the presence of the original interior partitions often with traces of their original paint. Ladies' and men's waiting rooms and the station agent's office are still clearly indicated.

# Grand Trunk Railway Depot

5 James Street North



*Grand Trunk (Via) Station, ca 1910*

**Date of Designation:**

October 13, 1987

April 25, 2017 - Amended

**Municipal By-Law:** 33-1987

**Amending By-Law:** 39-2017

**Date of Construction:** 1907

**Contractor/Designer:**

E. Chandler

**Restored:** 1988

**Reason for Designation:**

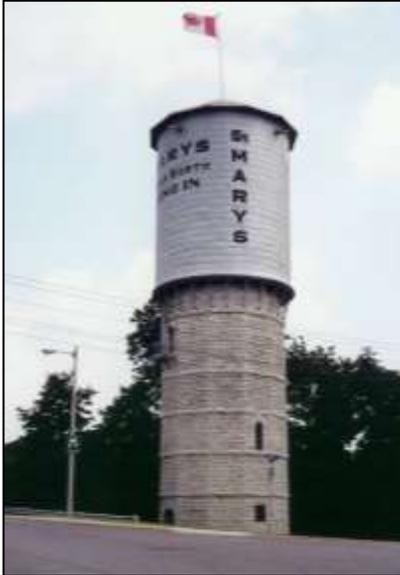
The Grand Trunk Railway depot was constructed in the summer of 1907, the third station on the line at St. Marys, replacing a smaller frame depot near Elizabeth Street and supplementing the Junction Station. It was built of a glazed brick of brownish colour known as Logan brick.

The general contractor and possible designer was E. Chandler of Stratford. The original floorplan included a main waiting room with a ticket and operating room facing the track, men's and women's toilets, a ladies' retiring room, a smoking room for men, a baggage room at the south end and an express department located at the north end.

In the mid-1980s, CN slated this station for demolition. Intervention by the Town of St. Marys and senior levels of government saw ownership transferred to the municipality and the building completely renovated. Currently, it is used for various town offices and for passenger service on regular daily trains.

# Water Tower

James Street South, at Queen Street



**Date of Designation:** July 25, 1978

**Municipal By-Law:** 26-1978

**Date of Construction:** 1899

**Civil Engineer:** Willis Chipman

**Builder:** Robert Clyde (stone work);  
J. Inglis & Son (steel work)

## **Reason for Designation:**

The Water Tower was built in 1899 and is a solid stone structure which is representative of other stone buildings erected during this period in St. Marys. It is one of the best examples of industrial architecture constructed during the turn of the century in southwestern Ontario. The Water Tower served the Town for 90 years as the main tower until 1989 when a new tower was commissioned. The exceptionally preserved old tower remains an important symbol of the community.

Council appointed Willis Chipman, a civil engineer from Toronto and a pioneer in the construction of municipal waterworks systems. Mr. Chipman's plans called for pumping facilities, seven miles of water mains and a 75,000 gallon water tower. Stone work was done by Robert Clyde, a local stone mason, and steel work by John Inglis & Son. In May, 1900, the new waterworks system, including the Water Tower, was tested and put into service.

## **David Smith Residence**

**31 King Street South**

**Date of Designation:**  
October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:** 35-  
1987

**Date of Construction:** 1857



*31 King Street South*

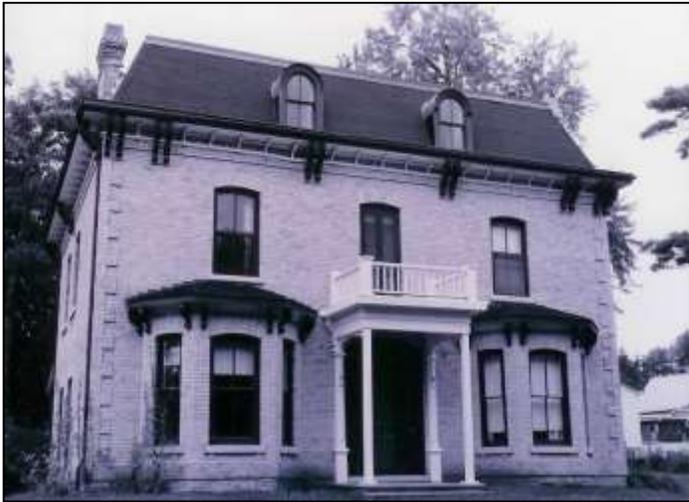
### **Reason for Designation:**

This mid-19th century brick house – one of the earliest brick buildings in St. Marys – was constructed in 1857 for David Smith, a well-to-do gentleman. An early photograph of the village taken in 1863 shows the house with a one-storey veranda covering the entire three bays of the principle façade on King Street. The house was built with classical revival features, most noticeably the eaves returns.

The brick, from an area brickyard, was originally salmon-pink. This beautiful brick, unfortunately, did not weather well and has been covered by paint for many years. In the 1920s, the front door was altered to the present entranceway, a type of revival of 18th century American design. Like other early St. Marys residences, it is set close to the street.

## **Jones/Sinclair/Dale house (Mount Pascoe)**

**89 Ontario Street South**



*89 Ontario Street South, 1980s view*

**Date of Designation:** October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:** 31-1987

**Date of Construction:** 1870

**Builder/Designer:**  
Robert Barbour

### **Reason for Designation:**

Erected in 1870 for C.S. Jones, a local lawyer, this magnificent residence set in its own four and one-half acre park is built on the crest of a hill; the site was obviously chosen for its picturesque qualities. The residence follows a type of plan known as the Georgian double-pile; to this are added Italianate details. The house has a great Mansard roof which dominates all façades. Remarkably the interior of this house contains its original woodwork, decorative plasterwork, and four fireplaces – all of which are designated.

Its designation is prompted not only for architectural reasons but also for historical associations. From 1911 it was been the home of the family of the late William Dale, one of the first professors of Latin at the University of Toronto. James Reaney's play, *The Dismissal*, is based on a dramatic incident in his life.

William Dale's daughter, Frances, died in 2001. The property is currently owned by the Habermehl family.

# James Carter Residence

## 67 Peel Street South

**Date of Designation:** January 26, 1993

**Municipal By-Law:** 2-1993

**Date of Construction:** 1883

**Architect:** William Williams



### **Reason for Designation:**

This magnificent brick residence was built in 1883 for James Carter, son and business partner of George Carter, a prosperous grain merchant. It is the most advanced building of its time in St. Marys. With its elaborated detailing it would have easily have been at home in the city of Toronto during the same period. Its architect obviously had access to up-to-date plans and periodicals.

