

# Brockville Museum

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We acknowledge that the land on which we gather, exchange ideas, and share our past, present and future is the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee and Wendat.

The Brockville Museum preserves and utilizes an evolving collection of objects and stories representing Brockville's past and present to provide inspiring, inclusive, and collaborative experiences that enhance well-being and strengthen the community's social and human capital in the service of Brockville's future.

## Check us out online!

Explore our collection, virtual exhibits, and find out about upcoming events, programs, and more at [www.brockvillemuseum.com](http://www.brockvillemuseum.com).



## Looking For More?

If you are interested in the history and architecture of more of Brockville's heritage homes, Heritage Brockville has a downloadable King Street East Map *King Street East: A Walking Tour* and other resources on their website. [www.heritagebrockville.ca](http://www.heritagebrockville.ca)

More walking tours can be found through the City of Brockville website [www.brockville.com/maps](http://www.brockville.com/maps)

## Important Notice

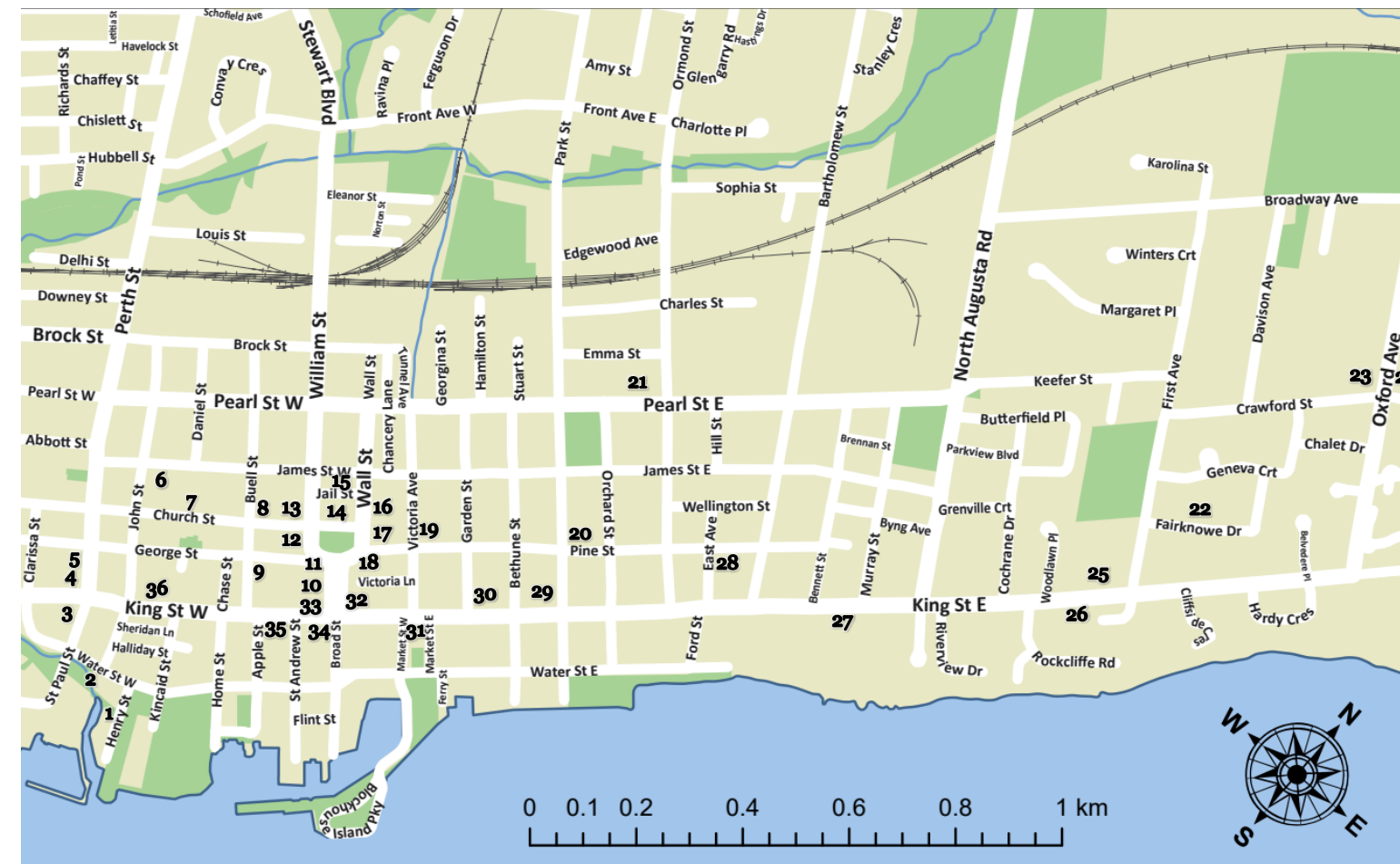
Inclusion of a building in this walking tour map in no way indicates that the property is open to the public. Please respect the privacy and rights of owners and tenants by restricting your viewing to the public sidewalk.

