



Illustrative Guide to Heritage Sites in the City of North Bay

**PREPARED BY THE
MUNICIPAL HERITAGE COMMITTEE
2018 UPDATE**

Previous Editions 2017, 2015, 2012, 2006 and 2003



INTRODUCTION

The North Bay Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) was formed to advise City Council on the identification of heritage buildings under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The North Bay LACAC was established in 1996 consisting of a Council-appointed body of local architects, historians, citizens and community representatives. The main objective of the LACAC was to identify and evaluate local heritage buildings and sites with the aim of recognizing buildings and/or sites within the community which have architectural and/or historical significance.

In November of 2003, the provincial government decreed that henceforward these bodies would be identified as Municipal Heritage Committees, consequently, as of the reconstitution of the North Bay body in 2004, it was renamed the North Bay Municipal Heritage Committee.

As of April 2005, the provincial government passed new legislation strengthening the authority of municipalities in their efforts to identify, protect, and promote the heritage of our communities. Further, clarification was made that heritage properties include buildings, streetscapes, districts and landscapes.

Additionally, the Ministry of Culture expanded the mandate of these bodies to include the identification of properties of heritage value in a broader historic context that would include newer properties worthy of recognition as part of our legacy for future generations.

In principle, the definition of heritage as that which is worthy of inheritance, is of guidance in the determination of the goals, objectives and actions of the Municipal Heritage Committee. Inherent in this program is the aim of educating the public as to the worth and value of those sites and structures that deserve to be conserved and preserved, to develop a communal spirit of self-respect, and to instill a pride of residency in the City of North Bay.

The North Bay Municipal Heritage Committee has implemented two programs to evaluate and recognize properties with heritage characteristics. The Site Evaluation program, sometimes referred to as the Glass Plaque program, has been at the core of the Committee's activities for many years. Under this program, Committee volunteers attend a property and conduct an evaluation, scoring the site on characteristics such as architecture and history.

The score sheet used by the Committee to score properties is unique to the North Bay Municipal Heritage Committee. It was developed based on similar score sheets used by heritage committees throughout the province and has been modified slightly



based on local circumstances. There are two versions of the score sheet: the standard score sheet to be used when properties have a building and a score sheet for properties without buildings that removes any grades for architectural features and accentuates history and context.

The Appendix, beginning on Page 73, outlines the procedures followed by the North Bay Municipal Heritage Committee in identifying and recognizing heritage properties or sites under the headings of Property Evaluation System, the Evaluation Process and Priority Rankings.

The Heritage Site Plaque program is the newer program, established in 2010. The purpose of this program is to identify and recognize sites that are historically significant to the community but have undergone considerable changes. In many cases, the building described in the Heritage Site Plaque is no longer present.

The following provides a representative list of properties in the City of North Bay that have been identified by the Municipal Heritage Committee and approved by City Council.



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A SITE LOCATION MAP ON PAGE 7 IDENTIFIES THE POSITIONS OF THESE PROPERTIES ON A POSSIBLE WALKING TOUR OF THE CITY CORE AREA.



**Old Post Office
Heritage Site Plaque**



Recognized Heritage Sites



**Site 1: Former Canadian National Railway Station****Location:** 198 Second Avenue West**Date Originally Built:** 1915**Present Use:** Crisis Centre North Bay**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

The eventual origin of the CNR Station began when the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway (T&NO) extended their line from North Bay to New Liskeard, thus serving the forestry, mining and agricultural resources of the northeastern area of the province. This project was completed in 1905. In 1911, the Grand Trunk Railway (GT) extended from Callander to North Bay with running rights negotiated over the T&NO all the way to Cochrane.

Several new lines by then had expressed their intention to establish continental lines in competition with the CPR. Among these was the Canadian Northern System (CNO), which decided in 1914 to erect the existing station on their line through North Bay, then serving the CNO, GT, and the T&NO. With the ultimate extension of the T&NO to Moosonee, this completed the crossroads of North-South and East-West rail services from "coast to coast to coast", geographically centered in North Bay.

George Briggs, CNO eastern architect, designed the structure which still stands on its original site. The building has key stoned round-headed arches over the windows and doors with a slightly bell-hipped low roof line. The westerly façade featured a triangular pediment carrying the CNO logo, and an adjacent large portico offered protection from the elements to passengers arriving and departing by automobile. Separate entrances once accessed male and female waiting rooms, as was the practice of the day. Construction is of red brick on a concrete foundation finished in a simulated stone pattern, with a pedestrian tunnel linking Second and



Third Avenues for the convenience of residents on the trackside of the station to access the downtown area of the city.

Thereafter, the North Bay building became the CNR Station. In 1946, the provincially owned T&NO became the Ontario Northland Railway, then also being serviced by this building through a shunt on the CN Line from "the diamond" at the crossing of the two lines southeast of the city.

Via Rail assumed control of the building in 1986. Shortly thereafter, in 1990, the federal government cancelled all passenger services through North Bay, except for the ONR. In 1994, the ONR built the relocated new rail and bus terminal on Station Road. Since then, the original station has been unused, and subject to vandalism resulting in significant damage to the structure.

A local community group acquired the surrounding lands from the CNR in 1998. In 2003, this group also bought the station from the CNR. Meanwhile, the city designated the property as a heritage site, with the accompanying requirement that the building be restored to its original form. The completed restoration has ensured the preservation and conservation of this commendable component of the North Bay's heritage. The station stands at the easterly end of Fraser Street, establishing a commanding view of the structure from the downtown area. The restoration has maintained the station's status as a monument celebrating the history of North Bay as truly the "Gateway of the North."





Site 2: Former Normal School/Teachers' College

Location: 200 First Avenue West

Date Originally Built: 1909

Present Use: Government Offices

Evaluation Score: Priority One

Originally named the North Bay Normal School, this institution opened in 1909 with an enrolment of 25 students. A.C. Casselman was the first principal, presiding in this post until 1930. In 1953, the name was changed to the Teachers' College. The graduates of this school have served on boards of this district and many other regions of the province.

This was one of nine identical structures built at the same time by the Government of Ontario in regional centres throughout the province. This design is exemplary of the architectural influence of the Edwardian style. The observatory-like dome, the elaborate cornices and the formal entrance are three main characteristics of each of the sibling buildings.

In the 1990s, the Ministry of Correctional Services surrounded the old structure on three sides with a new building and associated elements of very dramatic contrast to the historic style of the original freestanding building. Some relief to this engulfment occurs through the reflection of the original façade in the glass of the southerly facing wall of the northwest wing of the new building.

There is a very commodious atrium, reached immediately on entering through the main lobby, which provides skylight to the space separating the new structure from the exposed former exterior walls of the original building. Pedestrian bridges through the space provide access to all floors from new to old office accommodations.



Site 3: Dr. Carruthers Public School

Location: 380 McPhail Street

Date Originally Built: 1922

Present Use: Apartment Building

Evaluation Score: Priority One

Dr. Carruthers Public School first opened in January of 1922. It was named in honour of Dr. J.B. Carruthers, one of the city's pioneer medical doctors. He was an avid musician and during his spare time he visited the local schools to teach the students music. Unfortunately, he passed away before the school on McPhail Street was constructed.

Mary Collins was the first principal of Dr. Carruthers, where she remained until 1934. The school was constructed in four different stages between 1921 and 1963. The first three sections were completed by 1928. The newer addition at the south end of the school, built in 1963, was the fourth and last section to be constructed. It consisted of four classrooms, a pair of washrooms, and a gymnasium with a stage.

The exterior of the original three brick sections of the school have significant architectural features such as a continuous cornice, a varied parapet, and a triangular pediment canopy suspended above the front entrance. While it was still functioning as a school, the interior of the building remained in good condition and featured several original details including high ceilings, hardwood floors in hallways and classrooms, raised panel doors with wide wood trim and transom windows, and narrow cloakrooms connected to the classrooms.

The school closed in 2002 and was subsequently transformed into an apartment building. Many of the original interior features were lost during this transformation and renovation. However, the exterior of the building retains its school character. Dr. Carruthers Public School had a rich history and strong family ties as it served a local neighbourhood for over 75 years.

**Site 4: Former Canadian Pacific Railway Station****Location:** 100 Ferguson Street**Date Originally Built:** 1903**Present Use:** North Bay Area Museum (Discovery North Bay)**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

Entry of British Columbia into Confederation in 1871 led to the establishment of the CPR as the initial continental railway linking the country's east and west coasts, completed in 1885. In 1881 the railway located their divisional services and regional headquarters on the shore of Lake Nipissing, where the City of North Bay subsequently sprang up. The first CPR station became the centerpiece of the new community, with McIntyre and Worthington Streets named after prominent officials of the CPR at that time.

The present building, a successor of two simpler structures, was constructed in 1903. It was one of a string of admirable buildings erected in the railway's Ottawa Valley corridor. The stone masonry was hauled from Arnprior for the main wall facings, which is of a variegated light beige colour. The corner and intermittent piers and window surrounds are of a uniform darker brown tone. The former is of split-faced finish, laid in a random-coursed pattern. The latter is of flat-faced finish, laid in a level course pattern.

Initially the building was a 4x2 window bay, 2-storey element with a one storey wing protruding to the southeast. In the 1940s the 2-storey structure was extended, producing the 7x2 window bay configuration now in place, with a single hipped roof completing the unified form. Most openings at ground floor level are of the Romanesque round-head arched style. A wide bracketed canopy projects on all sides at the second floor level, offering protection from the weather to passengers, their luggage, and accompanying freight.

Prize-winning gardens provided a park-like setting for the new building, and a large staging yard grew toward the lakeshore, with many service structures occupying a major portion of the site.

Over time many operational changes came about, including the conversion to diesel from steam locomotion, which prompted the relocation of all CPR regional services to Sudbury in 1960.



Eventually, all the yard tracks and service buildings, including a stone roundhouse, were removed. All CPR operations were abandoned and the station closed, with only a single line now remaining active under the control of the Ottawa Valley Railroad.

The City of North Bay purchased the portion of the unused rail lands occupied by the station from the CPR in 2001. Plans had re-surfaced to develop most of the property as a waterfront park linking the downtown area to the previously landscaped shoreline off Memorial Drive. The CPR Station would remain the focal point of the city at the westerly end of Ferguson Street. After federal designation of the former station as a heritage structure, restoration of the building was undertaken to house the North Bay and Area Museum and a Discovery Centre. Fittingly, this evolution has preserved and conserved the station, which effectively commemorates the birth place of the City of North Bay.





Site 5: Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption

Location: 480 McIntyre Street West

Date Originally Built: 1904

Present Use: As above

Evaluation Score: Priority One

The steeple of this white limestone church acts as a virtual beacon in the municipal landscape, making the Pro-Cathedral one of the most recognized buildings in the city. Because of the height of the projecting tower, and the open space of the church interior, buttressing of the walls was needed for structural stability.

The Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption was designed by Harry Angus of Thompson and Angus Architects. This project is one of many that Angus contributed to the early architectural heritage of North Bay.

The cornerstone of the church was laid on June 19, 1904. The foundation is North Bay granite and the existing superstructure is built of white limestone quarried in Longford, which was transported to North Bay via the CPR. In 1911, the rectory (located on McIntyre Street West) was built, respectfully using the same material and architectural forms as those of the church, thus blending the two structures into one form. This addition became known as “The Bishop’s Palace.”

The Cathedral occupies a dominant site fronting on the diagonal intersection of McIntyre Street and Algonquin Avenue, which achieves a generous open spatial relationship in proper scale with the height of the steeple.

The recent restoration of the streetscape surrounding the church, including Richardson’s Fountain, helped to reclaim the historical appearance of this landmark area of the city. As well as acting as a great showcase for the church, the divided roadway and new landscaping create a smooth transition and entry into the downtown core.



Site 6: Former North Bay Collegiate Institute & Vocational School

Location: 555 Algonquin Avenue

Date Originally Built: 1930

Present Use: Ecole Secondaire Catholique Algonquin

Evaluation Score: Priority One

The original building was constructed in 1930 and housed the first public secondary school in North Bay. The North Bay Vocational School eventually became the North Bay Collegiate Institute & Vocational School.

The structure is complemented with a projecting frontispiece incorporating a strong recessed entrance with heavy oak doors. A secondary entrance has the motto "Learn to Live" inscribed in stone above the door. This building has gone through many changes including three separate additions to the original construction. The dominant new entry addition at the southeast corner of the property exhibits admirable sensitivity in relating its height and brickwork to the older structure. In addition, the older stonework is reflected in the new reinforced concrete structural elements. Overall, this new addition, with its successful sculptural form, is fully compatible with the collegiate style of the original structure. This new component was designed by Critchley, Delean, et al, Architects, of North Bay.

Since inception, this school has been a co-educational facility. For many years it served the English-speaking Protestant community of North Bay and the surrounding region. Until well after the conclusion of World War Two, it was the sole public secondary school in the area. During that period Scollard Hall and St. Joseph's Mother House served the educational needs for male and female Catholic students, respectively.

This institution now serves the French-speaking Catholic population of the area, and is owned and operated by the Conseil Scolaire Catholique Franco-Nord. When this change of operation occurred, the functions and any retained records of the former NBCI & VS were transferred to the then new West.



Site 7: Senator Gordon Residence

Location: 591 Copeland Street

Date Originally Built: 1911

Present Use: Private Residence

Evaluation Score: Priority One

Characteristic of early 20th century Edwardian architecture, this house, built in 1911, with twin gables, a two storey bay window, a hip roof with front and centre dormer, and with subtle modifications of the otherwise symmetrical design, creates interest without loss of balance. Originally, a porch protruded on the eastern side, together with a wrap-around westerly extension of the front porch, both of which were embellished with handsome wood balustrades at the ground and second floor levels.

Former residence of the late Senator Gordon, who sat from 1912 to 1942 as North Bay's only Senator, the home is located within one of the oldest and most prestigious residential areas in North Bay. Considered to be a treasured architectural landmark, the home was designed by the resident North Bay architect, Harry W. Angus.



**Site 8: Former Ontario Northland Railway Offices****Location:** 195 Regina Street**Date Originally Built:** 1908**Present Use:** Ontario Northland Telecommunications Offices**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

Derived from the Edwardian Style, the hipped roof, the projected entry, side gables, and the boxed cornice at the eaves are unified by the symmetrical design of all facades and the classical entrance, which incorporates rounded pilasters supporting a protruding arch over the front door. The white limestone of the exterior walls was quarried in Kingston, Ontario, relating this structure to others in the city, such as the Pro-Cathedral.

Constructed in 1908, the original Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway building symbolized the economic importance of the T&NO within the community of North Bay and the emergence of the railway in northern Ontario. Today, the building stands as a reminder of the integral role that the railway had in establishing North Bay as a major transportation centre. It is particularly noteworthy that this building's historic integrity has been so well maintained and preserved for over a full century.

An addition at the southeast end was constructed in 1921, and subsequently removed in 1987. Restitution of that elevation was then sensitively achieved in a manner compatible with the original structure, without disrupting the integrity of the original design. The ONR constructed new office headquarters nearby, when this building was converted to a telecommunications centre.



Site 9: Former Mulligan Block

Location: 123 Main Street West

Date Originally Built: 1915-1920

Present Use: Private Parking Lot

Evaluation Score: Priority One

This building, constructed in 1915-1920, was similar to many of the original downtown properties developed in the era of WWI. Typically, they housed a variety of commercial enterprises on the main street floor, with second and third floors occupied by business and/or warehousing uses. Subsequently, many were converted to residential accommodations as the demand for such space arose. As was common in most Ontario towns that developed in this period, this building was complemented with a bracketed cornice at roof level. The sophisticated signage on the matched awnings of the two shops at ground level contributed an aura of quality to the streetscape of the downtown area in its time.

Originally owned by early North Bay merchant Bernard M. Mulligan as of 1921, this structure has housed offices and retail stores including the quality wool goods shop of the Mulligan family, until it was destroyed by fire in 2002. Unfortunately, the city was then deprived of a significant component of the early downtown core, which was also of historic value as a true representative of the style of early 20th century commercial development in this province.



Site 10: Coleman Residence

Location: 607 Jane Street

Date Originally Built: 1910-11

Present Use: Private Residence

Evaluation Score: Priority One

This well-preserved private home is located in an older, prestigious residential neighbourhood, directly across the street from the former North Bay Collegiate Institute and Vocational School (now École Secondaire Catholique Algonquin). The house was originally constructed in 1910-11 by Charles Coleman, of Coleman and Prest, local coal dealers. Mrs. Coleman was a daughter of William Milne Sr. and brother to Colonel William Milne, all of the Milne Lumber Company.

Despite not being designed in any particular classical historical style, this house remains rich in detail, typified by the diamond shaped upper panes of the restored windows. Furthermore, admirable forms and finishes are continuous on all four facades, thereby increasing the building's quality from all angles. A generous rear porch is an integral component of this design, affording both visual and physical access to the beautiful landscaped gardens of this property.

Internally, upgrading of the facilities and sensitive modifications of the various rooms have been carried out with resulting enhancement of the quality and character of the original residence.

This home maintains a refreshingly youthful character, despite being over one hundred years old. It is well deserving of continued good maintenance and conservation, which it has received throughout its lengthy lifetime.



Site 11: Browning Residence

Location: 590 McIntyre Street West

Date Originally Built: 1902

Present Use: Private Residence

Evaluation Score: Priority One

Constructed in 1902, this is one of the oldest houses still existing in North Bay. It was originally occupied by Crown Prosecutor A.G. Browning and his family. Set on a large corner lot at Murray Street, among mature trees, this building achieves significant status in a community of houses that are of similar quality.

A long low white stone wall with gate opening marks the property line fronting on McIntyre Street, accompanied by a handsome black wrought iron fence on Murray Street. The stone foundation of the red brick residence matches the street wall, thereby establishing a successful marriage of building and site.

A strong symmetry of the main façade was originally developed in a 3 bay roofed front porch at ground floor level leading to the main entry, above which is a second floor bay window whose structure extends through the main roof eave to form a unique mini-balcony centered on a third floor windowed gable. This symmetry is offset by a three storey gabled wing on one side, and the wrap-around porch terminating at a corner bay on the Murray Street side.

In the well landscaped rear garden, a pentagonal roofed wood porch originally projected into the centre of this elegant open space.



Site 12: Angus Residence

Location: 839 Main Street West

Date Originally Built: 1913-1920

Present Use: Private Residence

Evaluation Score: Priority One

The Angus home is clearly making its own statement, as compared to the typical Edwardian style that was being incorporated in most of the other heritage residential properties seen in North Bay. Clay tile was first used and then stuccoed over when the house was constructed, during the period of WWI, i.e. 1913-1920. The large square massing of the home is enhanced by the building materials and light stucco colour. The strong sense of shelter is most appropriate in this regional geography and climate.

Modeling of the home has been extended from the front to the other elevations in a three-dimensional form that makes a strong sculptural declaration in this design.

The private residence was designed by the local architect Harry W. Angus as his personal home. Set along Main Street West, three more homes similar in design and materials are located nearby, offering a sense of community to the area. It is believed that Angus built these other homes for his children. Upon the sudden death of Angus in 1929, his wife had the home renovated into apartments. A fire in 2009 damaged a second floor apartment.

**Site 13:** Angus Family Residence**Location:** 847 Main Street West**Date Originally Built:** 1913-1920**Present Use:** Private Residence**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

This home has a mutually flattering character shared with several other houses in the neighbourhood. The key design features include the original double square columns with a small relieving arch in the centre and the high pitched gable roof. It was constructed during the period of 1913-1920.

This house and both of the immediate neighbouring houses on either side were all designed by H. Angus, a local architect, for members of his family. These three buildings exhibit a sibling relationship that reflects the kinship of their original owners. Their unique style is shared in the use of ceramic tiles and a stucco exterior that covers all sides of the home. This similarity is a major strength in fulfillment of the design where form and materials remain consistent on all sides of the building. The upper floors and dormers were later covered with cedar shakes and then recovered in the 1940s with asbestos shingles.

It was the childhood home of Ontario's 22nd Premier, Michael D. Harris.

**Site 14:** Beamish Residence**Location:** 768 McIntyre Street West**Date Originally Built:** 1907**Present Use:** Private Residence**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

This house was constructed in 1907. The two storey front porch is very substantial in form and is adorned with Ionic columns, all unique to North Bay. It has a hipped roof with wave-front dormer windows. The visual weight of the second floor porch roof and the proportionally related columns allow the first and second floor railings to appear light and frothy by comparison. A strong symmetry is centred on the two-story wood porch between matched masonry bays. The fanned steps of the main entry are very generous in scale, and thus appropriately related to the proportions of the entire front façade. The front entrance is the sole element of this composition that is off centre, thereby underlining the total obedience of all other components to the discipline of the symmetry about the vertical axis of the street elevation.

A well preserved home of majestic stature, it was once the original residence of a local merchant, Mr. Beamish. Mr. Jack Shaw, former North Bay Mayor, also resided here. Mr. Arthur Cavanaugh, former manager of Ontario Northland Railway, lived in this house from 1940-1950. In 1920, the federal government decreed that all government owned lines, except the T&NO, were to be incorporated into one line, thereby creating the Canadian National Railway (CNR).