Most obvious is the great height of the house. The eye is drawn up to and beyond the full third storey with its slate roof to the tall external chimney with its decorative brickwork. The massive gable on the Peel Street façade marks the parlour or reception room on the ground floor with the best bedroom above. The gable on the Elgin Street front accentuates the dining room with its bay window. Both gables were originally joined by a wrap-around veranda with an elaborate porch and loggia above.

The house remains a proud statement of the power and prestige of the first – and subsequent – owners.

# McLaren House

## 140 Peel Street North

**Date of Designation:** January 14, 2025

**Municipal By-Law:** 03-2025

**Date of Construction:** 1873



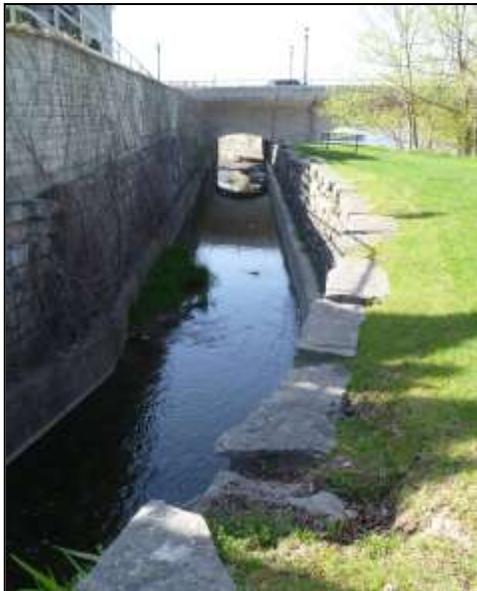
### **Reason for Designation:**

In November 1868, Daniel McLaren purchased five lots (10, 11, 12, 13, 14) on the west side of Peel Street at the northwest corner of Widder and Peel Streets. On the highest ridge on the north ward hill he built, in 1873, the double-gabled triple-brick house on the property identified today as 140 Peel Street North. With its splendid views over the Trout Creek valley to the south and over the farmlands to the north McLaren had built what historians call “a villa set in its own grounds.” A subsequent owner severed and sold two southerly lots for two red brick houses to be built for members of the Maxwell family, one of which has a heritage designation. In the 1990s, a lot was severed to the north and a new house built on it. Today the McLaren house is protected on the Peel Street side by a white picket fence and the shade of mature Norway spruce and Norway maples. On the west side, the property opens out onto a large lawn, perennial borders, and a high cedar hedge which isolates it from the neighboring houses: it is what garden historians call a “hortus conclusus” or an enclosed garden.

The property at 140 Peel Street North is an integral part of the north ward neighbourhood along Widder Street East between Water and James Streets. It is in an area of established, well-maintained properties on spacious lots, the focal points being the beautiful properties of the St. Marys Presbyterian and Holy Name of Mary Catholic Churches. The house at 140 Peel Street North sits between these two churches. With its double gables, the house is unique in St. Marys, has notable architectural features and is set in a beautiful garden. It is remarkably well preserved and has significant historic associations. It certainly meets the criteria for heritage designation.

# The Millrace

## Queen Street East beside the Thames River



**Date of Designation:**  
September 26, 1978

**Municipal By-Law:** 31-1978

**Date of Construction:** Original millrace was installed as early as the 1850s; greatly modified by subsequent owners of the mill on the south side of Queen Street.

### **Reason for Designation:**

When the Victoria Bridge over the Thames River was constructed in 1864, the millrace was reconfigured to become an integral part of the bridge itself. There was already a millrace regulating the supply of water to the grist and flour mill on the south side of Queen Street. During construction of the bridge, the millrace was redirected and a special small arch was built under the eastern end of the bridge deck for the race water to flow under Queen Street into the mill itself.

While the Mill Race has been altered over the years, it is important that what is left of it should be retained as a reminder to the citizens of St. Marys that it was the construction of Thomas Ingersoll's mill in 1841 that led to the settlement of the town.

The Mill Race has undergone many changes. It was restored by the town in 1980 with a subsidy from the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority. This restoration was modified when the floodwall was constructed in the early 1990s. Its designation as a structure of historical and architectural importance remains.

## The Miller's House (Box House)

75 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:** July 19, 1983

**Municipal By-Law:** 49-1983

**Date of Construction:** 1858

**Built:** for William Veal Hutton, possibly by Lauriston Cruttenden

### **Reason for Designation:**

This massive house at the end of the row of commercial buildings between Water Street and the Thames River was intended as the residence for the owner of the mill on the south side of Queen Street. W. V. Hutton lived here until 1867 when he moved to his estate, Westover Park. Richard Box, from the milling company Box and Somerville, was the next occupant, hence the nickname: "Box Manor."

The house, flat coursed masonry of St. Marys limestone, is a two and one-half storey structure in the Ontario Gothic style. It has a high gable roof decorated by an extended wooden bargeboard with a wavy-looping design. Within the angle of the bargeboard is a six-paned window. This window, as well as all other windows on the building, has a plain lintel monolithic stone head and sill. The original main entrance faced west with a beautiful garden down to the water.

The building has had a variety of uses after it was no longer the miller's residence. It has housed a grocery store, pool room, barber shop as well as the offices of the town barrister. At present, the upper storeys are a residence for the owner of The Castle Garden, a lovely garden supply store.

## **F.W. Hutton Store**

109, 113 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:** 1982

**Municipal By-Law:**

**Date of Construction:** 1904

**Architect:** J. A. Humphris

**Builder:** Robert Clyde

### **Reason for Designation:**

In 1904, F.W. Hutton, owner of a grocery business and member of the prosperous Hutton family, had architect J.S. Humphris design a two storey commercial building on Queen Street. This turn-of-the-century building is significant because of its fine craftsmanship, reminiscent of 19th century structures, and as an example of the Queen Anne Revival style of architecture. **NOTE:** Humphris' original drawings for this building are in the archives of the St. Marys Museum.

The building's brick façade features two large storefront windows on either side of a recessed central entrance. A decorative wooden horizontal band creates a division between the storefront and the upper storey, which has three large symmetrical windows with sandstone window heads separated by four red sandstone applied columns. The craftsmanship evident in the frieze is especially notable. It is decorated with a garland pattern that accentuates the detailed cornice and decorative wooden mouldings. The building currently holds two retail businesses and rental accommodation on the second floor.

# Gregory Block

112-114 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:**

December 12, 1989

**Municipal By-Law:** 79-1989

**Date of Construction:** 1922

**Builder/Designer/Architect:**  
W.J. Stafford

**Reason for Designation:**

This two storey brick and pressed-concrete structure was built for George Gregory in the summer of 1922 as a replacement for a block of 1850s frame buildings destroyed by fire earlier that year. It is one of the few commercial blocks in the core of St. Marys for which plans are extant. These elevations and floor plans are signed "W.J. Stafford/Architect/May 22, 1922."

