



Historical Background

In 1850 this area was largely an undeveloped hillside overlooking a valley of marshy land and ponds across to the steep opposite hillside that was Saint John. A few very wealthy people with commercial interests had built their solitary homes and private roads among the green forest across the hilltops.

Beginning in 1853 with the city's first railway development in the valley Saint John saw a future of travel and transport by steam locomotives. Ordinary businessmen and workers looked to the forested hillsides as a place for their new homes. Twenty years later the Intercolonial Railway staff and workers preferred residences close to their work. By the 1880s these streets are where they built their houses.

Mount Pleasant was Saint John's first suburb away from the noise and dirt of the city. Here business owners and professional men lived side by side and street by street with the employees they needed to run their operations. It was a separate community where the men left in the morning for work and returned home to their families in the evening.

New Brunswick and Canadian Registers of Historic Places

In 2004 the New Brunswick Register of Historic Places was established as an online listing of provincial historic sites and local histories places. Places on the New Brunswick Register are also listed on the Canadian Register of Historic Places, which lists formally recognized historic places throughout Canada.

These registers were established through a federal, provincial, territorial partnership and serve as a tool to identify and promote historic places. Numerous historic places in Saint John are listed on both Registers so that historic landmarks in neighbourhoods and communities can be viewed online.

The New Brunswick Register of Historic Places can be accessed at www.historicplaces.gnb.ca, and the Canadian Register of Historic Places at www.historicplaces.ca

Questions about Historic Property

If you have any questions about your historic property in Saint John, contact the City's Heritage Development staff at 658-2865. The Heritage program operates out of the City's Planning & Development Department and focuses on the stewardship of the built heritage of Saint John.

The City of Saint John is a participant in the Province of New Brunswick's Historic Places Program, funded through the Historic Places Initiative (HPI). New Brunswick gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the Government of Canada in supporting its participation in HPI.