Site 15: St. Joseph's Mother House

Location: 2025 Main Street West

Date Originally Built: 1938

Present Use: As above

Evaluation Score: Priority One

The St. Joseph's Mother House, constructed in 1938, has many commendable features, including well detailed buttresses incorporated in the exterior red brick masonry, and a hint of gothic form in the triangular arches of some windows, coupled with an indented faced headed by curved arches. These details are all at the third floor level near the main entry. These subtle components of the otherwise simple concept achieve a modest dignity most appropriate to the regional centre of this religious order of devout sisters.

Over time there have been many changes to this structure in the form of several additions overlapping the main building. These have occurred in response to the demands for expansion to accommodate the needs of the growing surrounding community, and to adjust to changing policies of usage and occupancy.

As well as being the headquarters of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie, accommodation for a residential Catholic girls' secondary school was provided. Eventually, this school was relocated to form a component of the St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School at the site of the former boys' school.

Meanwhile, the Mother House has continued to house a resident population of accredited sisters together with accommodations for the education of prospective members of this order. More recently, as their numbers have grown, accommodation is provided for retired members.



Site 16: Begg Residence

Location: 578 Copeland Street

Date Originally Built: 1909

Present Use: Private Residence

Evaluation Score: Priority One

This well-preserved residence was constructed in 1909 for a local merchant and is one of the oldest residences in the city. The house was owned by the Canadian National Railway at one time when it served as the residence for several area superintendents. Many of the original exterior and interior features (light fixtures, windows and woodwork) have been preserved. The structure is of brick construction with a white stone foundation.

While some improvements and upgrades have been made, the heritage value and unique character of this building have been carefully maintained. In addition, the owners have added greatly to the quality of this residence through creative landscaping in both front and rear yards.

A welcome element of this design is the southern side elevation, where the symmetry of the ground floor bay, second floor windows and third floor dormer, together with continuity in use of materials, add three-dimensional value to this form.

The massive brick piers of the front porch are appropriately related to the main body of the house, which is a full two and a half stories plus part basement in height. A wrap-around porch, with gabled bay over the steps, leads to the main entry in an L-shaped wing, set back from the front wall. Altogether, this residence exudes an aura of strong respectability that would be welcome in any stable community of older single family homes.



Site 17: Milne Residence

Location: 610 Copeland Street

Date Originally Built: Early 1900s

Present Use: Private Residence

Evaluation Score: Priority One

This impressive home, located on an unusually large lot for North Bay’s west end, was constructed for William Milne Sr. in the early 1900s. Milne was the owner of Wm. Milne & Sons Lumber Co., which was located at the present site of the Ministry of Natural Resources on Trout Lake Road from the early 1900s to 1944. Milne was also a former alderman and Mayor of North Bay in 1909 and 1910.

The house is set back on the property, contributing to the landmark quality of the site. The large side yard housed a tennis court during the first two decades of the house. The exterior is simple, but the structure is reminiscent of the local history of the lumber and crafts industry. The exterior walls are sheathed with shiplap-type wood siding. The roof is sheathed in wood shingles. The veranda, which wraps around the front and side of the home, once extended to the rear of the home as well, but it was later removed.

The interior has been retained in near original condition. The owners have maintained much of the original woodwork and design features. Significant features include the cabinetry of the butler pantry and the stairwell with dual landings in the foyer and kitchen. The interior doors, frames, and hardware are also well-preserved, adding to the charm and opulence of the home. The commitment of the home’s owners to its historical integrity is exemplified in the custom-built electric range stove built within the housing of the kitchen’s original wood stove.



Site 18: King George Public School

Location: 550 Harvey Street

Date Originally Built: 1912

Present Use: As above

Evaluation Score: Priority One

This elementary school opened in 1912 and still serves an area of heritage and historical prominence within the city of North Bay. The original portion of the school consisted of a two storey masonry structure with a full basement. The building was regularly shaped in plan, and it was arranged symmetrically along a central corridor with a formal entrance located at the midpoint of the front façade. In 1954, an addition to the original structure was built, which included a small gymnasium and additional classrooms.

The original building formerly had significant architectural features such as a continuous concrete cornice, a varied parapet, and a curved pediment canopy suspended above the front entrance. In 1965, the entire exterior was resurfaced with new masonry veneer in order to “upgrade” the appearance of the school to a more modern looking facility. The classical arrangement and the design of the masonry and concrete details of the façade were ornate in comparison to its current appearance.

The interior of the school remains in good condition with respect given to the older portion of the building by retaining much of the historical design, organization and craftsmanship. Hardwood flooring is found throughout many of the classrooms and hallways. Other details of heritage quality found throughout the older portion of the school include high pressed tin



ceilings, raised panel doors with wide wood trim and transom windows, high wood baseboards, slate chalkboards with wooden chalk ledges, some wainscoting, and older ventilation grates. The property was purchased from Thomas Murray in 1911 and construction of the school began shortly thereafter. The school was designed by Harry Angus and the general contractors were Hughes & Henderson. The school is the oldest one within the Near North District School Board, and it is widely believed to be the oldest active school in Northern Ontario.

The historical importance of the school is recognized by their past and current staffs, which has actively preserved many artifacts that are a part of the school's heritage. These artifacts remain accessible to guests and students, as they are openly displayed inside the school's front entrance. This historical display includes items such as original desks, old books, and many attendance registers listing former students.

The school's position within the history of North Bay is an important one. For example, many North Bay residents are alumni of King George Public School. The continued operation of this elementary school throughout the past century has ensured its recognition as a permanent fixture within a local neighbourhood rich in history and heritage.





Site 19: Capitol Centre

Location: 150 Main Street East

Date Originally Built: 1928

Present Use: Theatre, Performing Arts Centre and Gallery

Evaluation Score: Priority One

This former movie theatre was constructed in 1928 by Hugo Gomoll, a building materials supplier from Powassan, who provided brick and lumber manufactured locally for the main structure. A three level stacked dressing room and fly gallery, which can be seen at the rear of the building on McIntyre Street, immediately identify this structure as a theatre. The perfect symmetry of the Main Street façade is typical of the period in which this was built, reflecting an influence carried forward from centuries prior.

North Bay's original Famous Players and Vaudeville Theatre, now the Capitol Centre, has acted as the venue for many of the city's cultural and entertainment events. Restored and renovated in 1986, the theatre has since been the auditorium for numerous attractions including the North Bay Symphony, local and visiting music and dance productions, Broadway-style theatrical productions, films, and civic presentations. The W.K.P. Kennedy Gallery, accessed from the front foyer, has earned a credible reputation for showcasing a variety of exhibitions by local and touring artists.

The restoration handsomely retains the classical components of the Main Street exterior, the main lobby and the theatre itself on the interior, which consists of ground floor orchestra and supplemental second floor balcony seating. The gracious foyer linking the Main Street entry and the rear parking access provides generous display space for notable local artists and photographers. This complements the gallery, which houses exhibitions of artwork, photography, sculpture, and traditional and contemporary displays of local arts and crafts.

At the front of the building, a second floor "Galaxy Room" provides space for receptions and teas, used in conjunction with presentations in the theatre. The space is also available for private functions. This area accommodates the exhibition of works of art held in the permanent collection of the centre.

The Capitol Centre truly is the heart of the arts community in the City of North Bay.

**Site 20:** Cochrane-Dunlop Block**Location:** 122 Main Street West/123 McIntyre Street West**Date Originally Built:** 1911**Present Use:** Commercial Building**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

The Cochrane-Dunlop Block was one of the earliest buildings constructed on Main Street in 1911. The current Main Street portion of the building was originally constructed as a hardware store for C.D. Hardware, while the connected back of the building at McIntyre Street was used as a storage facility for the company. Cochrane Dunlop Hardware operated on the premises for seventy years until 1981. The store did not just stock hardware, and over the years the merchandise ranged from china to washing machines, to firearms. Various other businesses have been tenants in the building throughout its history, occupying the upper floors.

In 1987, Lefebvre's moved into the Main Street side, and in 2002 Vested Interest began operating out of the McIntyre Street side. This latter side of the building was once the site of North Bay's first Roman Catholic Church, known variously as 'Our Lady of the Lake,' 'St. Mary's on the Lake,' and 'The Church on the Rock.' The small frame building was constructed in the mid to late 1800s, but by the 1900s the congregation had outgrown the premises. Its successor eventually became the Pro-Cathedral of the Assumption.

The building is structured with masonry and timber framing. The original hardwood and plank flooring is apparent within the upper floors of the building. The Main Street façade is a three



storey structure with regularly shaped bays of large windows on all floors. A decorative cornice shelf is located above the third storey, and above this cornice a raised parapet reads "Cochrane Block, 1911." Renovations of the front façade have included the painting of the masonry, new windows that appear to replicate the original design, and an updated storefront entry with an awning.

The McIntyre Street façade is made up of masonry construction with small punched windows. This façade has also been retrofitted with large, modern storefront windows and a public entrance with an awning. Many of the original design features are quite apparent, including windows and freight elevator shafts.

The interior of the Main Street side of the building boasts high ceilings that are finished with stamped tin tiles or sheets. Each floor is divided by floor openings that are manually lifted with the help of an interesting pulley and counterweight system. Other interesting building equipment remains in the interior, including old radiators and elevator buttons.

The heavy timber structure and masonry walls are exposed within the McIntyre Street side of the building. Timber columns and beams are exposed and the high, open ceiling reveals the complete wooden support system for the floors above. The freight elevator shafts are intact, but have been converted to retail display space on the main level. The original call buttons and controls remain on the wall. The upper floor appears to be an original storage loft.

A January 2012 fire caused extensive damages.



**Site 21: Sons of Jacob Synagogue****Location:** 302 McIntyre Street West**Date Originally Built:** 1906 or 1907**Present Use:** As above**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

The Sons of Jacob Synagogue located at the corner of McIntyre Street and Cassells Street was originally constructed in 1906 or 1907. Before becoming a place of worship for the local Jewish community in 1925, it operated as different retail businesses, including a furniture store, grocery store, wallpaper store, and a second-hand store.

The synagogue was created through a retrofit circa 1950s, considering the style and palette used. The main entrance features double wooden doors, with a paneled style and a stained glass transom within the arched opening above. The main floor windows facing the street fronts are a series of Romanesque arched openings that feature stained glass windows. The interior features stained glass window patterns featuring a Star of David motif.

Architectural interest in this property lies with its conversion to a synagogue from a neighbourhood commercial enterprise. The Sons of Jacob Synagogue is the oldest synagogue north of Toronto still in use.



**Site 22: Gateway Arch****Location:** Lee Park**Date Originally Built:** 1928**Present Use:** Municipal Parking Lot Entrance**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

The Gateway Arch was first constructed in 1928 and spanned Highway 11B (currently Lakeshore Drive), where it acted as a welcome to North Bay and marked the boundary between the city and West Ferris. Today it serves as the entrance to a municipal parking lot as well as being an important symbol of North Bay, the "Gateway City."