Stafford, a local contractor and builder, is noted for his sympathetic treatment of earlier buildings in scale, materials and architectural detailing. This building is a handsome 20th century compliment to Queen Street's outstanding collection of 19th century commercial blocks. It has stylistic similarities to the 1903 Fred W. Hutton block almost across the street.

The building currently can accommodate two retail businesses and has apartments on the second storey.

# John McDonald Building

115 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:** October 13, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 70-1981

**Date of Construction:** Before 1859

**Builder:** First two storeys for John McDonald by early masons/builders.

## Reason for Designation:

This three-storey limestone building is associated with the early commercial development of the Town of St. Marys. Early retail in the town was spearheaded by three men: John Ingersoll, Lauriston Cruttenden and James McKay. These men opened stores on Queen Street, establishing it as the main commercial centre of town.

This property is believed to have been the site of a log cabin, likely built by Cruttenden or McKay, that functioned as one of the earliest retail establishments in St. Marys. The log structure was replaced by two storeys of the current limestone structure before 1859 with the third storey added a few years later.

It has functioned as a commercial building since its construction and is remembered as Parson's Fair, then Cy Cline's clothing store, then Humphry's Fashions and, for some year, the St. Marys Journal Argus building.

Still a retail outlet, its limestone facade contributes to the vernacular architecture of downtown St. Marys.

# Andrews Jeweller Building

135 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:** February 26, 2008

**Municipal By-Law:** 14-2008

**Date of Construction:** 1884

**Architect:** William Williams

## **Reason for Designation:**

This building with its clock tower has been a landmark on Queen Street in St. Marys since it was constructed for William Andrews, a local jeweller, in 1884. It was designed by St. Marys architect William Williams in the Second Empire style. Its façade is richly ornamented with features in the Italianate style.

While the building was owned by four succeeding generations of the Andrews family (1884-2004,) the Town of St. Marys supported the maintenance of the clock – often referred to as the Town Clock. The building has almost miraculously retained all of its important original exterior and interior features. As an ensemble, it is unique in St. Marys and a rarity in the entire province.

# T.B. Guest Building

142 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:** October 13, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 69-1981

**Date of Construction:** 1868

**Builder:** Built for T. B. Guest by early local stonemasons/contractor

## **Reason for Designation:**

142 Queen Street East is the east third of a major stone block erected by T.B. Guest in 1868. For many years, the home of the St. Marys Journal-Argus, it became a retail outlet when the newspaper moved to other premises.

This fine stone structure emphasizes the strength of the Classical Revival style through its simple plan and careful proportions. The large blocks of coursed limestone add to the monumental affect of this three-storey building, especially in the context of the entire corner block. This particular portion has handsome carved wooden mouldings (which may be original) on its first storey and a recessed door containing an attractive rectangular transom.

# Eaton & Carter Buildings

145, 147, 149, 151, 153 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:** March 29, 1983

**Municipal By-Law:** 35-1983

**Date of Construction:** 1910

## **Reason for Designation:**

This attractive series of brick store fronts, dating from 1910 and earlier, serves, through successive graduations in height, to carry the line of the block down the gradual slope of the street. Through their charm and simple design the store fronts bring a unity to the impressive streetscape and present a significant addition to the downtown core.

The buildings were originally owned by early St. Marys businessmen James Eaton (145), Robert Eaton (147,149) and George Carter (151, 153). Currently they remain well maintained retail and commercial outlets.

# Grand Central Hotel

150-152 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:**

October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:** 32-1987

**Date of Construction:** 1850s

**Built:** For T. B. Guest by local contractors.

**Reason for Designation:**

The Grand Central Hotel is representative of early hotel architecture in St. Marys. The three-storey, flat-roofed building was constructed of gray-white stone veneer on a wood frame building. The façade, which faces Queen Street, is also wood frame, accented with artificial stone from a 1960s renovation. Symmetrical second and third-storey façades features eleven windows with radiating voussoirs. A small veranda led onto by two small doors is found above the main entrance.

Most notable on the façade is the entablature reading “Grand Central Hotel.” It is topped with an Italianate cornice supported by wooden brackets with drop pendants.

The building was originally built for T.B. Guest in the 1850s and it stands as the earliest remaining hotel in St. Marys.

# George B. McIntyre Store

159-161 Queen Street East

**Date of Designation:** October 13, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 68-1981

**Date of Construction:** 1850s

**Built:** for George McIntyre by local masons and contractors.



## **Reason for Designation:**

This two-and-a-half storey building is one of the best preserved limestone commercial buildings in St. Marys and is also one of the earliest. Built of coursed St. Marys' limestone before 1859, the cast iron window supports, doors, and cornice of their building are all original.

The second storey windows, squared with flat stone arches, originally had six panes in each sash. The dormers are flanked by classicizing, flattened pilasters.

This building is one of only a handful of limestone buildings in St. Marys that is still almost perfectly preserved. It has been a commercial outlet for its entire history with a variety of retail tenants.

# Town Hall

175 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:** July 14, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 56-1981

**Date of Construction:** 1891

**Architect:** George Wallace Gouinlock

*St. Marys Town Hall, 1990s view*

## **Reason for Designation:**

In 1891, after the frame town hall on this site burned, Town Council ran a competition for the design of the new town hall. Toronto architect George Wallace Gouinlock's plans for a Richardson-Romanesque building were chosen. Work on the new municipal building got underway in 1891.

It was built of St. Marys limestone with contrasting red sandstone for window arches and checkerboard effects in the façade. The massive entrances on the south and west façades and the two towers on the south emphasize the intent of the Town Council to erect a building of lasting and permanent character. The structure was completed at the cost of about \$15,000. Contractors were local craftsmen: John Elliot (masonry), Jacob Near (carpentry), John Willard (painting and glazing), Fred Patterson (plastering) and J.C. Gilpin (galvanized iron).

Many decades later, this building remains a landmark for this town.

# John Sanderson Residence

252 Queen Street East



**Date of Designation:**

October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law: 37-1987**

**Date of Construction:** west section, 1849; east section 1869

**Reason for Designation:**

This splendid residence consists of a cottage built in 1849 for John Sanderson, a pioneer businessman in St. Marys, and a two-storey townhouse which he added in 1869. The cottage was constructed of St. Marys' limestone, subsequently pargetted. The townhouse is of regularly coursed limestone with finished quoins – stone work of outstanding quality which has been attributed to James Elliott, the master mason responsible for the Opera House.

Both sections of the house have magnificent and remarkably well-preserved verandas. The one at the main entrance to the two-storey section is Italianate in style; the one on the older section is sympathetic with the gothic dormer window above it.

