

THE CHATHAM-KENT MUNICIPAL HERITAGE REGISTER



Listed Properties in the Community of Ridgetown

Community of Ridgetown

17 Broadway Avenue



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: 1887

Historical Significance: This large residence was purchased by George and Phoebe White in 1894. Phoebe at the time, was the town Librarian. After George's passing in 1897, Phoebe remained living in the residence with her two daughters, Tirzah and Vesta, until 1903, when it was sold to Sam Sterling. The house was sold again in 1937 to Ross and Florence Wilson. The carriage house located on the property was built by a potato farming family, the Wilson's, and was later restored by Donald Lawson who purchased the property in 1969.

Architectural Significance/Description: This residence is designed in the Victorian architectural style. This style includes a variety of different architectural styles from the Victorian era. This residence is an amalgam of Gothic Revival and Italianate architecture. The lovely gingerbread trim and cedar shake roof are all original features from the time of construction. The verandah in the front of the house is an Italianate feature and the large bracketed bay window at the front of the home makes the home stand out from many others.

Contextual Significance: This was an original farmhouse, and the field behind used for potatoes still exists.

Legal Description: Home: PLAN 278 N PT LOT 6
Carriage House: PLAN 278 LOT 5 & PT LOT 1 & PT LANE
PT BEING RP24R5845 PTS 2 & 3



Community of Ridgetown

3 Cecil Street South



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1875

Historical Significance: This residence is known as the Mitton/Prosser/Sifton House. William Mitton was the original owner of the residence. He was an important man in the early years of Ridgetown's growth because of his involvement in the development of several subdivisions. Following Mitton's death, the house was sold to William Prosser, the station agent for the once renowned Piere-Marquette railway. Later, it became a centre for musical activity, when it was unofficially called The Sifton School of Music.



Architectural Significance/Description: The dwelling is a late example of Gothic Revival architecture. The lancet windows, sharply pitched gabled roof, and verge boarding below the eaves reflect common gothic design. The bays, and the bargeboard trim are Italianate influences.

Contextual Significance: This property once occupied the whole block. Portions of the property were sold, in more recent times. The house remains as a vestige of the once prominent estate.

Legal Description: CON 10 PT LOT 11 RP 24R129 PART 2



Community of Ridgetown

27 Cunningham Avenue



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: 1879

Historical Significance: William Baker, carriage-maker from Ridgetown and his wife, Mary Baker were the first owners of this lovely home. William Baker's company provided "wagons, carriages, buggies and democrats, and had a horse-shoeing shop, as well as wood turning and painting departments." This home remained in the immediate Baker family for 90 years until sold by William and Mary's granddaughter Isobel Baker-Houlding to William Garrett and his wife. The home was sold shortly after to John F. and Eveleen Roy in 1971. John Roy was an internationally known scholar of William S. Burroughs.

Architectural Significance/Description: This beautiful home is an example of Picturesque architecture. The front gable with bay window and gable on the left-hand side in the front are distinguishable features to the home. Earlier images of this home show gingerbread trim around the gables, a Gothic Revival feature.

Contextual Significance:

Legal Description: LOT 341, PLAN 75



Photographs courtesy Frank Vink

Community of Ridgetown

41 Erie Street South



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1880

Historical Significance: This residence first belonged to veterinary surgeon James McKerracher. It was later purchased by Phillip Henry, a successful livestock dealer and former mayor of Ridgetown. Later in life, Henry decided to run for provincial government and became an M.P.P. In 1939 the house was purchased by E.B. Stirling, a successful lawyer and promoter of local sports.

Architectural Significance/Description: The Henry-Stirling house is an excellent example of Italian Villa architecture that was a localized style in Ridgetown. The elaborate veranda, arched windows, and central tower, are particularly significant and attractive.

Contextual Significance: The house is located on a prominent corner lot (Erie & David).