Although the arch has undergone many alterations and taken different forms, it remains very similar to the original arch that was commissioned by the Association of Canadian Travellers (ACT). The arch was later donated to the City of North Bay by the ACT.

The two pillars supporting the arch are made of large, rounded river stones that are held in place with cement mortar. Though it was originally made of wood, the archway is currently made of metal for greater durability. The building contract was awarded to the Billington & Co. construction firm, which also built the Cecil Hotel.

The term and concept of "Gateway to the North" first appeared around the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This term came about due to the realization that North Bay, because of its geographical location, was an inter-connecting link for both north-south and east-west traffic.

Although the context for the arch has been changed throughout the years, it remains an icon of the past and an enduring symbol of North Bay's persona and identity as the "Gateway City."



Site 23: Former Empire Hotel
Location: 425 Fraser Street
Date Originally Built: 1927-28
Present Use: Retirement Community
Evaluation Score: Priority One

The former Empire Hotel stands at the southeast corner of the intersection of McIntyre Street West and Fraser Street. The site chosen for the hotel is a prominent intersection within the downtown core of the city, and its location is most likely due to a strategic and deliberate decision on the part of the hotel's developers. Located within walking distance of the CPR station and the shared Canadian National, Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway hubs, the hotel was well placed for attracting visitors travelling by rail. Rail was the most popular mode of transportation during the early days of the Empire Hotel, although personal vehicles were quickly becoming available and affordable to the masses.

The Empire Hotel opened to the public on August 1, 1928 after only ten months of construction. Ground was broken October 3, 1927. The construction of the hotel brought welcomed labour jobs to North Bay. The hotel was constructed during a building boom in the city. For example, the Masonic Lodge, the Capitol Theatre, and the Bank of Nova Scotia were also all built during this time period. The head contractor for the Empire Hotel was Leo Mascioli of Timmins, Ontario, and Jules J. Joannis, also from Timmins, was the architect.

The original structure was a five-storey brick building that displayed an overall sentiment of symmetry due to the uniform rows of windows facing both Fraser and McIntyre Streets. Quoined brick corners, window lintels, and a large wood cornice at the top of the building provide modest surface detail to the otherwise fairly plain brick façade. Classically influenced columns and pilaster details, crown moldings, and beam and ceiling treatments in the dining room, ballroom, and main lobby exist today as they did over eighty years ago. Several poignant North Bay events involved the Empire Hotel, many of which have been passed on as anecdotes and local stories. One such historically significant event is the production of the Warner Bros. film *Captain of the Clouds*. In 1942, parts of the film were shot in North Bay and members of the cast, most notably James Cagney, stayed at the Empire Hotel. On October 29, 1951, the hotel hosted Princess Elizabeth and her husband Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, on their first Royal visit to Canada. This visit solidified the hotel's reputation as being the most prestigious one in town.

Throughout the mid to the late part of the 20th century, the Empire Hotel retained its status as a social and commercial hub in the community. Travelling salespeople were welcomed to display their wares in sample rooms located in the basement. Local service clubs often chose the hotel as a prime site for their meetings and gatherings. The hotel was also a popular choice for weddings. It was a place to see and be seen.

During the last quarter of the 20th century, the Empire Hotel was purchased by the Howard Johnson Hotel chain. It operated as a part of the Howard Johnson group until just prior to the new millennium, when it was refurbished with some original features and retrofitted as a retirement home by the Retirement Living Centres Company. A large addition to the Empire Living Centre was built in 2004. The addition spans the southeast side of the lot and borders McIntyre Street West. This addition was built in a related architectural form to the original building. It also successfully complements the downtown streetscape. Attention to detail on both the exterior and interior of the recent addition relates to the original intent of the hotel, while maintaining a separate identity from the original building. Various design features on the main floor of the addition, such as high ceilings, wood trim and crown moldings, and lighting coves, attempt to maintain some of the existing character of the original Empire Hotel.





Site 24: St. Vincent de Paul Roman Catholic Church

Location: 1265 Wyld Street

Date Originally Built: 1914

Present Use: As above

Evaluation Score: Priority One

Derived from the Romanesque style, the heavy massing of this church is achieved through the use of local cut stone, round headed arches over most openings, and the twin towers.

This is the first French Roman Catholic church constructed in North Bay. It was built in 1914 by Henri Marceau with the help of local parishioners. The original building was a simple basement with a low tin embossed ceiling. In 1932, a new superstructure was designed by B. A. Jones Architects from Kitchener, Ontario, which was built over the existing structure.

The commanding hilltop on which the church is built establishes this building as a visual landmark in the immediate community. The detached rectory, also facing Wyld Street, employs matching materials that ensure the recognition of the two buildings as one complex. Random patterned stone walls are used effectively to accommodate the building to the steep slopes of the front hillside. Entrance stairs are incorporated in these forms, which, together with open wrought iron railings in appropriate positions, provide a viewing platform to overlook ceremonial functions on significant religious occasions, perfectly centered on the main doors to the sanctuary.

**Site 25:** Former Scollard Hall Boys' College**Location:** 1000 High Street**Date Originally Built:** 1930**Present Use:** St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

Commendable features of this building are the twin turrets on either side of the projecting frontispiece, the symmetrical organization of the design, and the heavy massing achieved through the use of split faced cut stone laid in a random coursed pattern. All window and door openings, including trim elements, are framed in smooth faced cut stone. The original structure was named in honour of Bishop Scollard.

The building was constructed in 1930 as a Catholic high school for male students. It would subsequently house the original accommodation for a planned university, which later became Nipissing University.

Meanwhile, the girl's high school was established in 1939. Originally named St. Joseph's Academy, it operated as St. Mary's Academy from 1945 until 1970, when it was again renamed to St. Joseph's College. In 1985, St. Joseph's College would merge with the original Scollard Hall Boys' College, thus becoming the present St. Joseph-Scollard Hall Catholic Secondary School of the Nipissing Parry-Sound Catholic District School Board.

Recent additions to this co-educational institution have been respectful in the use of relating exterior materials. The new entrance fronting on O'Brien Street reflects the form of the gable atop the tower over the original main entry on High Street. Furthermore, these additions satisfy current educational functions without attempting to repeat the collegiate style of the original building. The recent additions were designed by Critchley, Delean, et al, Architects of North Bay.

**Site 26:** North Bay Masonic Temple**Location:** 183 First Avenue West**Date Originally Built:** 1928**Present Use:** As above**Evaluation Score:** Priority One

This Temple was built in 1928 and was first used as a meeting and dance hall. During the Second World War it served as a centre for medical examinations of those local residents contemplating military service.

The building is neo-classical in style, employing typically symmetrical exterior elements in the front façade. The outstanding architectural features of this building include the engaged piers and stepped parapet carried by the entablature. The grand stone entranceway aptly expresses the major function of this structure as an assembly hall.

Through regular maintenance and a commendable approach to preservation, the Masonic order has ensured that continuing usage has persisted over three quarters of a century in the purpose for which the building was originally designed.



Site 27: Surtees Residence

Location: 853 Main Street West

Date Originally Built: 1913

Present Use: Private Home

Evaluation Score: Priority One

The residence is located in the historic residential west end of North Bay. Many of the homes found in this neighborhood were constructed between 1900 and 1920. Infill housing has provided the neighborhood with comparatively modern homes; however the turn of the century architectural vernacular remains relatively consistent. The residence has been owned by the Surtees family for over sixty years, but a string of families once called this impressive residence home.

The residence at 853 Main Street West is found within a grouping of four homes with a similar style. Although each of the four homes flanking the property have distinguishing features, it is evident that the four homes were constructed at similar time, with a common architectural theme. It is believed that Angus built these other homes for his children as the buildings exhibit a sibling relationship that reflects the kinship of their original owners.

The features outlined above from the exterior tapered columns, large front veranda, dormered windows, and their toned-down features that make this a good example of a craftsman styled home in HW Angus' austere stylings for the region. The interior detailing with solid wood features used in simple but elegant ways maintain the craftsman style detailing but are far less subdued than the exterior.

**Site 28:** Angus Block**Location:** 374 Fraser Street**Date Originally Built:** 1914**Present Use:** Offices**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

One of many familiar commercial properties located in the downtown area, this building is noted for its parapet at roofline, and for its highly distinctive white stone window surrounds consisting of stepped lintels, quoined jambs and flat sills. Other notable features include the toothed heading of the in-stepped brick facing and bracketed canopy over the third floor paired openings

This structure bears much similarity to many of the Main Street buildings that were erected in the First World War era. The date stone would indicate that H.W. Angus, early noted architect in North Bay, was responsible for its design and erection.

Constructed in 1914, the Angus Block still acts as offices for many of the community's professionals. In the past it has housed the constituency office of Michael Harris, former Premier of the Province of Ontario.

**Site 29:** Trinity United Church**Location:** 111 McIntyre Street East**Date Originally Built:** 1906**Present Use:** As above**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

Trinity United Church represents one of the most unique structures erected for religious purposes in North Bay. It presents itself modestly, employing a mixture of forms borrowed from both Romanesque and Gothic styles in window arrangements. The width of the church and its side wall buttresses give it strength and a sense of stability in the community in which it stands.

Trinity was one of the earliest churches to be built in North Bay. It was constructed in 1906 and is located in the original downtown area. The end gable rose window, the large side tower and clerestory windows are some of the key features of this design. The new entry, constructed in 1964, has sensitively reflected the forms of gable ends on the original structure, while achieving greater emphasis on this important feature of the front elevation.

The three-dimensional form of this addition has assisted in overcoming the restricted area of the site, which forced the exterior walls of the original structure to be constructed on the street lines, thus precluding the benefit of a landscaped setting.

Initially of the Methodist persuasion, Trinity joined with the former Presbyterian congregation.

**Site 30: St. John's Anglican Church****Location:** 301 Main Street East**Date Originally Built:** 1895**Present Use:** As above**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

This church, as a component of the Anglican Diocese of Algoma, was built in 1895 and is thereby the oldest standing church in North Bay. The building is of brick construction with a laminated wood roof. The series of oak hammer beams located in the nave are a very commanding feature of the interior. They visually draw the eye to the richly decorated oak chancel.

This relatively small edifice presents a unifying spatial relationship of the chancel and the nave. It is worthy of a visit to experience this sense of volume.

Some newer modifications, including revised access to the main entrance, have made handsome improvements to the property without compromising the strength and dominance of the original corner tower. The components of this renovation, including the gracious and commodious masonry steps, and the tasteful landscaping, have established an appropriate setting for the church in this streetscape.

**Site 31:** Former Bank of Nova Scotia**Location:** 126 Main Street West**Date Originally Built:** 1926**Present Use:** Commercial Building**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

The temple front of this building is the only example of its kind in North Bay. It is typical of that period when financial institutions favoured forms of monumental architecture to symbolize stability and security in the community.