This designation also includes the stone wall surmounted by a wrought iron fence replacing an original one removed in the 1930s.

# Elizabeth James Residence

347 Queen Street East

**Date of Designation:** September 9, 1997

**Municipal By-Law:** 39-1997

**Date of Construction:**  
ca. 1860

**Builder:** Henry Andrews, English-born stonemason is believed to be the builder.



*347 Queen Street East*

## **Reason for Designation:**

This two-storey house, built in the mid-19th century for Elizabeth James, is one of the oldest and most unusual of St. Marys' stone homes. According to local tradition, the stonemason responsible for the house was Henry Andrews. The local limestone is of rubble construction. The eaves dramatically hang over the upstairs windows. The front door is deeply recessed and has sidelights and a transom. A set of antique eaves' returns is still in place. Like others from the earliest period of construction in St. Marys, this dwelling is tight to the street.

A persistent oral tradition holds that the house was at one time a hotel. A long closed-up door opening to the right of the easterly window on the main floor may indeed have provided access to a store or bar room of a hotel. Certainly its location close to the eastern edge of the town would support this notion.

# Ingersoll House

105-107 Queen Street West



**Date of Designation:** October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:**  
29-1987

**Date of Construction:** 1843/1910

*Rebecca Turner photograph, 2012*

## **Reason for Designation:**

This house was built by Justus Ingersoll in 1843 for his parents, Thomas and Gertrude Ingersoll. It is built of limestone quarried from the riverbed. The Thomas Ingersoll family were among the first permanent residents of the St. Marys area. Thomas and his brother James were responsible for establishing the settlement of in 1841 when they built a sawmill and a gristmill on the banks of the Thames River. Justus Ingersoll established a foundry beside the Ingersoll house.

The residence was significantly altered in 1910 by Mary Jane Ingersoll, Justus's widow, and Lillian, her daughter when they created a new ground level in the south portion by lowering the grade. The simple symmetrical facade displays a full length veranda and a second storey balcony.

Lillian Ingersoll, granddaughter of Thomas, and public school teacher to a generation of St. Marys residents, and her widowed sister, Helen Ingersoll Mills, were the last of the Ingersolls to live here. Lillian died in 1962, aged 95.

Because of its historical association, this structure had been designated as a testimony to the founding days of St. Marys.

# James MacKay Residence

144 Queen Street West

**Date of Designation:**

October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:** 30-1987

**Date of Construction:** 1865



*144 Queen Street West, 1980 view*

**Reason for Designation:**

This splendid limestone dwelling was built in 1865 for James MacKay, one of this community's earliest settlers. In an 1866 photograph, its outline can be seen dominating the western Queen Street hill. MacKay in the early 1840s operated a store and hotel in St. Marys and with the arrival of the Grand Trunk Railway, ran a taxi from the Junction Station to downtown.

The house's façade is regular coursed ashlar. The other walls are constructed of coursed rubble. The stone masonry is an example of the best 1860s work – with special attention drawn to the handsome chimneys. The exterior detailing is also particularly fine: the veranda, dating from the 1880s, is one of the few remaining from the nineteenth century in St. Marys. The bargeboard, finial and magnificent carved pendant are also remarkable.

## Victoria (Queen Street )Bridge



*Victoria Bridge, 1900 view*

**Date of Designation:** September 26, 1978

**Municipal By-Law:** 31-1978

**Date of Construction:** 1865

**Designer:** A. Niven, Public Land Surveyor

**Builder/Contractor:**

Alexander McDonald

### **Reason for Designation:**

This 1900 photograph shows the pre-confederation (1865) limestone four-arched bridge over the Thames River, the most important of the bridges in St. Marys. Several log and timber bridges had been built to cross the river at this location but had been hard to maintain to a safe standard. In August 1864, Town Council authorized the signing of a contract with Alexander McDonald “for the construction of a stone arched bridge across the Thames on Queen Street,” according to the plan submitted by Mr. Niven, P.L.S. The cost was \$4450.

The bridge served the town well for 120 years, the stone arches withstanding many floods and ice jams. But in the 1980s, it was deemed inadequate for new Ministry of Transportation standards. Demolition was threatened – and, in fact, the original stonework was removed. However, the new bridge (completed November 1984) was designed to replicate the 1865 design and this was apparently sufficient for the Ontario Heritage Trust to recognize the Victoria Bridge with a Heritage Easement.

Town Council of that time also retained the original municipal designation.

# Clench Residence

96 Robinson Street

**Date of Designation:** March 28, 2017

**Municipal By-Law:** 26-2017

**Date of Construction:** 1875



*96 Robinson Street, current view*

## Reason for Designation:

The house at 96 Robinson Street, as originally built, was an excellent example of an L-shaped Ontario house from the mid-Victorian period. Leon Clench adapted basic pattern book designs to suit himself and his family. He placed a doorway from the second storey leading out onto a balcony over the front entrance – in effect, creating a two level veranda. His windows to the south and east all had shutters. The shutters on the south side were split into upper and lower sections so that they could be opened and closed in a variety of combinations to keep the house warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer.

Few properties in St. Marys have a stronger historic/associative value than 96 Robinson Street. Leon Clench (1830-1883) was, by profession, a barrister and solicitor. Relocating from nearby London to St. Marys in the mid-1850s, he was the first lawyer to practise in the village. He was also a talented musician and established the first town band. He had a creative mind that teemed with many ideas, projects and enthusiasms.

Leon and Eunice Clench had two daughters: Mary born in 1859 and Leonora (Nora), born in 1867. Both were musical: Mary was an accomplished pianist but Nora was a prodigy. Leon Clench was first to identify his daughter's musical gift. He was her first teacher and the maker of her first violin. He did everything he could to support and further her career.

With her family's support, Nora began performing on stage as a young child. She went on to study music at academies in Ontario and then in Leipzig, Germany, and in her early 20s had won recognition internationally as a concert violinist. At the beginning of the 20th century, she was the most famous person to have been born in St. Marys.

The property's association with the Cruttenden and Clench families, especially Nora Clench, gives 96 Robinson Street a unique place in the history of this community.

# John Henry Clark Residence

108 Robinson Street

**Date of Designation:**

October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:** 36-1987

**Date of Construction:** 1870

*108 Robinson Street, 1980 view*



**Reason for Designation:**

An early 1870s advertisement in the St. Marys Argus lists for sale the residence of John Henry Clark, gentleman, with a garden and orchard to the north and carriage house and adjoining stable to the west. Clark's house, built in 1870, has several special features, most notably the large window openings – almost Regency in style – and unique to the period and the town. Further, the arrangement of rooms and fenestration of the south half of the house is a mirror-image of the north half.