Front Cover Photo Credit, Adam Parker

Interior Watermark, King Street Looking east c. 1930



# A Guide To Historic Brockville Buildings



## Water St. & Off Of Perth St.

1. Isaac Beecher House | Rear c. 1815, Front c. 1840  
5 Henry Street

Originally home to the Beecher family, the property was sold in 1897 to the Central Canada Coal Company. In 1976 the site was purchased to create a museum.

This building is an example of Vernacular Loyalist architecture.

2. Robert Shepherd Grist Mill | 1853  
123 Water Street

Built near the site of two earlier mills built in the late 1700s, the mill was powered by damming Buell's Creek.

This building is an example of early industrial architecture.

3. Brockville Arts Centre | 1858  
235 King Street West

First used as town hall, marketplace, police station, and fire station the building was not used as a theatre until 1880. See Heritage Brockville Plaque for more information.

This building has elements of Beaux-Arts architecture.

4. Nehemiah Seaman House | 1816  
234 King Street West

One of the oldest buildings in Brockville, it was first the shop and home of blacksmith Nehemiah Seamon. It has also been Howison's Confectionary and Bakery and Cowan's Dairy.

This building is an example of Vernacular Loyalist architecture.

5. Rock School House | c. 1820  
22 Perth Street

This building has been a school, church, businesses, and a private residence. The second floor is a later addition. The rock it sits on is part of the Thousand Islands of the Frontenac Axis.

This house is an example of Loyalist Vernacular architecture.

6. Beth Jacob Synagogue | 1944  
127 James Street West

Opened to serve local families and the Jewish service men training at the Officers Training Camp, the synagogue closed in the 1960s. The building was home to St. John's Ambulance in 1979.

This building is an example of Colonial Revival architecture.

7. St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church | 1856  
70 Church Street

First formed as a mission of St. Mark's Church in Prescott, the Brockville parish formed in 1835. The first church was a small wooden structure with a dirt floor. The cornerstone of the current church was laid on July 16, 1856.

This church is an example of Gothic Revival architecture.

8. St. Lawrence Hall | 1832  
20- 24 Church Street

Originally built as a family home, David and Melinda Muir ran Muir's Hotel from 1832-1850. By 1855 it was St. Lawrence Hall and a third storey was added. C. 1910 the hotel became Devonshire Apartments and renamed St. Lawrence Hall in the 1990s .

This building is an example of Second Empire architecture.



**9. Brockville Public Library| 1903**  
**21 George Street**

Starting as the library of the Brockville Mechanics Institute, the current library was built from funds provided by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Renovations and additions occurred in 1996, adding the south wing and moving the front door.

This building has elements of the Beaux- Arts architecture.

## ***Around Court House Green***

**10. Post Office and Customs House| 1883**  
**12 Court House Avenue**

This building was designed by Thomas Fuller, who in 1881 was appointed Dominion chief architect and was influential in defining federal architecture. See Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque *Former Brockville Post Office* for more.

This building uses elements of Flemish, Queen Anne, and Classical architecture.