The triangular pediment, the decorative centre panel, and the supporting Doric columns make this a significant replica of historical origin. Originally constructed in 1926, this building then functioned as the main branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia. As it did when built, this structure adds an element of grandeur to the streetscape of the downtown area.

Conversion to retail use has been tastefully executed without conflict with the main components of the original design. This renovation is one of a few Main Street buildings that demonstrate the potential of downtown renewal that could be mutually beneficial to businesses and shoppers alike, as well as to the community in general.

**Site 32: Former Railton Building****Location:** 143 Main Street West**Date Originally Built:** circa 1900**Present Use:** Commercial Building**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

Reportedly constructed circa 1900, this building much resembles many of the downtown structures that were erected in the First World War era. A characteristic component of those buildings constructed in that period occurs here in the form of a bracketed cornice at roof level. By virtue of its street frontage and physical height, it is compatible with its neighbors, most of which were occupied by commercial premises on the ground floor with storage, business, and eventual residential uses on the second and third floors.

Railton's Photography Studio and Hobby Shop operated from this site for over 40 years, after which "Photo Metro" occupied the space.

The building underwent major improvements in the early 2000's with support from the City of North Bay to restore the building and to redo the front façade. The improvements have been well received and the building continues to serve a valuable commercial role in the downtown core.

**Site 33:** McNutt Residence**Location:** 715 Durril Street**Date Originally Built:** 1915**Present Use:** Private Residence**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

This prominent home was originally built in 1915 for Beatrice Maude Parmelee by Jeffrey and Stevens, notable contractors in North Bay at the time. The house is a good example of typical upscale architecture of that time period, with its rectangular plan and wood construction with brick veneer.

Standing prominently at an elevated height over the west end of North Bay and over Lake Nipissing, the building's location and position add to its grandeur. Although the street address is on Durril Street, the street façade is actually the side of the house, with the front of the home facing the lake. The design of the interior has also taken the lake view into account, with the orientation of the principal spaces, including the living room, dining room and master suite, designed to frame the panoramic view from the hilltop location.

The elegance of the home is complemented with numerous features kept and restored by its owners over time. These features include the living room fireplace, many rich wood wall treatments and hardwood floors. The interior doors, stairwell, and upstairs bathroom also maintain some of the unique and original details.

The house has also been home to Sheldon B. Clement, Chief Engineer for Ontario Northland Railway (former T&NO), when he purchased it in 1928.

**Site 34: St. Andrew's United Church****Location:** 290 Algonquin Avenue**Date Originally Built:** 1904**Present Use:** As above**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

This building was constructed in 1904 on lands received in 1885 as a gift from North Bay's founder, John Ferguson. Subsequent additions to the main entry and to the tower have been executed in a successful combination of old and new, which has much enhanced the original design.

This church is complemented with a high pitched gabled roof supported internally by hammer beams. It is interesting to note that the original pews and benches were cast off seats from the United Church in Pembroke, Ontario.

Initially of the Presbyterian faith, St. Andrew's joined with the former Methodist congregation at Trinity in favouring the formation of the United Church of Canada.

The church fronts on an open 'parkette' at the junction of Main and Cassells Streets with Algonquin Avenue, therefore offering a generous view of the building to both motorists and pedestrians.

**Site 35:** Former Cecil Hotel**Location:** 300 Wyld Street**Date Originally Built:** 1898**Present Use:** Restaurant/Pub**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

The Cecil Hotel is the oldest of its kind in North Bay, standing at the corner of Main and Wyld in the middle of the downtown core of the city. It is currently run as a successful restaurant and pub. Construction of the hotel was completed by Robert Wallace and Jack Billington just prior to the turn of the century in 1898.

The Cecil Hotel was not designed with any particular architectural genre in mind. Its design is relatively simple when compared to the Victorian bric-a-brac adorning other local hotels. A two-storey balcony once dominated the main entrance on the Main Street side of the hotel. This impressive structure would have provided the hotel guests with a unique view of Lake Nipissing and the approaching railway traffic. In addition, the hotel was situated in a convenient location, particularly for tourists and visitors, as it was within walking distance of both of the downtown train stations.

Although numerous changes have occurred to the building, a tour of the interior reveals many original features, including newel posts in some of the stairwells, hammered tin ceilings, and several hardwood features. The exterior of the building boasts whitewashed keystone details above the windows that stand out against the dark re-painted brick.

The side entrance facing Wyld Street remains functional; a vestige of what was once used as a separate entrance for ladies and their escorts.

**Site 36:** Bourke Residence**Location:** 658 McIntyre Street West**Date Originally Built:** 1907**Present Use:** Private Residence**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

This building, constructed in 1907, is surrounded by heritage homes that enhance the architectural qualities of each other in one of North Bay's oldest residential areas. The structural, yet decorative columns and the boxed-in triangular pediment over the porch area are strong elements of this design. The two storey bay windows and the wrap-around porch are also distinctive components. Symmetry is established, centered on the main entrance, in the access stair, the pediment enhanced porch, and the second floor balcony. The windowed gable at the attic level is centered independently on the main front wing of the L-shaped structure. Altogether, the resulting composition is one of satisfying proportions.

The home was once the residence of the first Mayor of the City of North Bay, John Bourke.

**Site 37:** Second Bourke Residence**Location:** 663 McIntyre Street West**Date Originally Built:** circa 1900**Present Use:** Private Residence**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

This two-storey home, situated within the historic West End residential area of North Bay, still retains the original terra cotta brick masonry with wooden framing and beams. The building is in a traditional brick four square style. The veranda, spanning the front of the home is a standard detail for the time period. Many of the windows, largely found to the rear of the building, are the original wood double sash, single glazed windows.

The interior of the home has been well-preserved with original hot water radiators, painted wood wall panels, large wood trims, baseboards, newel posts, and stair railings. Many of the doors in the home are solid wood raised panel doors with original brass hardware.

The home was once owned by John Bourke, the first Mayor of North Bay. He purchased the property in 1903, several years after he became mayor.

**Site 38: Parfitt Farm****Location:** 1800 Four Mile Lake Road**Date Originally Built:** circa 1885, two-storey addition circa 1910**Present Use:** Operating Farm and Private Residence**Evaluation Score:** Priority Two

This still-operating farm, situated in what used to be Widdifield Township, is a wonderful example of turn of the century craftsmanship working alongside modern technology. The original farm was 160 acres in 1885 with an additional 160 acres purchased in 1910. The current farm is 142 acres, including a 70 acre old growth forest that until recently functioned as a sugar bush.

The Parfitt family acquired the farm as part of the Soldier Settlement Act following the First World War, the goal of which was to re-introduce veterans to everyday life and help them get back on their feet after the war. As a result, Christopher Parfitt received the farm in 1919 after the Soldier Settlement Board revised their mandate to state that "idle" land on native reserves could be acquired for soldier re-settlement.

The original structure of the homestead was constructed around 1885 of hewn, interlocking logs, and now serves as the kitchen. A two-storey addition was added before the Parfitt family acquired the farm, likely around 1910. The original house was framed with 135 year old cedar, and the original hardwood floors and windows are found throughout. An aluminum roof was added in 1952 and aluminum siding in 1955. The building has an original wooden exterior door with egg and dart details. The wood stoves that still serve to heat the home are now powered via geo-thermal energy, and the farming practices have evolved over the years, as 88 year old William is now helped by his son to run the farm.

The last notable part of the farm was created by William, a World War Two veteran, several years ago. Named the "International Peace Park", the former Lancaster bomber pilot has created an educational site with photos and resources aimed at fostering goodwill amongst humans. It showcases photos that depict the horrors of war in an effort to illustrate to us the necessity of mutual peace and understanding.



Site 39: Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Location: 725 Ferguson Street

Date Originally Built: 1937

Present Use: As above

Evaluation Score: Priority Two

The Redeemer Lutheran church is located on the south side of Ferguson Street, northeast of Second Avenue. The church fronts onto both Second Avenue and Ferguson. The location is adjacent to picturesque Memorial Park and the War Memorial.

The construction the current Redeemer Lutheran Church was completed in 1937. Until the construction of the present-day church, the congregation had been meeting in the Orange Lodge at the corner of McIntyre and Fisher Street. A substantial rent increase at the lodge in 1936 hastened the search for a suitable building lot on which a permanent church might be constructed. Architect W.E. Noffke of Ottawa was sought out to draft the design.

Native granite rock on the exterior of the building gives the church a unique appearance. The stone was quarried as Highway 11 North (Thibeault Hill) was blasted. The stone was not cut into traditional bricks; rather, it was mortared in an unusual, asymmetrical and random fashion. The interior of the church is striking with whitewashed walls sitting in contrast to large, dark wooden beams. The pitch of the ceiling is dramatic, as in main churches, and several gothic arches lead the eye to the altar. This church still serves its original purpose more than eighty years later.



Site 40: Carmichael United Church

Location: 521 Four Mile Lake Road

Date Originally Built: 1889

Present Use: As above

Evaluation Score: Priority Three

This small scale church, constructed in 1889, is simple in design and has been generally maintained and preserved in its original state ever since. An addition was made to the Church in 1978 to incorporate indoor plumbing facilities. The unpretentious character of the building is refreshingly admirable, also reflected in the discreet signage.

The church is located behind the North Bay airport and has served the surrounding rural community for over 100 years. Built by local parishioners, the church stands on its original site and is still used today.

The very basic concept, executed with good craftsmanship, presents an excellent example of historical construction as it employed early methods and materials typical of the era. Such buildings usually appeared alone in the local landscape, well adapted to the natural terrain.

It stands today as a significant tribute to this congregation that has ensured its conservation over more than a full century.

**Site 41: Wallace Residence****Location:** 102 First Avenue East**Date Originally Built:** 1904**Present Use:** Group Home**Evaluation Score:** Priority Three

This residence was built for a member of the Wallace family in 1904 and is located in one of North Bay's older residential neighbourhoods.

This house features several different facades and design elements that combine to form a cohesive and elegant structure. The main façade at the First Avenue front entrance features a pseudo-Tudor style of infill within the upper gable. This same façade also features an offset wrap-around roofed porch with a gabled bay centered on the main entry to the house. On the Ferguson Street side, the dominant element is a three story wing incorporating the full symmetry of a large ground floor bay window, a smaller second floor bay window, and a third floor single window in a stepped parapet on a flat-faced gable.

In recent years, a community agency acquired the property whose needs included an accessibility ramp for residents and visitors. A wood-railed ramp located on the side street face of the original covered porch was installed. In addition, some new landscaping was completed, and new siding was installed on the exterior of the house. These transformations evidently demonstrate that this handsome structure remains well-maintained, and that a conscientious effort has been made to update the home as necessary, while maintaining its architectural merit.



Site 42: Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Building

Location: 3301 Trout Lake Road

Date Originally Built: circa 1940

Present Use: As above

Evaluation Score: Priority Three

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry: “protects Ontario’s biodiversity while promoting economic opportunities in the resource sector and supporting outdoor recreation opportunities” from its pie shaped waterfront lot on Trout Lake Road.