Research has shown that this house of Clark's is a copy of an earlier residence of his located on a farm just west of Rannoch in Blanshard Township. The two-storey carriage house is constructed of rubble limestone; in the early part of this century the Ruthig family manufactured apple cider in this building. It has been converted into a small residence. The designation includes both the house and the carriage house.

# Waterworks Buildings

55 George Street North



*55 St. George Street North, ca 1910*

**Date of Designation:** September 9, 2010

**Municipal By-Law:** 47-2010

**Date of Construction:** 1899

**Engineer:** Willis Chipman

**Builder:** Robert Clyde

## **Reason for Designation:**

The west portion of the Waterworks buildings on St. George Street North was constructed in 1899 as the pumphouse for a new municipal water supply system for the St. Marys. The portion to the east was built in 1902 to serve as a powerhouse for electrical generating equipment that supplied street lighting and other public electrical needs until the availability of Ontario Hydro in 1911. Along with the water tower, it is a monument to the basic infrastructure requirements of a safe and adequate water supply for Ontario municipalities.

Although the importance of this building as a functioning pumphouse was primary when it was constructed, care was taken to build an architecturally pleasing structure, made from local limestone. Experienced local stonemason Robert Clyde was the contractor for the pumphouse and for the stone portion of the water tower.

This building was retro-fitted in 2008 for supplemental water treatment requirements for the town.

# Alexander Grant Residence

181 Thomas Street



**Date of Designation:**

July 12, 1988

**Municipal By-Law:** 30-1988

**Date of Construction:** 1863

**Builder:** Alexander Grant

*181 Thomas Street, 1980 view*

## **Reason for Designation:**

This limestone cottage was built in 1863 by Alexander Grant, a local stonemason, to be his own home. Alexander Grant's son, John Grant, worked with his father on this house and lived in it for most of his life. He died in 1901, aged 56. An accomplished mason, John Grant also did stonework on the Victoria Bridge, the Odd Fellow's Block, the First Presbyterian church as well as Andrews' Jeweller.

Details such as finished quoins and lintels, the regularly coursed stone of the façade, the carpentry of the doorway and the overall fine proportions all indicate the special care of a highly skilled artisan. From old photographs we know that this cottage originally possessed exterior shutters and a picket fence. There is no evidence to ever suggest that this cottage ever had a veranda which, in any event would have obscured the delicate plasters on either side of the door. The transom and sidelights let light into the front hall.

The cottage in design, construction and setting is one of St. Marys' most important nineteenth century buildings.

# Robert Barbour Residence

210 Thomas Street

**Date of Designation:** July 10, 1988

**Municipal By-Law:** 31-1988

**Date of Construction:** 1865-1866

**Builder:** Robert Barbour



## Reason for Designation:

This one and a half storey Ontario cottage was built in 1865-1866 as the residence of Robert Barbour and his family. A native of Coldstream, Scotland, Barbour emigrated by way of New York and Rochester to St. Marys in the 1850s. In the next two decades, he became the most prominent and innovative master builder in the town and surrounding countryside. Both the design and construction of this stone residence are undoubtedly his own work.

The designation includes as much of the early wooden porch that is original as well as both interior and exterior window blinds.

This house, an outstanding example of stone construction in its own right, is one of a group of stone dwellings built on the Thames River along Thomas Street which work together to recreate the ambiance of 19th century life in St. Marys.

# W.V. Hutton Building

6 Water Street North



**Date of Designation:**

November 21, 1978

**Municipal By-Law:** 35-1978

**Date of Construction:** 1854

**Builder/Designer:** Original two storeys built by Lauriston Cruttenden; 1880s third floor mansard roof designed by William Williams

**Reason for Designation:**

This building is one of the first limestone blocks built in St. Marys. The site of this store may be significant as the place where the first general store in St. Marys existed, a log structure built by John Ingersoll in 1841. It was certainly the most important intersection in the newly founded village.

William Veal Hutton, a prominent early businessman, was the first owner of the current building. Originally, this block was two storeys and housed two separate stores on the lower level and office space on the upper level. A further two-storey rear wing was added along Water Street sometime after 1880. The third storey with a mansard roof was added to the block between 1882 and 1885. Two one-storey sections have since been added to the rear of the block.

The original frame paneling of the store front windows and doors and the other wooden decorative features of this remarkably well-preserved facade are ample reason for its designation. Furthermore, this building is the best example of the Second Empire Style in St. Marys. This style, very rare in the town, is typified by the sloping mansard roof line with the decorative slate tiling and the boldly projecting, pedimental dormers that light the third storey. The fireplace on the second floor, which is intact and probably dates from the time that the original two storey block was built (1852-1857), is also included in this designation.

## **Stephen Myers Residence**

**75 Water Street North**

**Date of Designation:**

November 27,  
1984

**Municipal By-Law:** 38-1984

**Date of Construction:** 1870

**Built:** for Steven Myers by  
local contractors



**Reason for Designation:**

This house was built in the Ontario cottage style for Stephen Myers who operated a prosperous woollen mill for more than a quarter of a century. The mill was located on Church Street, just southeast of the bridge; (hence, the name of the current building on that site – the Old Mill Apartments.) His son Clove sold the mill to John and William Weir in 1912.

Built in 1870, this residence is well-preserved example of an early stucco house, one of the few remaining in St. Marys. Architectural highlights are the French windows and a Gothic window under the gable. These unique features and its good condition make it deserving of designation.

# Joseph Stafford Residence

## 107 Water Street North



**Date of Designation:**

January 26, 1993

**Municipal By-Law:** 1-1993

**Date of Construction:** 1870

**Builder/Designer:** Robert Barbour

**Reason for Designation:**

This cottage was built in 1870 for Joseph Stafford on the northwest corner of a block of four lots belonging to his sister-in-law Frances Moore Adam. It is a one-storey, yellow brick house with a three-bay façade. The four-panel door of the front entrance has sidelights and a transom. The interior has a symmetrical plan: a centre hall with square rooms on either side leads to a dining room, itself with smaller rooms on either side. The kitchen wing still possesses its original windows with six-over-six lights. The windows of the front part of the house have retained their six-over-six panes as well.

At the owner's request, this designation includes the original interior wood work (baseboards, four-panel doors and the wood panelling beneath the two windows in each of the front rooms). All window sills and door sills are limestone.

The lawn at the front of the house is raised and supported by an original limestone retaining wall with limestone steps leading to the street. The wall and steps are a part of the designation.