**11. Alexander Morris House| c. 1835**  
**22 Court House Ave.**

Built first as a residential home, this building has also been a doctors office, and housed a branch of Upper Canada Banks in the 1860s. It was home to the Brockville Club from 1900- 2000.

This house uses elements of Loyalist and Georgian architecture.

**12. Publow Terrace| c. 1895**  
**1-6 Court Terrace**

Architect Eugene Liston designed the row houses after opening an office in Brockville called Liston & Liston. Liston was a founding member of the Ontario Association of Architects.

The terrace is an example of Queen Anne Revival architecture.

**13. First Presbyterian Church| 1879**  
**10 Church Street**

The first regularly held church services in Brockville began c. 1800, before becoming a Presbyterian congregation in 1811. The current church was built in 1879 using four oak logs salvaged from the St. Lawrence River.

This church is an example of Gothic Revival architecture.

**14. District of Johnstown Courthouse and Gaol| 1843**  
**Court House Square**

See the Ontario Heritage Foundation plaque *Johnstown District Courthouse and Gaol* on the Courthouse Green and *Leeds- Grenville County Court House* Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaques on the wall of the courthouse for information.

This building is an example of Neoclassical architecture.

**15. Victoria Common School| 1855-56**  
**32 Wall Street**

This school was built to consolidate Brockville’s scattered, gender segregated classes for elementary students. The school closed in 1973, at the time it was the oldest active school building in Ontario.

This building has elements of Romanesque architecture.

**16. Wall Street United Church| 1830**  
**5 Wall Street**

Methodist services were held in Lyn until a church was built in 1830, followed by six building phases. Heritage Hall is possibly the oldest church structure in its original location in Brockville. The church has been called Wall Street United since 1925.

This church is an example of Gothic Revival architecture.

**17. Bank of Montreal| c.1966**  
**1 Wall Street**

The oldest continually running bank in Brockville, The Bank of Montreal has conducted business from this spot since 1856. This modern structure was built after the original Italianate building (1856) was torn down in 1966.

This building is an example of Modern architecture.

**18. First Baptist Church| 1878**  
**5 Pine Street**

The First Baptist congregation held its first services in the Rock School House in 1844 with baptisms taking place in the St. Lawrence River. A small brick church was erected in 1875 and the current tabernacle was built in 1878- 1879 for \$16,000.00.

This church is an example of Gothic Revival architecture.

## ***North of King St.***

**19. St. Paul’s Anglican Church| c. 1840**  
**12 Pine Street**

First built as the Congregational Chapel, a group from St. Peter’s Anglican Church bought the building in 1886. The building was designed by L.G. Howard under the supervision of Benjamin Chaffey Jr. the same partnership that built the Court House.

This church is an example of Gothic Revival architecture.

**20. St. Lawrence Anglican Church| 1826-1831**  
**80 Pine Street**

The congregation of St. Peter’s first met in the Court House in 1818 before building a church. The adjacent St. Peter’s Cemetery was in use until 1867 when it was turned into a park. The name was changed to St. Lawrence Anglican Church in 2007.

This church is an example of Gothic Revival architecture.

**21. Brockville Collegiate Institute| 1889, 1929**  
**90 Pearl Street East**

The Brockville Collegiate Institute first welcomed students in September 1889. The original building was destroyed by fire on March 8, 1929, but was rebuilt in 1931. An addition was added in the 1980s. Renovations in 2008 restored original features.

This building uses Beaux Arts and Collegiate Gothic architecture.

**22. Fairknowe| c.1847**  
**6 Fairknowe Drive**

Originally built and named by George Crawford, William Quarrier bought the estate for the National Orphan Homes of Scotland in 1888. Children stayed only until placement was found. See the Heritage Brockville Plaque for more information.

This building retains some elements of Georgian architecture.

**23. St. Alban’s (Somerset)| c. 1859**  
**50 Crawford Street**

First known as Somerset, the home of renowned civil engineer Benjamin Chaffey, the property became known as St. Alban's School for Boys in 1901. After the school closed in 1949 it became a private residence as part of St. Alban’s Riding School.

This building is an example of Victorian architecture.