This property was first home to Milne Lumber Company. The Milne family moved to North Bay from Trout Creek in 1896 and established lumber operations here. Milne Lumber operations ceased around 1940 and it is estimated that the “Lands and Forests” building was erected within the next decade.

The main building is comprised of red brick and concrete lintels. Some impressive aspects of heritage ornamentation are worthy of note including the coat of arms crest above the main entrance, which gives the building the unmistakable prominence of an official government building. Several additions and conversions were made to the original structure sometime in the 1980s.

Although the Ministry has undergone a few name and structural changes, it has withstood the test of time and remains functional under the same use as when first constructed.

**Site 43: Sisters of the Precious Blood Monastery****Location:** 165 Monastery Road**Date Originally Built:** 1961**Evaluation Score:** Priority Three

The Precious Blood Monastery is a three-storey building, nestled on 22.97 acres of pristine land on Monastery Road. The grounds of the Precious Blood Monastery were well manicured with a contemplative private pond, shrines and a grotto with statue of the Virgin Mary. The Monastery's strategic location on the Laurentian Escarpment, or 'Eloy's Hill' as it was once known, created seclusion from the city and allowed the Sisters of the Precious Blood to 'turn their back upon the world and face Christ.'

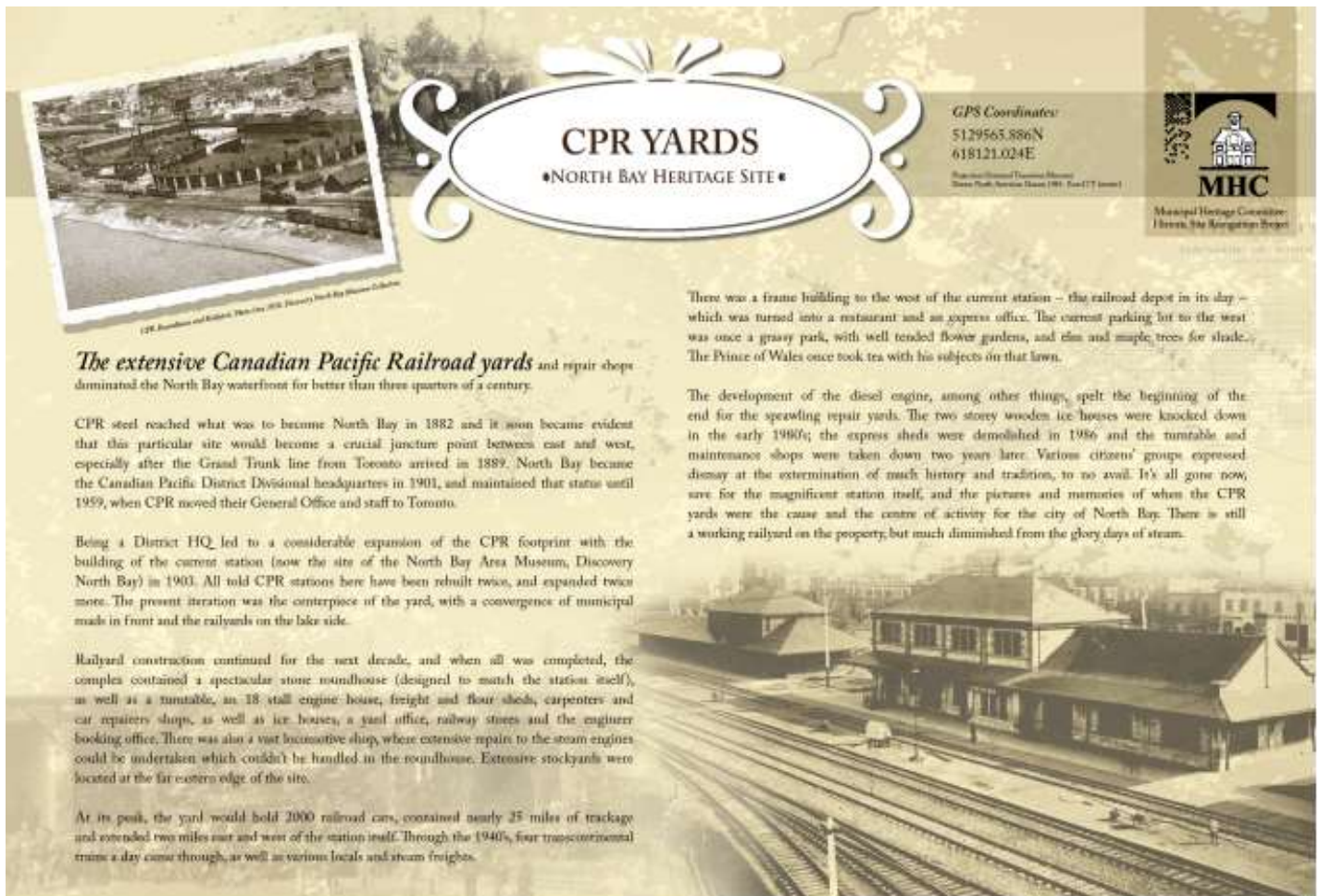
In keeping with the vow of poverty that the Sisters of the Precious Blood took, mortification and perfect neatness were uniform in their rooms or 'cells'. Each cell was minimally furnished and the Sisters were not permitted to speak in or enter another cell.

Although their cells were bleak, the Sisters of the Precious Blood spent most of their time in the Host room making altar breads. This was important and exacting work for the Sisters and they produced approximately 4,030,020 hosts every year (80,000 weekly) and supplied the entire Diocese of Sault Ste. Marie with altar breads.

The Precious Blood Monastery was acquired by Nipissing University in 2006. The Monastery's location between the University's upper and lower campus made the property desirable to Nipissing University for future expansion and preservation of history. The Monastery is now home to the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts and is complete with lecture theatres, classrooms, meeting rooms, offices as well as ample studio space for students.

Plaque Program





Heritage Site Plaque 1: CPR Yards

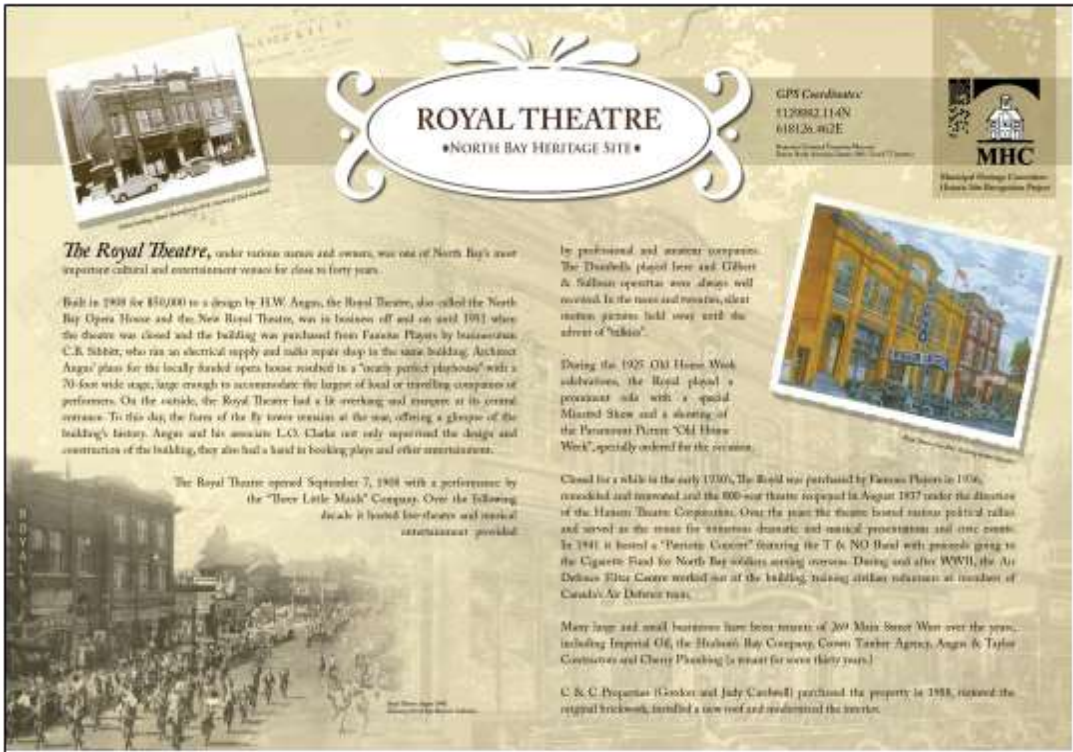
Location: Downtown/Waterfront Underpass

As the Canadian Pacific Railway reached what was to become North Bay in 1882, the area became a crucial junction point between east and west rail traffic. In 1901, the CPR made North Bay the District Divisional headquarters. Subsequently, the repair shops began to dominate the North Bay waterfront.

The site eventually housed an 18-stall engine house, freight and flour sheds, carpenter and car repair shops, ice houses, a yard office, railway stores, and the engineer booking office. There was also a vast locomotive shop used to repair steam engines.

At its peak, the yard could hold 200 railroad cars and it contained 25 miles of track. During the 1940s, four transcontinental trains a day came through the yards. To the west of the main depot was a well-maintained grassy park with numerous flower gardens and trees.

All of the infrastructure is now gone, except for the main station itself, and the pictures and memories of when the CPR yards were the cause and the centre of activity for the city of North Bay. There is still a working rail yard on the property, but it is much diminished from the glory days of the railway.