# **John Bartlett Residence**

**137 Water Street North, St. Marys, Ontario**

**Lot 12, east side, Water Street North**



**Date of Designation:**

November 26, 2013

**Municipal By-Law:** 45-2013

**Date of Construction:** 1889

**Built for:** John Bartlett

## **Reason for Designation:**

The house at 137 Water Street North (East Side Water Street North, Lot 12) is a two-storey white brick villa, built in 1889 for John Bartlett, a local businessman. Beautifully situated on a hillside in the north ward with principal windows facing west and south, it has a grand view down Water Street and across the Thames River valley. A veranda enclosing the main entrance and wrapping around the west and south sides and a large, two-storey, west-facing bay with an impressive gable are attractive and immediately noticeable features of the façade.

Impressive exterior elements include: a traditional rectangular floor plan with main entrance in centre of west façade onto Water Street, with a two-storey servants' wing at the east or back; symmetry that is offset by a dominant two-storey bay on the west side, incorporated into the northwest rooms on both the first and second floors; a west-facing gable that crowns the bay with original ornate bargeboard; large veranda that starts at the main entrance and wraps around the west and south sides of the house; an original veranda balustrade and decorative elements at veranda eaves; curved balustrade on both sides of steps leading from sidewalk to veranda; fascia and soffit with the original paired brackets with Greek chi design at base and continuous suspended dentilling; cambered lintels made of brick; windows and main entrance door framed to fit; double windows on both levels of the bay with elongated decorative bracket between the two window components— a feature indicating William Williams' design or influence; some original shutters; original shutter hardware in place on windows.

# W.V. Hutton Building

6 Water Street South



**Date of Designation:**

October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:** 38-1987

**Date of Construction:** 1863

**Built for:**

William Veal Hutton

## Reason for Designation:

This fine three-storey limestone block was built in 1863 as a second commercial block for businessman William Veal Hutton, complementing his earlier block on the north side of Queen Street. It has a ten-bay façade and originally housed five retail stores with offices and larger assembly rooms on the upper floors. There is a remarkable view up Queen Street from the windows at the northeast corner.

This building has been described as the purest example of the stonemason's craft in St. Marys. Even the ornamentation is simple and effective – the segmental arches above the windows with their finely finished voussoirs and projecting keystones.

A similar, simplified treatment has been given to the old Armouries building to the south so that these flanking buildings provide an effective foil for the exuberance of the Opera House façade.

# The Opera House

12 Water Street South



**Date of Designation:** July 28, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 59-1981

**Date of Construction:** 1879-1880

**Architect:** Silas Weekes of Weekes and Smyth

*Opera House, 1900 view*

## **Reason for Designation:**

The St. Marys Opera House was constructed in 1879-1880 for the St. Marys Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The building was designed by Messrs Weekes and Smyth, architects of London, Ontario. James Elliott, the master mason, supplied stone from his local quarry and lime from his kiln. Originally the block housed three stores on the ground level, a concert hall above and the IOOF temple on the highest floor. Through the years, the auditorium saw many varied theatrical performances and political rallies.

The entire block was gutted and converted into a flour mill in 1919, and it functioned as such for fifty years. At that time, the gothic arch that strengthened the roof-line was removed. In 1987, when it was threatened with demolition, the St. Marys Lions Club rescued the building and retrofitted it into apartments. It is now privately owned.

It remains one of the most impressive buildings in this area with its turrets and tall lancet windows. It is also remarkable for the quality of work in the cut and carved stone used in its construction. The store-fronts on the street level are original with their wooden framing and cast iron supports.

The Ontario Heritage Trust has recognized the significance of the Opera House with a heritage easement.

# Theodore Hutton Building

26 Water Street South



**Date of Designation:** July 28, 1981

**Municipal By-Law:** 59-1981

**Date of Construction:** 1868

**Builder/Designer:** Robert Barbour

## **Reason for Designation:**

The three-storey stone block at 26 Water Street South was built in 1868 by Robert Barbour as a general and dry goods store for Theodore Hutton, a brother of W. V. Hutton. The retail portion was at street level with living quarters in the upper two storeys. Used for a number of years from the 1930s as a drill hall for the Perth militia, it is also known locally as the Armouries.

Architecturally, the building's effectiveness is in its simplicity although the segmental arches above the windows with their finely finished voussoirs and projecting keystones add an Italianate flavour. Together with the Hutton Block at 6 Water Street South, the similar, simplified treatment in the two flanking provides an effective contrast to the much more complex Opera House façade in the centre.

This row of limestone buildings along the west side of Water Street is one of the most outstanding stone streetscapes in the Ontario.

## **R. Lorne Eedy Group of Buildings**

**48-50 Water Street South**



**Date of Designation:**

December 12, 1989

**Municipal By-Law: 77-1989**

**Date of Construction:**

1857, 1869, 1921

**Reason for Designation:**

The frame building was erected as a dwelling in 1869, a date supported by the evidence of the style of fascia and soffit. The wooden decoration in the two gables was added at the turn of the century. For forty years it was the residence of James Lelliot, a plasterer who plied his trade in St. Marys and vicinity. It is a rare remaining example of a once common type of nineteenth century frame house.

The stone building is the oldest in the group. Built ca 1857 for James Dinning, a pioneer shoemaker, it was one of the earliest commercial blocks in St. Marys. The business was on the street level with living quarters above.

The concrete building, unusual for its style and building material, was built in 1921. It was used by grocer Jack Sgariglia as a warehouse for fruit, shipped to St. Marys on the CPR line that runs behind the store. The walls are of pressed concrete and the roof of corrugated steel. Of its kind, this building is unique in St. Marys

The three buildings together form a streetscape that recalls early St. Marys and that is deserving of designation.

# **First Bank of Montreal Building**

## **84 Water Street South**



**Date of Designation:**

December 29, 1982

**Municipal By-Law:** 11-1983

**Date of Construction:** 1850s

### **Reason for Designation:**

This straightforward limestone commercial block was built in the 1850s when a major struggle was taking place between two factions in St. Marys to determine whether Water Street or Queen Street would be the major commercial core of the village. The Queen Street faction won and left behind the businesses on Water Street, including this one. The first permanent location of the Bank of Montreal in St. Marys, it has also been known locally as the Armitage Building because that was the name of a printer who ran a business here for many years. It has held a variety of business and retail establishments throughout the years.

Architecturally, the building was clearly designed and built for commercial purposes and is the Water Street South equivalent of the first Guest Block on Queen Street. It is placed tight to the road allowance, typical of commercial functionalism of the period. Its limestone construction is also typical of the building materials used almost exclusively during the 1850s throughout the community – regularly coursed ashlar blocks for the façade with rubble stone for the sides and back.

# Whitson House

136 Water Street South

**Date of Designation:**

December 12, 1989

**Municipal By-Law:** 78-1989

**Date of Construction:** 1867

**Builder:** James Whitson,  
stonemason



*136 Water Street South, 1980 view*

**Reason for Designation:**

This limestone cottage was built in the 1860s by James Whitson as his own residence. Whitson, a stone-cutter and mason, later owned a large limemaking business with James Sclater in the North Ward. He was also prominent in municipal politics in the 1870s and 1880s.