MOUNT PLEASANT AREA *Walking Tour* OF HISTORIC PLACES



Canada's
Historic Places

Lieux patrimoniaux
du Canada



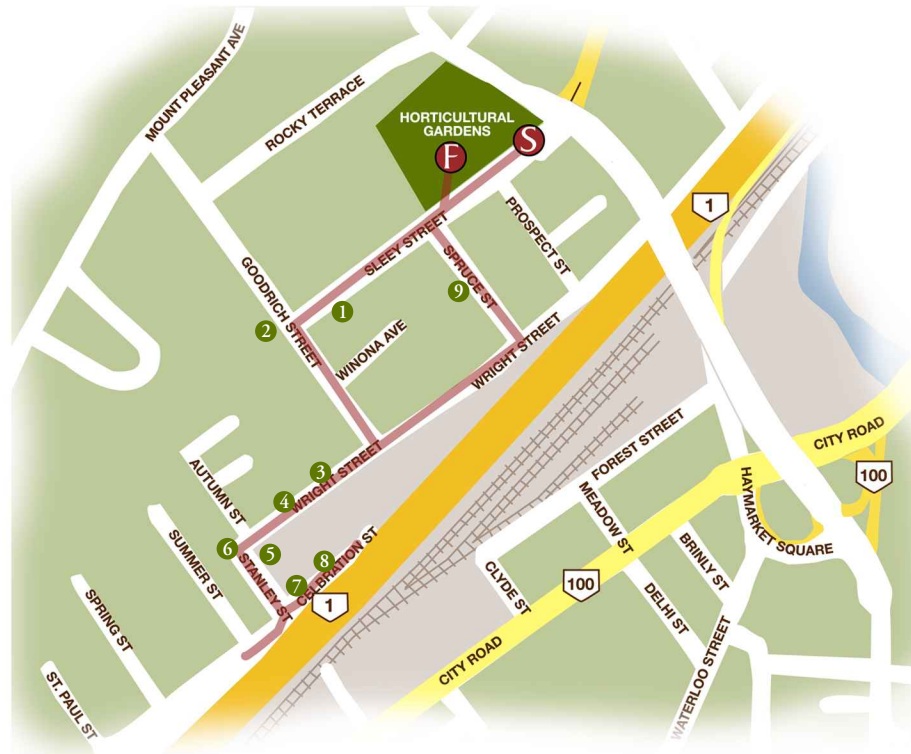
SAINT JOHN



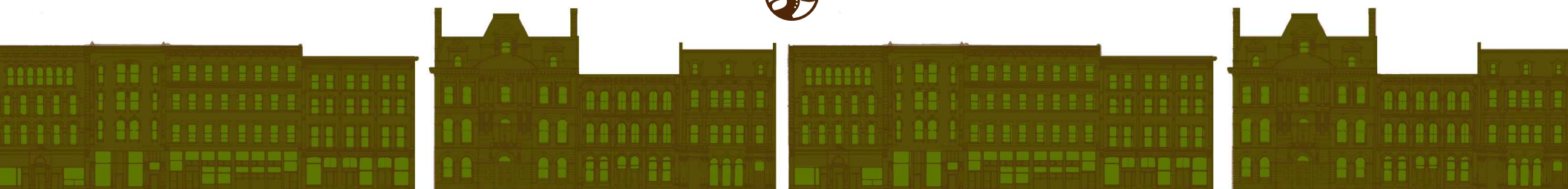
SOME HISTORIC HOUSES ON THIS WALK



- 1 17 Seely Street, residence of Edward Goodwin, owner of Goodwin & Co. grocers, famous as the first importer of fresh fruit to Saint John, the Maritimes and Quebec. Craftsman style (stick variation) c. 1910
- 2 39 Goodrich Street, built for E.D. Outram, wholesale liquor dealer and insurance agent. Wood Gothic Revival, c. 1893
- 3 44 - 46 Wright Street, residences first of John Bell, line checker for the Intercolonial Railway and Thomas Bell, manager of W.H. Thorne & Co. Classical Revival style, c. 1880
- 4 38 Wright Street, residence of Enoch Piper, pioneer inventor of a patented refrigerator for freezing salmon that he shipped to American customers. Italianate style, c. 1880
- 5 93 Stanley Street, a modest wood shingle home whose earliest known resident was a baker, Milton Whitfield McDonah. This long narrow building was inspired by Italianate design. c. 1885



- 6 110 Stanley Street built for Thomas Barclay Robinson, a lawyer and Secretary-Treasurer of the European & North American Railway, the first in Saint John. Gothic Revival style, 1873
- 7 73 Stanley Street, Robert Patcell's Store, built for Robert Patcell, is still used as a commercial/residential building with the store on the ground level and a story and a half residence above. It has been important to Mount Pleasant residents since it opened. Greek Revival style, c. 1879.
- 8 21-23 Celebration Street, built for James D. McKay, engine driver for the Intercolonial Railway. Colonial Revival style, c. 1876
- 9 13 Spruce Street, built for Charles S. Christie, president of Christie Woodworking, a family business. American Four Square style, built during the craftsman era 1924.



Historical Background

The Old North End began with the 1762 trading post of the three colonial men from the Boston area, Simonds, Hazen and White. The back of their trading post was at the end of the ancient portage trail used by the first nations tribes — Maliseets, Micmacs, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot — as they moved from the St. John River, bypassing the dangerous tidal rapids, to the Bay of Fundy.

That portage trail began in what became known as Indiantown, based around a house for fur trade built for the first nations' chiefs as part of the 1776 treaty with the British. Portland Point traders then travelled to Indian House to buy furs.

Over the next 100 years the path grew into a road and straightened to a street as the steepest hills were carved away to accommodate horse and cart traffic. The road from east to west became Main Street linking the commercial centre of Saint John with Portland's businesses, churches and homes, its mills and its river traffic.

Old North End began where Douglas Avenue meets Main Street at the top of the hill. It slopes steeply down to Bridge Street by the river. Residents recognized Indiantown as beginning at the wooden block steps on the hill and ending at the water.