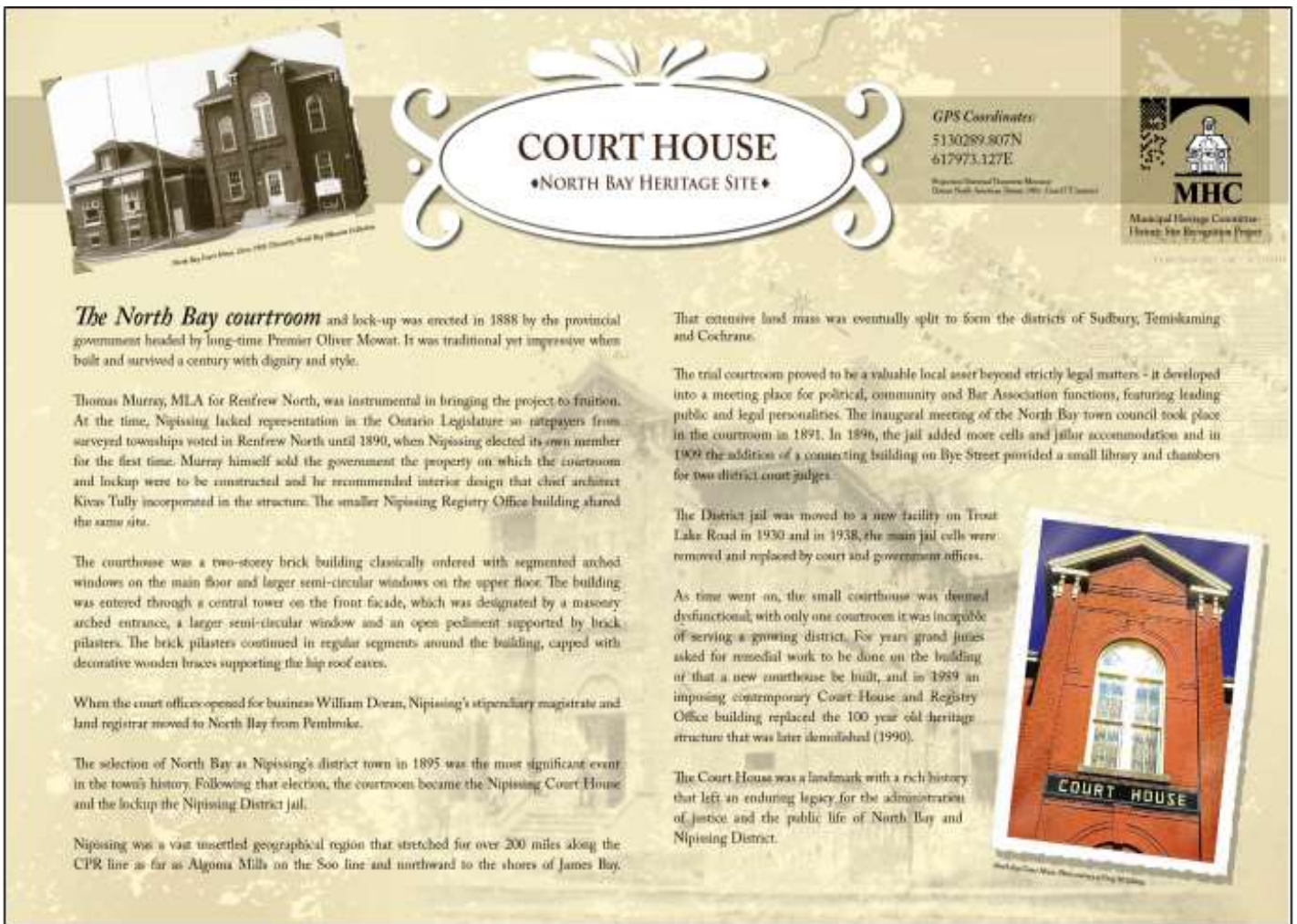
Heritage Site Plaque 2: Royal Theatre
Location: 289 Algonquin Avenue (Parkette)

The Royal Theatre, under various names and owners, was one of North Bay's most important cultural and entertainment venues for close to forty years. Built in 1908, and designed by H.W. Angus, the Royal Theatre, also called the North Bay Opera House and the New Royal Theatre, was in business on and off again until 1951. That year the theatre was closed and the building was purchased from Famous Players by C.B. Sibbitt, who ran an electrical supply and radio repair shop in the same building. The original theatre featured a 70-foot wide stage. A lit overhang and marquee once marked the building's central entrance.

The Royal Theatre opened on September 7, 1908 with a performance by the Three Little Maids Company. Over the following decade it hosted live-theatre and musical entertainment provided by professional and amateur companies. In the 1910s and 1920s, silent motion pictures held sway until the advent of "talkies."

Closed for a short period of time in the early 1930s, the Royal Theatre was purchased by Famous Players in 1936, when it was remodeled and renovated. The 800-seat theatre reopened in 1937 under the direction of the Hansen Theatre Company. Over the years the theatre hosted various political rallies and served as the venue for numerous dramatic and musical presentations and civic events. During and after WWII, the Air Defence Filter Centre worked out of the building, training civilian volunteers as members of Canada's Air Defence team.

Since the building closed as a theatre, many large and small businesses have been tenants of 269 Main Street West over the years. In 1988, C&C Properties purchased the building, restored the original brickwork, installed a new roof, and modernized the interior.



COURT HOUSE
•NORTH BAY HERITAGE SITE•

GPS Coordinates:
5130289.807N
617973.327E

Report: Ontario Heritage Inventory
Date: 1998-09-01
Project: 1998-09-01

MHC
Municipal Heritage Commission
Through the Designation Process

The North Bay courtroom and lock-up was erected in 1888 by the provincial government headed by long-time Premier Oliver Mowat. It was traditional yet impressive when built and survived a century with dignity and style.

Thomas Murray, MLA for Renfrew North, was instrumental in bringing the project to fruition. At the time, Nipissing lacked representation in the Ontario Legislature so ratepayers from surveyed townships voted in Renfrew North until 1890, when Nipissing elected its own member for the first time. Murray himself sold the government the property on which the courtroom and lockup were to be constructed and he recommended interior design that chief architect Kivas Tully incorporated in the structure. The smaller Nipissing Registry Office building shared the same site.

The courthouse was a two-story brick building classically ordered with segmented arched windows on the main floor and larger semi-circular windows on the upper floor. The building was entered through a central tower on the front facade, which was designated by a masonry arched entrance, a larger semi-circular window and an open pediment supported by brick pilasters. The brick pilasters continued in regular segments around the building, capped with decorative wooden braces supporting the hip roof eaves.

When the court offices opened for business William Dean, Nipissing's stipendiary magistrate and land registrar moved to North Bay from Pembroke.

The selection of North Bay as Nipissing's district town in 1895 was the most significant event in the town's history. Following that election, the courtroom became the Nipissing Court House and the lockup the Nipissing District jail.

Nipissing was a vast unsettled geographical region that stretched for over 200 miles along the CPR line as far as Algoma Mills on the Soo line and northward to the shores of James Bay.

That extensive land mass was eventually split to form the districts of Sudbury, Temiskaming and Cochrane.

The trial courtroom proved to be a valuable local asset beyond strictly legal matters - it developed into a meeting place for political, community and Bar Association functions, featuring leading public and legal personalities. The inaugural meeting of the North Bay town council took place in the courtroom in 1891. In 1896, the jail added more cells and jailer accommodation and in 1909 the addition of a connecting building on Bye Street provided a small library and chambers for two district court judges.

The District jail was moved to a new facility on Trout Lake Road in 1930 and in 1938, the main jail cells were removed and replaced by court and government offices.

As time went on, the small courthouse was deemed dysfunctional with only one courtroom it was incapable of serving a growing district. For years grand juries asked for remedial work to be done on the building or that a new courthouse be built, and in 1989 an imposing contemporary Court House and Registry Office building replaced the 100 year old heritage structure that was later demolished (1990).

The Court House was a landmark with a rich history that left an enduring legacy for the administration of justice and the public life of North Bay and Nipissing District.

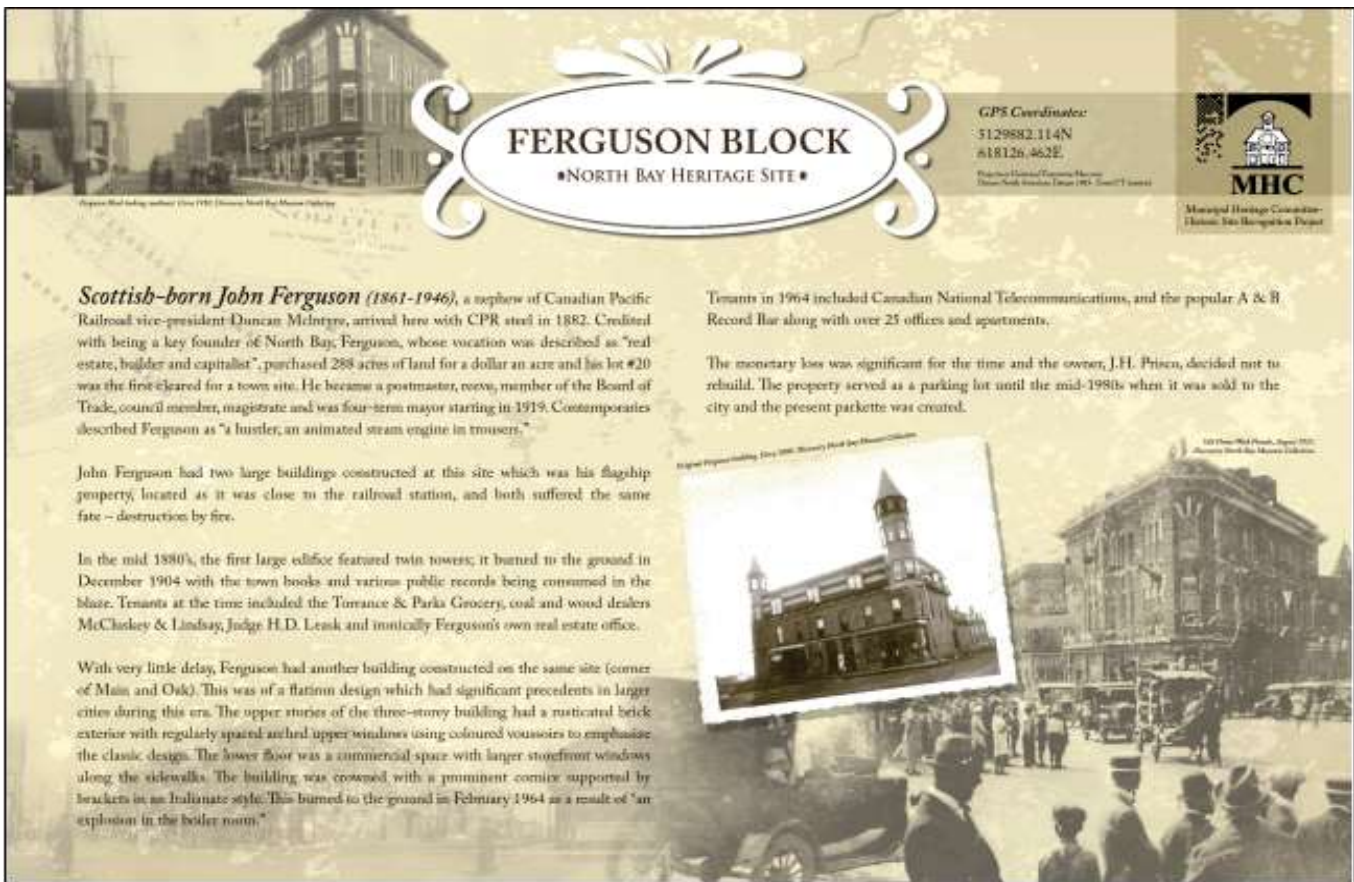
Heritage Site Plaque 3: Court House

Location: 390 Plouffe Street

The North Bay courtroom and lock-up was erected in 1888. Thomas Murray, the MLA for Renfrew North, was instrumental to its development. The courthouse was a two-story brick building classically ordered with segmented arched windows on the main floor, and larger semi-circular windows on the upper floor. The building was entered through a central tower on the front façade, which was designated by a masonry arched entrance.