This cottage with its prominent quoins, pedimental lintels, neat rubble coursing in its side walls and pointed windows bears all the marks of special attention that a mason would lavish on his own house. Originally, Whitson, like other stone masons, owned lots adjoining his house from which he quarried stone and in the winter months finished it for building purposes. The first town hall was located just north of James Whitson's cottage.

This house, one of St. Marys' early stone dwellings, stands as a reminder of one of the town's first industries. As a house, it is a model of elegant simplicity.

# Alexander McDonald House

## 481 Water Street South

**Date of Designation:** August 19, 2008

**Municipal By-Law:** 63-2008

**Date of Construction:** Early 1850s

**Builder:** Alexander McDonald



### **Reason for Designation:**

The stone house was constructed by the St. Marys stonemason, Alexander McDonald. The house has many features that are recurring marks of McDonald's trade and of his style. He apparently built the house to rent, not to live in himself.

The façade of the house has a projecting architrave that is echoed by a projecting base course. The front door has four fielded panels, a large transom (with six lights) and sidelights. The base and stairs of the porch are limestone. The regular, ten-inched coursing of the façade consists of smooth-faced stones with the exception of intermittent rock-faced stones, a characteristic of McDonald's work that can be seen in the junction station. The house has two features that are unusual in St. Marys but found in McDonald's native Scotland. The architrave or beam course is wider and stronger course meant to support the roof, act as a soffit and tie the outer and inner stones in the walls.

# Dr. John Mathieson Residence

109 Wellington Street North



**Date of Designation:**

December 12, 1989

**Municipal By-Law:**

80-1989

**Date of Construction:**

1874

**Builder:** Robert Barbour

**Reason for Designation:**

This house was built in 1874 for Dr. John Hugh Mathieson and his wife, Mary Harrison, daughter of the prominent pioneer settlers Milner Harrison and Catherine Howard. Mathieson is an example of a man who was outstanding in his profession and also gave vision and leadership to the community. He was primarily responsible for the selecting the design of the St. Marys Town Hall in 1890. The builder, Robert Barbour, was designer/contractor for many of this town's finest buildings.

Mathieson's house is a handsome example of mid-Victorian building in the Italian style. Internal features such as original fireplaces and woodwork, decorative plasterwork, a portrait of Nora Clench in stained glass in the west entrance as well as all other original stained and etched glass and fenestration are also included in this designation.

An outstanding feature of this house is the Italianate veranda which through constant care has survived since the 1870s. This veranda wraps around the west and the south façade between two projecting bays of the house and is also designated.

# James Elliott Residence

345 Wellington Street South



**Date of Designation:**  
January 12, 2021

**Municipal By-Law:**  
02-2021

**Date of Construction:**  
1864/65

**Builder:** James Elliott

## **Reason for Designation:**

The house at 345 Wellington Street South (Lot 35, East Side Wellington Street South) is a one and a half storey house, built in 1864/1865 by stonemason James Elliott, using stone from his quarry and lime from his kiln.

The house is situated on the lot with the front entrance facing west on the east side of Wellington Street South. It has a traditional symmetrical façade – windows on either side of central door with small gable centred in the roofline over the door. The windows have been replaced but retain the original openings and placement.

The roof is a saddle back style, with centre ridge board running north to south and a front or west façade centre gable section, moderate pitch, running back to just below the centre of the north/south roof ridge board. The two limestone single flue chimneys are gable wall style on the north and south ends of the building. The limestone in the chimneys has been parged over for pointing purposes. The roofing material has been replaced by modern asphalt shingle.

The masonry walls are limestone, rough cut rubble, with full coursed patterns on the north, west and south walls and irregular coursed on the east façade all in a quarry faced finish. All four corners are quoined using small blocks of square cut ashlar in a tooled finish. The lintels are single block, square cut ashlar, full coursed, dressed finish, while the basement lintels are double coursed in size. The sills are single block, square cut ashlar, half coursed tool finish.

# David Maxwell Junior Residence

## 191 Widder Street East

**Date of Designation:**

September 11, 2007

**Municipal By-Law:** 56-2007

**Date of Construction:** 1900

**Architect:** Moore and Henry



**Reason for Designation:**

Built in 1900, this house is a good example of the Queen Anne style of vernacular architecture. Exterior attributes which distinguish the house include the Milton red pressed brick with St. Marys limestone for the foundation and the sills and lintels of the windows, the spacious two-storey veranda with bandshell corner, the slate roof , the decorated ridgepoles and the crowsfeet gable at the attic level.

The interior has remarkable, perfectly preserved, oak woodwork – in the doors, door surrounds and transoms, in the fireplaces, in the wainscoting and in the stairwell with a magnificent sculptural carved staircase. Many other original features remain: three fireplaces, stained glass windows, pocket doors – even an original section of the butler’s pantry cupboard.

At the owners’ request, these interior features are also designated.

## James Craig Residence 196 Widder Street East



**Date of Designation:**  
January 26, 1993

**Municipal By-Law:** 3-1993

**Date of Construction:** 1873

**Builders:** James Craig and James Hamilton

### **Reason for Designation:**

This frame house was built in 1873 by James Craig and James Hamilton, two Scots prominent as builders in St. Marys at that time. The house is of unusual interest among the buildings in St. Marys as the builders are known as well as the source for the windows, doors and all woodwork such as door and window surrounds, which date from the time of its construction.

The original house consisted of the front section and a one-storey kitchen wing. This building is clearly visible in the August 1884 stereographic view of the North Ward taken by the Ingersoll photographer William Hugill.

This designation includes the unusual gently-looping bargeboard, the veranda with its fret-work, and the double-hung sash windows with their six-over-six lights. Interior features included are the door and window surrounds, the skirting board and in the front section and the wainscoting in the kitchen.

# Frances McCracken Residence

261 Widder Street East

**Date of Designation:**

October 13, 1987

**Municipal By-Law:** 34-1987

**Date of Construction:** 1880

**Reason for Designation:**



This handsome residence was constructed about 1880 for Frances McCracken, a flax merchant. It is an irregular, two-storey Italianate home located on the northwest corner of Widder and James Streets, centred on its property, well back from the street on a terraced lawn.

The dominant features of the Widder Street façade are the large, projecting two-storey bay windows, the recessed front door and side lights, brick quoins and brackets – all Italianate in style. The irregular James Street façade includes a single storey projecting balcony with a door from an upstairs room. The fenestration of the entire house follows a regular pattern. A remarkable feature of this residence is its walled garden on the west side.