From spring to late fall regular steamer traffic left from Indiantown wharves to travel to communities upriver. Wood, coal, hay, freight and passenger business kept river boats busy at Indiantown for half the year. The area's mills employed 500 - 600 men.

Homes in this area are more modest, most built late in the 19th century. The terrible fire of 1864 destroyed 95 houses. Other fires in 1868, 1874, 1875 and 1877 took whole blocks of buildings. The worst was the 1877 fire that turned street after street to ashes as it spread from its Main Street origin. Most North End residents could not afford to rebuild in brick or stone, but many of their wood houses are still standing a hundred years later. Even the more prosperous residents on Douglas Avenue chose wood over stone in the 1880s. Many of these beautiful homes are still cared for today.

New Brunswick and Canadian Registers of Historic Places

In 2004 the New Brunswick Register of Historic Places was established as an online listing of provincial historic sites and local histories places. Places on the New Brunswick Register are also listed on the Canadian Register of Historic Places, which lists formally recognized historic places throughout Canada.

These registers were established through a federal, provincial, territorial partnership and serve as a tool to identify and promote historic places. Numerous historic places in Saint John are listed on both Registers so that historic landmarks in neighbourhoods and communities can be viewed online.

The New Brunswick Register of Historic Places can be accessed at www.historicplaces.gnb.ca, and the Canadian Register of Historic Places at www.historicplaces.ca

Questions about Historic Property

If you have any questions about your historic property in Saint John, contact the City's Heritage Development staff at 658-2865. The Heritage program operates out of the City's Planning & Development Department and focuses on the stewardship of the built heritage of Saint John.

The City of Saint John is a participant in the Province of New Brunswick's Historic Places Program, funded through the Historic Places Initiative (HPI). New Brunswick gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the Government of Canada in supporting its participation in HPI.



Canada's
Historic Places

Lieux patrimoniaux
du Canada



SAINT JOHN



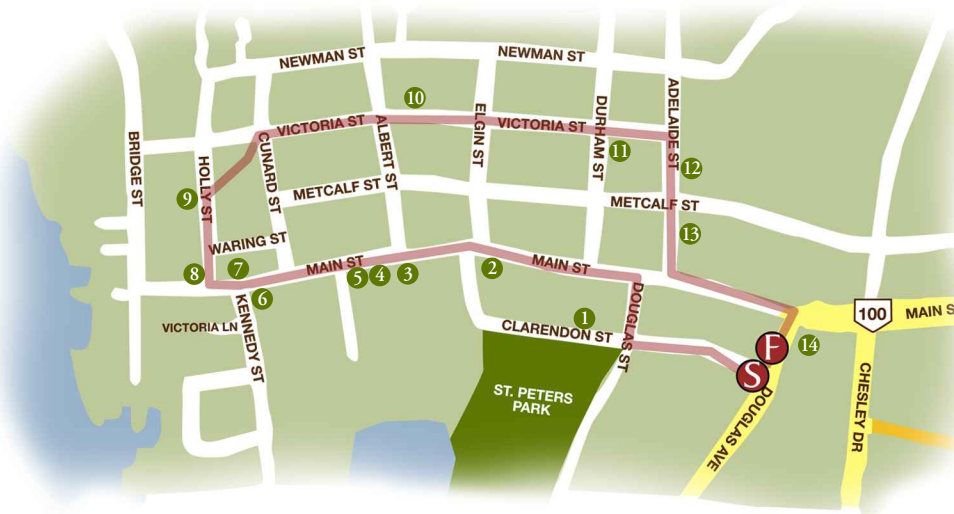
OLD NORTH END Walking Tour OF HISTORIC PLACES