Legal Description: LOT 15, PLAN 83
RIDGETOWN



Community of Ridgetown

45 Erie Street South



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

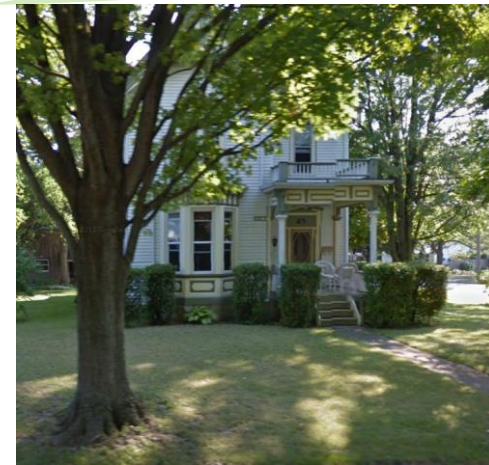
Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: 1892

Historical Significance: This home was built as the manse for the now-demolished Erie Street Methodist (United) Church across the street.

Architectural Significance/Description: This Queen Anne style home features a broad veranda and large, detailed bay windows. It also boasts well-maintained gingerbread trim.

Contextual Significance: This residence is located on a prominent corner of the main north-south road in Ridgetown.

Legal Description: PLAN 68 BLK N LOT 1 N PT LOT 2



Community of Ridgetown

12 Harold Street South



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: 1900

Historical Significance:

Architectural Significance/Description: This painted brick home is a good example of a Gothic Revival cottage.

Contextual Significance:

Legal Description: PLAN 251 LOT 23 PLAN 277
PT LOT 40



Community of Ridgetown

79 Jane Street



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: 1890

Historical Significance: This home was built by the Reycraft family and later sold to E.V. Bingham, a business man who purchased both the "Dominion" weekly newspaper in 1917 and the "Plaindealer" newspaper in 1923. The home later underwent many sympathetic renovations. E.V. Bingham still resided in the home in 1975.

Architectural Significance/Description: This large, orange brick home features segmental and Romanesque windows. The beautiful detailed fence surrounding the home is a modern reproduction of the original fence found on the property.

Contextual Significance: This home sits amidst extensive gardens.

Legal Description: PLAN 277 LOT 42 TO LOT 44



Community of Ridgetown

76 Main Street East



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1875

Historical Significance: The Porter/Whyte/Lawton/McKellar/McKinlay residence: This home was originally constructed by Henry Porter. His intention was to build the most extravagant private residence in the community. The large estate included a gazebo, fountain, and carriage house. The latter two have survived to the present day. Porter later became Mayor of Ridgetown and was responsible for building a large block in the community's downtown core.

Architectural Significance/Description: The Porter-McKinlay home is one of the landmark structures in Chatham-Kent. Built in 1875, the home illustrates a wooden example of a combination of Italian Villa and Gothic Revival design. The carriage house is an important part of the property, as is the fountain. The cupola on the carriage house is particularly rare. It demonstrates how no part of this house was left unembellished. Every aspect of the property portrays a sense of wealth and grandeur.

Contextual Significance: The manor is one of the largest corner lots in Ridgetown.

Legal Description: CON 9 S PT LOT 10 RP 24R7582
PART 1

Additional Notes: The house has also been used as a funeral home. The current condition of the house is impeccable.



Community of Ridgetown

103 Main Street East



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: 1884

Historical Significance:

Architectural Significance/Description: This residence is an example of Classic Revival architecture. The front low-pitched verandah with a white frame is held up by bracketed columns.

Contextual Significance: This property is on a prominent corner of the main street in town.

Legal Description: PLAN 242 LOT 16



Community of Ridgetown

5-41 Main Street West



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1870-1900

Historical Significance: This commercial sector was part of the core of nineteenth century Ridgetown. It was where most of the town's goods and services were purchased. The area would likely have included a grocery, hardware, and men's/lady's wear stores among other things. Few commercial sectors in Chatham-Kent have more collective historical significance than this one.

Architectural Significance/Description: Italianate architectural details are the most dominate features in these buildings' designs. The cornice and brackets have been well persevered.

Contextual Significance: The block is one of the most important group of buildings in Ridgetown.