# Town of St. Marys – MUNICIPAL REGISTER – Section 2 – DISTRICT DESIGNATIONS



**Properties within the Heritage Conservation District  
Summary by Street Address**

Peel Street North, West Side

1. 42 Peel N. – r
2. 38 Peel N. – r
3. 34 Peel N. – r
4. 28 Peel N. – r/c
5. 22 Peel N. – r

Peel Street South, West Side

6. 20 Peel S. - r
7. 24 Peel S. - r
8. 46 Peel S. - r
9. Garage for 51 Church S. - service

Church Street North, East Side

- 10.41 Church N. - apartment
- 11.31 Church N. – r/c
- 12.25 Church N. - c
- 13.15 Church N. – public building; designated

Church Street North, West Side

- 14.30 Church N. (building to rear) – apartment
- 15.36 Church N. (Parking garages) – service
- 16.Stone livery stable – off street – service
- 17.18 Church N. – apartment
- 18.14 Church N. – c
- 19.4 Church N. – c

Church Street South, East Side

- 20.11 Church S. – c
- 21.21 Church S. – c
- 22.25 Church S. – c
- 23.Lind Park – green space
- 24.45 Church S. – r

25.51 Church S. – r

26.65 Church S. (Church)

Church Street South, West Side

26.22 Church S. (with additional residence at rear) – r

27.24 Church S. – r

28.28 Church S. – r

29.34 Church S. (Church)

30.46 Church S. – r

31.56 Church S. – r

32.66 Church S. – apartment/c

Wellington Street North, East Side

33.33-35 Wellington N. – r/c

34.27 Wellington N. – r

35.23 Wellington N. – c

36.21 Wellington N. – c

37.11 Wellington N. – c

Wellington Street North, West Side

38.Start of Riverview Walkway – green space

39.34 Wellington N. – c

40.26 Wellington N. – r

41.22 Wellington N. – c

Wellington Street South, East Side

42.35 Wellington S. – post office; OPP – public building

43.47 Wellington S. – r/c

44.55 Wellington S. – r

45.59 Wellington S. – r

46.63 Wellington S. – r

47.71 Wellington S. – r

Wellington Street South, West Side

48.14-18 Wellington S. – c

49.26 Wellington S. – c

50.32 Wellington S. – c

51.48 Wellington S. – r/c

52.52 Wellington S. – r

53.64 Wellington S. – c

54.72 Wellington S. – r/c

Water Street North, East Side

55.25 Water N. – c

56.7 Water N. – c

Water Street North, West Side

57.16 Water N. – c

58.12 Water N. – c

59.6 Water N. – c, designated

Water Street South, East Side

60. 5 Water S. – c

61.9 Water S. – c

62.13 Water S. – c

63.17 Water S. – c

64.19 Water S. – c

65.21 Water S. – c

66.23 Water S. – c

67.27 Water S. – c

68.31 Water S. – c

69.35 Water S. – c

70.47 Water S. – c

71.61 Water S. – r

72.67-69 Water S. – r

Water Street South, West Side

73.6 Water S. – c, designated

74.12 Water S. – c, apartment, designated

75.26 Water S. – c, designated

76.34 Water S. – c

77.36 Water S. – c

78.48 Water S. – c, designated

79.50 Water S. – c, designated

80.60 Water S. – c

81.68 Water S. – r

Queen Street East, North Side

82. Riverview Walkway, millrace, Island Park – green space, designated

83.75 Queen E. – c, designated

84.83 Queen E. – c

85.91 Queen E. – c

86.95 Queen E. – c

87.97 Queen E. – c

88.101 Queen E. – c

89.105 Queen S. – c

90.109 Queen E. – c

91.111 Queen E. – c

92.113 Queen E. – c

93.115 Queen E. – c, designated

94.117 Queen E. – c

95.121 Queen E. – c

96.125 Queen E. – c

97.127 Queen E. – c

98.131 Queen E. – c

99.133 Queen E. – c

100. 135 Queen E. – c, designated

101. 139 Queen E. – c

102. 141 Queen E. – c

103. 143 Queen E. – c

104. 145 Queen E. – c, designated

105. 147 Queen E. – c, designated

106. 149 Queen E. – c

107. 151 Queen E. – c

108. 153 Queen E. – c,

109. 155 Queen E. – c, designated

110. 159 Queen E. – c, designated

111. 163 Queen E. – c

112. 165 Queen E. – c
113. 167 Queen E. – c.
114. 175 Queen E. – public building, designated
115. Memorial Park – green space
116. 201 Queen E. – c

Queen Street East, South Side

Riverview Walkway – green space

117. 102 Queen S. – c
118. 104 Queen S. – c
119. 106 Queen S. – c
120. 108 Queen S. – c
121. 110 Queen S. – c
122. 114 Queen S. – c, designated
123. 116 Queen S. – c
124. 118 Queen S. – c
125. 122 Queen S. – c
126. 124 Queen S. – c
127. 128 Queen S. – c
128. 132-134 Queen S. – c
129. 136 Queen S. – c
130. 140 Queen S. – c
131. 142 Queen S. – c, designated
132. 144 Queen S. – c
133. 150 Queen S. – c, designated
134. 152 Queen S. – c
135. 154 Queen S. – c
136. 158 Queen S. – c
137. 162 Queen S. – c
138. 166 Queen S. – c
139. 172 Queen S. – c
140. 174 Queen S. – c
141. 176 Queen S. – c
142. 182 Queen E. – c
143. 190 Queen S. – c

- 144. 198 Queen S. – c
- 145. 202 Queen S. – c

Jones Street East, North Side

Riverview Walkway – green space

- 146. 191 Jones E. – r
- 147. 197 Jones E. – r
- 148. 201 Jones E. – r

Jones Street East, South Side

Riverview Walkway – green space

- 149. 6 Jones E. – c
- 150. 124 Jones E. – c

Elgin Street East, North Side

Riverview Walkway – green space

- 151. 199 Elgin E. – c

**Summary: The inventory includes 152 properties. These are:**

Commercial – 102

Residential – 27

Commercial/residential – 6 (Businesses operating out of residences)

Apartment – 3

Apartment/commercial – 2

Public (municipal) – 3

Church – 2

Parkland (green space) – 4

Service building – large, seen from street, two of these are unnumbered – 3

There are 19 designations under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act:

- one green space (the Millrace)
- two public buildings (Town Hall and Library)
- 16 commercial properties

Please note that for the purposes of this inventory, commercial/residential means that a business is operating out of a property that also serves as a residence and that looks like a private house or residence.

Please also note that many of the commercial properties in the downtown core have second and third storeys that may have apartments – some occupied by the owner of the street-level business. However, if the outward appearance of these buildings is commercial, they have been classed as commercial.