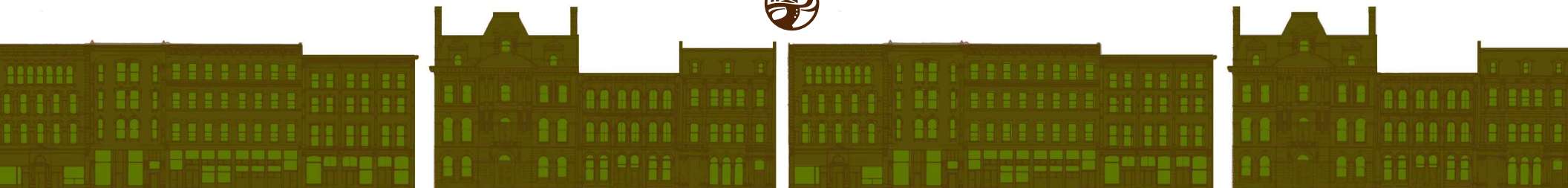
SOME HISTORIC HOUSES ON THIS WALK



- 1 42 Clarendon Street, Nuns residence, St. Peter's Church, Second Empire style, c. 1870
- 2 168 Main Street, Italianate style, c. 1890
- 3 120 Main Street, Carpenter Gothic, c. 1850
- 4 90 Main Street, Queen Anne style, c. 1895
- 5 80 Main Street, Queen Anne style, c. 1895
- 6 68 Main Street, Ferris Hotel, now Ferris apartments, c. 1910 [no photo]
- 7 27 - 29 Waring Street on high rock cliff viewed from Kennedy Street, Craftsman style c. 1910



- 8 41 Main Street at Holly, streetscape of commercial buildings, Queen Anne style, c. 1895
- 9 45 Holly Street, Tapley Manor, Queen Anne style, 1899
- 10 119 - 121 Victoria Street, hydrastone, Craftsman style, 1916
- 11 72-74 Durham Street, Carpenter Gothic
- 12 72 Adelaide Street, Dykeman's Hardware, Queen Anne style, 1908
- 13 40 Adelaide Street, Craftsman style, c. 1915
- 14 2-4 Douglas Avenue, DeBury residence, Second Empire style, 1878 [no photo]



Historical Background

Loyalist Paul Bedell arrived with the Spring Fleet of refugee ships in 1783. He laid out the streets of the Parr-town peninsula to Lower Cove with military precision. Boatloads of refugee loyalists continued to arrive through the summer and fall of 1783. By winter some 14,000 weary people were crowded into shanties and tents beside the harbour.

Lots were drawn and land given out, sometimes the same plot subdivided many times over as more ships arrived with refugees. Properties on the King Street hill rising up from the harbour were reserved for former military commanders and powerful loyalist families.

By 1824 in spite of Bedell's map of organized streets stretching across the peninsula, Charlotte Street was the recognized edge of town. Beyond it towards Courtney Bay were a few houses and pasture fields. Cattle had to be restricted from wandering the streets. The map's military grid did not match the rocky topography. Surveyors and builders battled that rock to define lots and construct roads and buildings for the new community, Saint John.

As life became more stable, waves of immigrants swelled the population. 1867 brought the most new residents, over 16,000 desperate to escape the famine and poverty of Ireland and Scotland. Saint John in 1871 was the fourth largest city in British North America. By 1874 more than 150 buildings were under construction between Saint John and Portland. Land toward Lower Cove and Courtney Bay remained unsettled.

Then the Great Fire of 1877 wiped out two thirds of the built city centre in one wild windy June day. A year later of the 2,311 buildings completed in Saint John fewer than half were houses.

Mecklenburg Street's elegant homes were built during a burst of extravagant design as the 19th century ended. It was the early 20th century, usually after 1910, before the South End finally found its residents. Below the hills, on streets that run across the flats to Lower Cove, the houses become plain and sturdy. Some are brick and stone but most are wood, built on small narrow lots to fit the income of working families.

New Brunswick and Canadian Registers of Historic Places

In 2004 the New Brunswick Register of Historic Places was established as an online listing of provincial historic sites and local histories places. Places on the New Brunswick Register are also listed on the Canadian Register of Historic Places, which lists formally recognized historic places throughout Canada.

These registers were established through a federal, provincial, territorial partnership and serve as a tool to identify and promote historic places. Numerous historic places in Saint John are listed on both Registers so that historic landmarks in neighbourhoods and communities can be viewed online.

