

THE CHATHAM-KENT MUNICIPAL HERITAGE REGISTER



Listed Properties in the Community of Bothwell

Community of Bothwell

171 Chestnut Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1870

Historical Significance: In the later part of the nineteenth-century prominent business people of Bothwell lived on Chestnut Street. J.J. Vincent, one of the original home owners, was the proprietor of a store in Thamesville and Charlie Simpkin owned a general store in Bothwell. Charlie thought that business was better in Thamesville and convinced Vincent to swap stores. Vincent opened in Bothwell in 1897 and after fifty years of business, sold his company to, M.R. Beaul, a twenty-five year employee. The screened in circular porch was an add on feature, and every evening Mr. & Mrs. Vincent enjoyed a leisurely evening in their rocking chairs on the porch.

Architectural Significance/Description: This house has a vernacular interpretation of Classical Revival design features. Additionally, the structure also draws some influence from Italianate design. This can be seen through its unique entrance way. Other features include polychromatic brick work, side and fan lights, and period door placement The building is original by both municipal and provincial standards.

Contextual Significance: It is on a large double lot that was significant to Bothwell's early design.

Legal Description: LOTS 513 & 514, PLAN 141
BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: Information and photos courtesy of Marion Matt.



Community of Bothwell

190 Elm Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1876

Historical Significance: This large home is a direct result of the wealth accumulated in Bothwell during the oil boom. It was made by Charlie W. Batt, a master carpenter, for his own private residence. Batt would have constructed a number of homes in Bothwell. His services were highly sought after because of his ability to add ornate details on the interior and exterior of buildings.

Architectural Significance/Description: This building is an outstanding example of an Italianate mansion. The cornice brackets, hip roof, and quoins are unique features of this house. Additionally, the pillars and verge boarding present on the portico suggest a number of other architectural influences.

Contextual Significance: The home was built close to other successful businessman's residences. Moreover, it was located between Grace Anglican and Methodist churches, on a large corner lot (Elm and Gordon Streets).

Legal Description: LOTS 521, 522 & 523, PLAN 141 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: Photos courtesy of Marion Matt. Top c. 1980 Bottom c. 1908



Community of Bothwell

160 George Street West



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1870

Historical Significance: This residence is significant because it highlights Bothwell's population increase during the 1870's. A number of homes were built during this decade because of the exodus of people that came to the community in search of oil. Previously to the construction of this home, W.J. Gatling, the brother of the Gatling Gun inventor, owned a large auditorium on this property. Unfortunately, the music hall burned down in 1867.

Architectural Significance/Description: This house has a number of Georgian characteristics. These features include, twin chimneys, a symmetrical design, and beautiful polychromatic brick work.

Contextual Significance: The dwelling is a landmark in the community.

Legal Description: LOTS 173 & 174, PLAN 141 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: Historical information is courtesy of Marion Matt.



Community of Bothwell

325 Gordon Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1890

Historical Significance: This home was built for Joseph McGill, an oil entrepreneur of the last oil boom in the Bothwell area. The house has large spacious rooms, a formal parlour, a common parlour complete with fireplace, a separate dining room, a bedroom and kitchen on the first floor. The large property also contains a carriage house. Rev. James Nethercott purchased the house and rented it to Dr. George Pope.



Architectural Significance/Description: The structure has a number of distinct features, none of which are more splendid than the large front veranda. The design characteristics reflect a rural Gothic Revival influence, most notably the steep front gable.

Contextual Significance: The house is on a very large double lot.

Legal Description: LOTS 529, 530, 531 & 532,
PLAN 141 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: The interior still has many original features including ornate oak woodwork, box windows, stained glass and leaded windows, and a fire place.



Community of Bothwell

258 Main Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1876

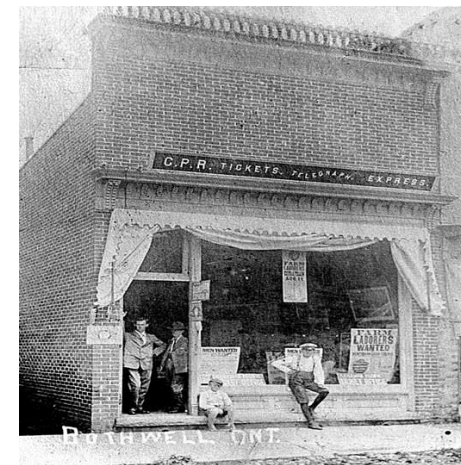
Historical Significance: This small commercial building was used as the CPR ticket and express office from the late 1800s until the 1930s. Anyone wishing to travel took advantage of the special excursion fares that the CPR offered to lure settlers to the west. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company offered land grants out of this office. William Beamish acted as the agent that prepared people wishing to colonize the West.