**24. Brockville Mental Health Centre| 1894**  
**1831 Oxford Avenue**

Opened in 1894 as the Eastern Hospital for the Insane, it initially had room for 240 patients. In 1903 a School of Nursing opened and ran until 1971. Part of this complex is now the Brockville Mental Health Centre.

The main building is an example of Queen Anne architecture.

## ***King Street East***

**25. Fulford Home| 1915-1918**  
**280 King Street East**

Designed by architect Hugh C. Jones, Dorothy Hardy fulfilled her father’s wishes by building the Fulford Home for Aged and Indigent Women. Fulford Home closed and merged with Sherwood Manor c. 2000. In 2002 Fulford Academy opened.

This building is an example of Tudor Revival architecture.

**26. Fulford Place| 1899-1901**  
**287 King Street East**

Architect Albert W. Fuller designed the home as a summer residence for the Fulford family. The Ontario Heritage Foundation now runs the house as a museum. See the National Historic Site of Canada plaque for more information.

This building is an example of Beaux-Arts architecture.

**27. Indian Cliff| c.1882**  
**207 King Street East**

Named by Major James Walsh, Walsh and his family lived in this house after his retirement from the North-West Mounted Police. See the Heritage Brockville plaque for more information.

This building is an example of Victorian architecture.

**28. Brockville Armories| 1902**  
**1-9 East Avenue**

Built by the Department of Public Works under the supervision of Thomas Fuller, the armory is home to the Brockville Rifles. The Brockville Rifles can trace their history back to 1796. The armoury is a Recognized Federal Heritage Building.

This building is an example of Romanesque Revival architecture.

**29. St. John's United Church| 1900**  
**70 King Street E.**

In 1835-36 several local families separated from the Presbyterian Church to form a new congregation, building a new church in 1851. After a fire in 1899, the church was rebuilt using the remaining stone walls and reopened in 1900.

This church is an example of Gothic Revival architecture.

**30. Sheridan Building| 1885**  
**40 King Street East**

Built by Robert Sheridan, the main floor operated as his tin-smithing business while he lived above. The tin cornice along the roof line is an original feature.

This building has elements of Italianate architecture.

**31. Victoria Hall| 1862- 64**  
**1 King Street East**

Designed by architect Henry H. Horesy, Victoria Hall was first a concert hall and indoor market house. By the 1880s the building housed city offices and is now City Hall. The rear market hall was occupied by the Brockville Police Department from 1904- 1989.

This building uses Palladian and Italianate architecture.

## ***King Street West***

**32. Toronto Dominion Bank| 1921**  
**48 King Street West**

The Toronto Dominion Bank has had a branch in Brockville since 1890, and were located in this building from c.1922– 2010. The building was refurbished as a boutique hotel named 48 King West in 2019.

This building is an example of Beaux-Arts architecture.

**33. Fulford Block| 1889**  
**2 Court House Avenue**

Built for George Fulford, this building was designed to complement the Post Office. In 1916 a fire gutted much of the building. Instead of rebuilding the original ornate design in stone, a simpler brick construction was used to rebuild the top floor.

This building uses Gothic Revival and Romanesque architecture.

**34. Dunham Block| 1892**  
**47- 51 King Street West**

This George A. Allan building decorated with terracotta has housed some of Brockville’s largest department stores. Stores such as: Robert Wright Co., T. Eaton Co., Canadian Department Stores Ltd., Walker Stores, and Marks and Spencer Co.

This building uses elements of Beaux-Arts architecture.

**35. Fitzimmons Block| c. 1841**  
**73- 77 King Street W.**

First opened as the Round Corner Store in 1841, it became A.G. Dobbie’s Hardware Store in 1907, which operated from this location for over 40 years. The upper levels were used as meeting halls and became known as the Wesley Hall in the 1930s.

This building is an example of Neoclassical architecture.

**36. Island City Mill| 1903**  
**184- 186 King Street W.**

Hidden through an archway on King Street, this grist mill was originally built for Archibald Cameron in 1903. At the time of its construction, it was the first Brockville mill powered by a coal-fired steam engine.

This building is an example of industrial architecture.