The New Brunswick Register of Historic Places can be accessed at www.historicplaces.gnb.ca, and the Canadian Register of Historic Places at www.historicplaces.ca

Questions about Historic Property

If you have any questions about your historic property in Saint John, contact the City's Heritage Development staff at 658-2865. The Heritage program operates out of the City's Planning & Development Department and focuses on the stewardship of the built heritage of Saint John.

The City of Saint John is a participant in the Province of New Brunswick's Historic Places Program, funded through the Historic Places Initiative (HPI). New Brunswick gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the Government of Canada in supporting its participation in HPI.



Canada's
Historic Places

Lieux patrimoniaux
du Canada



SAINT JOHN



SOUTH END Walking Tour OF HISTORIC PLACES



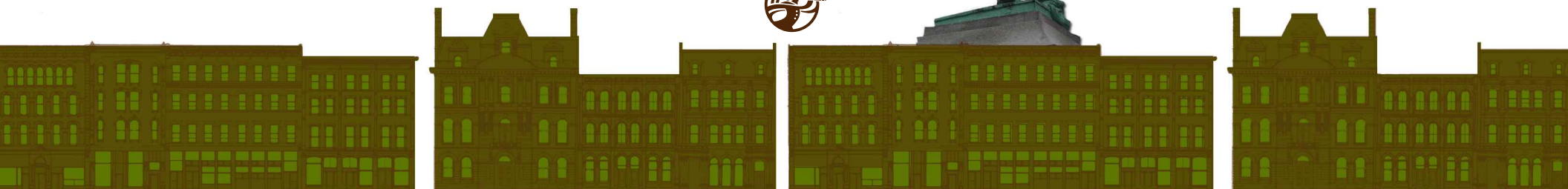
SOME HISTORIC HOUSES ON THIS WALK



- 1 58 Broad Street, St. John-the-Baptist Roman Catholic Church, Gothic Revival, 1885 [no photo]
- 2 140 Broad Street, home built for John B. Jones, journalist for Saint John Globe, 1900 [no photo]
- 3 149 Broad Street, Courtney House built as a retirement home for elderly ladies, now abandoned. 1878
- 4 232, 252, 254 Britain Street, three examples of Italianate houses with Craftsman detailing c. 1915
- 5 231 Britain Street, Turnbull Nursing Home, Second Empire, 1882
- 6 209 Queen Street, may have been built directly from plans and materials purchased from the Sears Roebuck catalogue, Queen Anne style, c.1900



- 7 28 Mecklenburg Street, Second Empire, 1884
- 8 14-12-10 Mecklenburg Street, a trio of homes known as Merchants Hall. Queen Anne style c. 1895
- 9 134 Sydney Street, Caverhill Hall (also known as Simeon Jones Castle), Baronial Gothic, 1884 [no photo]
- 10 2 Mecklenburg Street, Thompson House built for prominent shipowner, terra cotta decoration, Queen Anne, c. 1895
- 11 North side of Queen Square is an intact streetscape build after the Great Fire of 1877, Second Empire and Italianate, 1878
- 12 274 Sydney Street, Ordinance Store built by the Royal Engineers in 1841, Greek Revival style. New addition added and roof changed to mansard in 1911 when Barrack Green Armoury was built.



Historical Background

In 1850 the Lower West Side was the community known as Carleton, directly across the harbour from the City of Saint John. Its many industries and businesses began at the waterfront where shipbuilding and repairs was based. Vessels carrying cargo and immigrants from overseas docked beside fishing boats in a tangle of wharves.

Ferryman did a good business transporting passengers, cargo and animals between Carleton and Saint John. There was no other easy access across the harbour where the powerful St. John River met the sea. Two attempts to build a bridge across the St. John River at its narrowest point had ended in disaster. It would be 1853 before a new design, a suspension bridge by an American engineer Edward Serrell was successful in joining the two communities.