Legal Description: (5) PART OF LOT 1, PLAN 64 RIDGETOWN (7) PART OF LOT 1, PLAN 64 RIDGETOWN (11) PART OF LOT 2, PLAN 64, DESIGNATED AS PARTS 1, 2, 3 & 4, 24R-3432, SUBJECT TO EASEMENT OVER PART OF LOT 2, PLAN 64, DESIGNATED AS PARTS 2, 3 & 4, 24R-3432 AS IN 250248 & 414891 RIDGETOWN (17) PART OF LOT 2, PLAN 64, DESIGNATED AS PARTS 1, 2, 3 & 4, 24R-3595, SUBJECT TO EASEMENT OVER PART OF LOT 2, PLAN 64, DESIGNATED AS PART 3, 24R-3595 AS IN 250248, TOGETHER WITH R.O.W. OVER PART OF LOT 2, PLAN 64, DESIGNATED AS PARTS 2, 3 & 4, 24R-3432 & PAR (21) PART OF LOT 3, PLAN 64, SUBJECT TO EASEMENT OVER PART OF LOT 3, PLAN 64, DESIGNATED AS PARTS 3 & 4, 24R-310 AS IN 250250 RIDGETOWN (25) PART OF LOT 3, PLAN 64, TOGETHER WITH R.O.W. AS IN 600666 OVER PART OF LOTS 1, 2, 3, 4 & 15, PLAN 64, DESIGNATED AS PARTS 1, 2, 3 & 4, 24R3 10, PART 3, 24R3595 AND PARTS 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5, 24R5567 ; CHATHAM-KENT (31) PART OF LOT 4, PLAN 64 RIDGETOWN (37) PART OF LOT 4, PLAN 64 RIDGETOWN (41) PART OF LOT 4, PLAN 64 RIDGETOWN

Additional Notes: This entry includes several different owners and addresses. The addresses are all on Main Street West and include: 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 41



Community of Ridgetown

106 Main Street West



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1850

Historical Significance:

Architectural Significance/Description: The returned eaves, three bay front façade, and well-preserved front porch all mark this home as an excellent example of Classical Revival architecture. It is one of the oldest homes still standing in Ridgetown.

Contextual Significance: The extensive front lawn, and the elevated position of this home make it a prominent landmark on the edge of Ridgetown.

Legal Description: HOWARD CON 10 PT LOT 8
RP 24R5548 PART 1 RP 24R8538 PART 1



Community of Ridgetown

119 Main Street West



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: 1881

Historical Significance: The MacDonald-Brien-Goodal home was originally built for Hugh Macdonald. Macdonald was a notable hardware merchant and banker in Ridgetown. The home is an excellent illustration of the growing affluence in the late nineteenth century.

Architectural Significance/Description: An extension of the Italianate style was Italian Villa characterized by tall central towers. A unique feature of this house is its fountain. The fountain was imported from Italy and was originally connected to a massive cistern in the house. It was kept full by windmill power. This house is an excellent example of Italian Villa design by provincial standards.

Contextual Significance: The parcel of land on which it sits is the same size as six different lots which are next to it. The house backs on to farm land and can be seen from a great distance away. It is landmark in Ridgetown.

Legal Description: CON 9 S PT LOT 8

Additional Notes: The Goodal family was instrumental in the restoration of this house.



Community of Ridgetown

128 Main Street West



Date Added to Registry: 18-Jan-2010

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1830-1890 (a precise date could not be located)

Historical Significance: This residence is a great example of a vernacular style home made in Ridgetown at the turn of the century. It illustrates the style and size of house that the middle class would have enjoyed.

Architectural Significance/Description: This is an early four bay home with a kitchen wing to the left. The dormer is an addition but the façade is otherwise very original. The off-centre door, small windows, and restrained Neo-Classical trim is similar to other homes known to have been built in the 1830s.

Contextual Significance: The residence is located on the most historic street in all of Ridgetown.

Legal Description: CON 10 PT LOT 8 RP
24R7600
PT PART 1



Community of Ridgetown

7 Victoria Avenue



Date Added to Registry: 8-Sep-2014

Historic Period and/or Date of Erection: Circa 1869

Historical Significance: This beautiful home was built by William Tolmie, a builder of considerable skill. The home was converted into an apartment house nearly 100 years after its construction. It remained an apartment house until the late 1970's, at which time it was converted back to a single family dwelling.

Architectural Significance/Description: This brick residence has front and side bay windows with original wrought iron. The Italianate porch has bracketed columns.

Contextual Significance: This house occupies a corner, and has a York Street sign on its facade

Legal Description: PLAN 271 S PT LOT 31 S PT LOT 32