Architectural Significance/Description: Structures went up quickly during the oil boon. They also formed a lasting presence that reminds the public of where the community started. This particular structure has a number of original features. However, the brick on the façade has been painted and the dentils have been removed. Fortunately, the building remains in a good state of repair and has retained several elements from its past.

Contextual Significance: This building is in the central core area of Main St

Legal Description: PART OF LOTS 332 & 333, PLAN 141 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: Information and photos provided by Marion Matt. Top: c. 2009 Bottom: c. 1910



Community of Bothwell

288 Main Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1870

Historical Significance: This structure was originally home to one of Chatham-Kent's best dry goods stores. The store was called "The Palace" and was opened by John Crotty. Following a couple of decades in the business, Crotty sold the shop to Chatham Kent's earliest Ginger Beer Company. The company's name was Adkin. The small business would have been quite successful during the oil years. However, times would have become difficult shortly after.

Architectural Significance/Description: The structure is a unique example of a rural nineteenth century commercial building. The parapet façade is a rare distinguishing feature. The quoins, front chimney, and relief on both sides of the cornice are elegant details.

Contextual Significance: The store front is located in Bothwell's central commercial sector.

Legal Description: PART OF LOT 331, PLAN 141
SUBJECT TO R.O.W. AS IN 350003 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: The historic photo and information is courtesy of Marion Matt.



Adkin's Circa 1900



Community of Bothwell

329 Main Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1870

Historical Significance: The Richards' building was used for several businesses between 1857 and 1880. At that time the post office, which had relocated several times, finally settled in. There was a single mail wicket and a separate express wicket behind a partial wall for privacy. The latest mailboxes with secure locks and glass fronts were mounted in the wall. Mail was delivered to the post office twice daily from the train station, and in the 1930s and 1940s this was also where one purchased a license to operate a radio. Furthermore, during the 1940s the Ancient Free and Accepted Mason Lodge rented the room upstairs as a meeting place. When they purchased the Presbyterian Church as their permanent hall in 1927 the Order of the Eastern Star rented the room until 1959. In front of the building the Bothwell & Florence Stage made daily stops with express parcels and passengers for the CPR.

Architectural Significance/Description: The main floor windows look intact and are potentially original to the building. The sheet metal cornices are also a distinct feature of the property. The two arched second floor windows illustrate a vernacular Renaissance Revival influence.

Contextual Significance: Henry Richards owned this building as a rental unit for various businesses and it was one of the most used on Main St.

Legal Description: PART OF LOTS 502 & 503, PLAN 141 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: Photos courtesy of Marion Matt.



Community of Bothwell

359 Main Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1880

Historical Significance: This was a unique business structure, where the family lived over the business. J.B. Scott, a Taylor by trade, built the store in the late 1800s and continued his operation until the 1930s. Little has changed with this building over the years.

Architectural Significance/Description: The store is a unique example of a rural nineteenth century commercial building. The façade has changed in recent years but most of the original features remain.

Contextual Significance: This structure was one of the original buildings in the commercial district and one of the only structures still used for business and as a private residence.

Legal Description: PART OF LOTS 499, 500 & 501, PLAN 141 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: Photos courtesy of Marion Matt. Top picture: 1930, Bottom: 2009



Community of Bothwell

421 Main Street



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1855

Historical Significance: Brynmyrddin House was the home of Dr. Archibald Graham. He purchased the house from Dr. Wilson when he took over his practice. Dr. Wilson purchased the property for his residence after 1870. The main body of the house, including the summer kitchen with inside access to the root cellar, dates back to the 1850s. In 1874, the local newspaper reported Dr. Wilson made some improvements and that "it was about time". In the second building phase the two-story addition for his office and bedroom upstairs was completed. The office was one room with an outside entrance and calling tube for patients to contact the doctor during the night. Dr. Graham came to Bothwell in 1889 from Bay City Michigan. In 1910, major building and renovation took place. A two-story addition added to the back and a new back staircase made it more convenient to access the upstairs. At that time a basement was added to accommodate the boiler for central steam heat and water brought to the bathroom on the second floor. The main staircase was relocated, and the office was divided into a waiting room and general office. In the office an accessible window made it possible for a stretcher to be brought into the office for patients hurt critically. The veranda was extended to cover the entire front of the house. Dr. Graham practised for fifty years and in the beginning made all of his own medicines. He had four horses and a buggy for making house calls. He was the first medical officer of health for the municipality.

Architectural Significance/Description: The structure is a unique example of a rural nineteenth century building. The façade has changed in recent years but most of the original features remain. The home has a number of Neo-Classical Vernacular details.

Contextual Significance: The house is located at the end of the business district and its central location made it easy for anyone to find.

Legal Description: LOTS 595 & 596, PLAN 141 BOTHWELL

Additional Notes: Photos and information courtesy of Marion Matt. Top picture: c. 1897, Bottom: Dr. Archibald and Margaret Graham.