This busy, haphazard, industrious community was happy with its place although it never was a town except in the minds of its residents. That changed beginning in the 1890s when the National Harbours Board declared Canada's official winter port would be Saint John. Over the next 40 years the port continued to expand and improve its west side operations so that it could dock the world's largest ships, and download cargo and grain. Rail lines replaced roads, The entire waterfront was closed and became a secure site in Canada's winter port.

All the buildings, businesses and homes in the flood plain area beside the harbour were destroyed or moved. What had been the heart of the thriving west side community was gone forever. Businesses, factories, shops, homes and the people never returned. Carleton amalgamated with Saint John and became known as the Lower West Side.

New Brunswick and Canadian Registers of Historic Places

In 2004 the New Brunswick Register of Historic Places was established as an online listing of provincial historic sites and local histories places. Places on the New Brunswick Register are also listed on the Canadian Register of Historic Places, which lists formally recognized historic places throughout Canada.

These registers were established through a federal, provincial, territorial partnership and serve as a tool to identify and promote historic places. Numerous historic places in Saint John are listed on both Registers so that historic landmarks in neighbourhoods and communities can be viewed online.

The New Brunswick Register of Historic Places can be accessed at www.historicplaces.gnb.ca, and the Canadian Register of Historic Places at www.historicplaces.ca

Questions about Historic Property

If you have any questions about your historic property in Saint John, contact the City's Heritage Development staff at 658-2865. The Heritage program operates out of the City's Planning & Development Department and focuses on the stewardship of the built heritage of Saint John.

The City of Saint John is a participant in the Province of New Brunswick's Historic Places Program, funded through the Historic Places Initiative (HPI). New Brunswick gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the Government of Canada in supporting its participation in HPI.



Canada's
Historic Places

Lieux patrimoniaux
du Canada



SAINT JOHN



LOWER WEST SIDE Walking Tour OF HISTORIC PLACES



SOME HISTORIC HOUSES ON THIS WALK



- 1 **Carleton Public Hall**, Market Place West built in 1863, burnt in the fire of 1925 and rebuilt with only two stories. Now used as a community centre. Originally it held the west-side waterworks, a health department, police station, and an auditorium-theatre on the third floor. Oldest public building in continuous use owned by the City of Saint John.
- 2 **105 Duke Street West**, Brittain home, clapboard, Dutch Colonial style, Gambrel roof, 1899
- 3 **138 Duke Street West**, built for the Parsons family on land that was formerly part of the Sewell property (site of early carriage house), Classical Revival style, 1888
- 4 **148 Duke Street West**, corner of Ludlow Street, Sewell house, built for Jonathan Sewell, believed to be the oldest wood building in Saint John. Georgian style, c.1785 - 1791
- 5 **285 King Street West**, C. A. Hamm Grocery store, Second Empire style with Mansard roof, c. 1880
- 6 **287 King Street West**, Clark House built for John S. Clark (co-owned with his sons), operated one of the largest sawmills in Carleton. Sons had grocery store and bakery businesses, Carpenter Gothic Revival style, 1850



- 7a **291 King Street West**, Waring house, Queen Anne style, c. 1914
- 7b **293 King Street West**, built for Ernest J. Waring, part of the industrialist Waring family who took over the Allan Foundry (1906) and renamed it the Union Foundry & Machine Works to produce metalwork for local shipping and railways. Colonial Revival style, 1906 [no photo]
- 8a **100 Watson Street**, St. George's Anglican Church built in Georgian style, 1820, tower added in 1890 and the hall in 1921. [no photo]
- 8b **152 Watson Street**, the Peters' house built for Dr. Martin Hunter Peters who performed the first operation in Canada with an anesthetic, 1847. Richly ornamented Carpenter Gothic style, c.1840
- 9 **270 Charlotte Street**, Masonic Hall, one of the oldest continually used in Canada, built in 1869 [no photo]
- 10 **244 Charlotte Street West**, Clark House one of three built side by side, Carpenter Gothic, c. 1850
- 11 **162 Charlotte Street West**, Baptist Church, now an apartment complex, c. 1900 [no photo]
- 12 **Post War Veterans housing** on former mill pond site, built from 1946 - 1953 [no photo]