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The courtroom itself proved more valuable than just for legal matters. In 1891, the inaugural town council meeting took place in the courtroom. Five years later, in 1896, extra jail cells and a jailor's accommodation were added. As time went on and the Court House became incapable of keeping up with the growing district, a new Court House was constructed in 1989.



Heritage Site Plaque 4: Ferguson Block

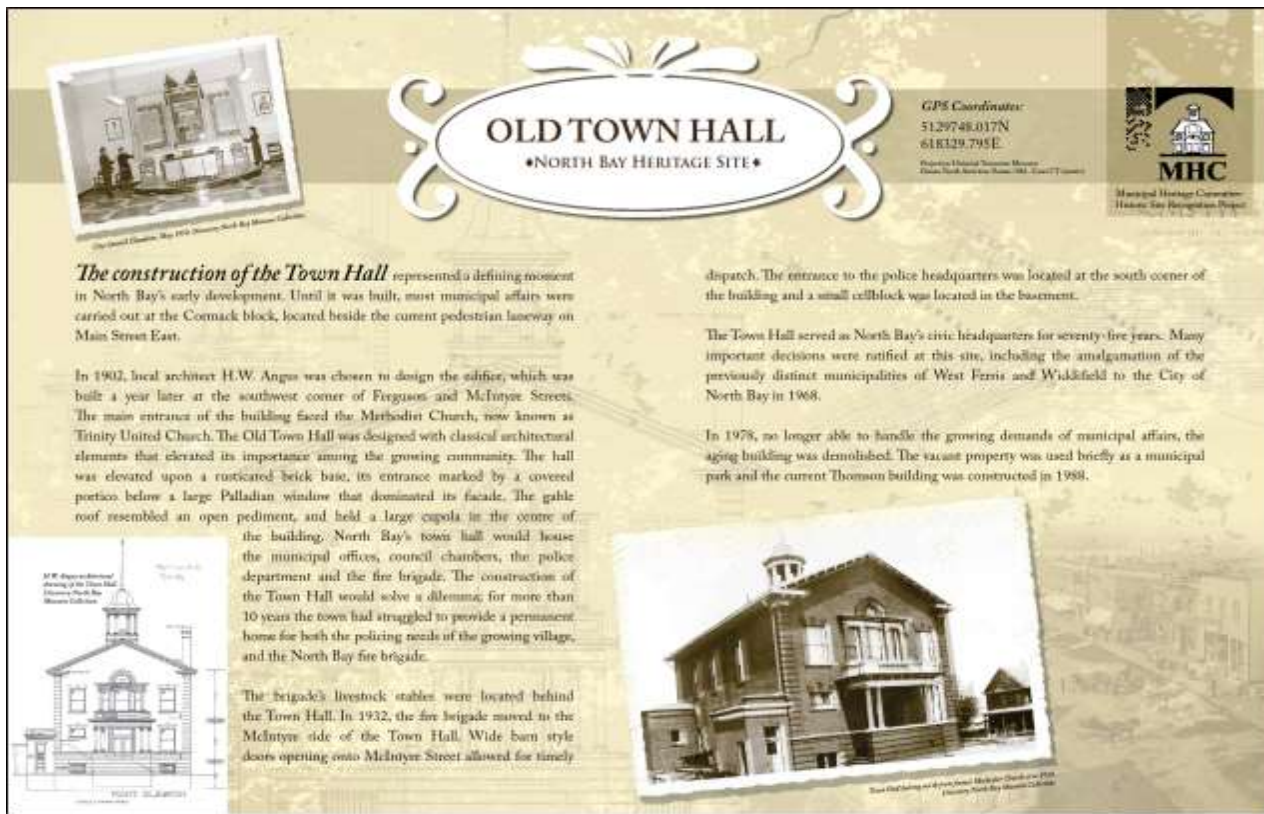
Location: Main and Oak Parkette

John Ferguson arrived in North Bay in 1882 at the age of twenty-one. He is credited with being a key founder of North Bay. He held numerous civic positions such as postmaster, council member, and magistrate. Ferguson also served as North Bay's mayor for four terms, starting in 1919. He had two large buildings constructed on this site. Unfortunately, both were destroyed by fire.

The first building, constructed in the late 1880s, featured twin towers. A fire occurred in 1904 that burned the building to the ground. Various town books and public records were consumed by the blaze, and many local businesses were lost. Ferguson, with little delay, constructed a second building at the corner of Oak and Main. This three-story building, with a flat-iron design, had a rusticated brick exterior with regular spaced arched upper windows that included coloured voussoirs to emphasize the classic design.

The building's lower floor was used as commercial space with large storefront windows along the sidewalks. The flat-iron building was crowned with a prominent cornice supported by brackets in an Italianate style. In 1964, as a result of an explosion in the boiler room, the building burned to the ground, leaving numerous businesses and citizens homeless.

The monetary loss was significant at the time and the owner, J.H. Prisco, decided not to rebuild. The property served as a parking lot until the mid-1980s, when it was sold to the City of North Bay and the present parkette was created.



OLD TOWN HALL
• NORTH BAY HERITAGE SITE •

GPS Coordinates:
51.29748, -0.17°N
-61.81329, 7.95°E
Digitized by Historic Sites Museum
© North Bay Heritage Society - 2011 - Grant T. Cooper

MHC
Municipal Heritage Commission
Historic Site Registration Program

The construction of the Town Hall represented a defining moment in North Bay's early development. Until it was built, most municipal affairs were carried out at the Cormack block, located beside the current pedestrian laneway on Main Street East.

In 1902, local architect H.W. Angus was chosen to design the edifice, which was built a year later at the southwest corner of Ferguson and McIntyre Streets. The main entrance of the building faced the Methodist Church, now known as Trinity United Church. The Old Town Hall was designed with classical architectural elements that elevated its importance among the growing community. The hall was elevated upon a rusticated brick base, its entrance marked by a covered portico below a large Palladian window that dominated its façade. The gable roof resembled an open pediment, and held a large cupola in the centre of the building. North Bay's town hall would house the municipal offices, council chambers, the police department and the fire brigade. The construction of the Town Hall would solve a dilemma; for more than 10 years the town had struggled to provide a permanent home for both the policing needs of the growing village, and the North Bay fire brigade.

The brigade's livestock stables were located behind the Town Hall. In 1932, the fire brigade moved to the McIntyre side of the Town Hall. Wide barn style doors opening onto McIntyre Street allowed for timely dispatch. The entrance to the police headquarters was located at the south corner of the building and a small cellblock was located in the basement.

The Town Hall served as North Bay's civic headquarters for seventy-five years. Many important decisions were ratified at this site, including the amalgamation of the previously distinct municipalities of West Ferris and Widdifield to the City of North Bay in 1968.

In 1978, no longer able to handle the growing demands of municipal affairs, the aging building was demolished. The vacant property was used briefly as a municipal park and the current Thomson building was constructed in 1988.

Heritage Site Plaque 5: Old Town Hall

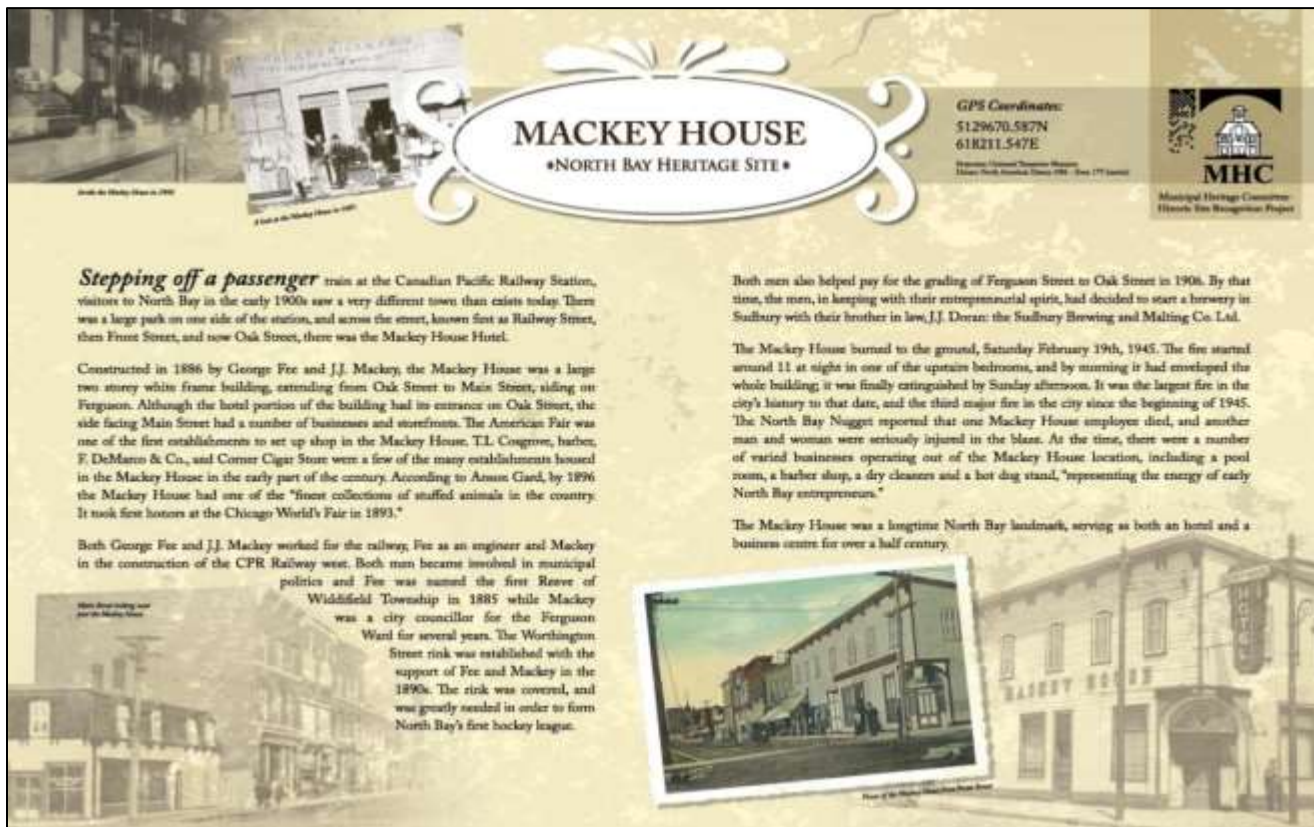
Location: 101 McIntyre Street West

The construction of the Town Hall represented a defining moment in North Bay's early development. Until it was built, most municipal affairs were carried out at the Cormack Block, located on Main Street East.

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Heritage Site Plaque 6: Mackey House

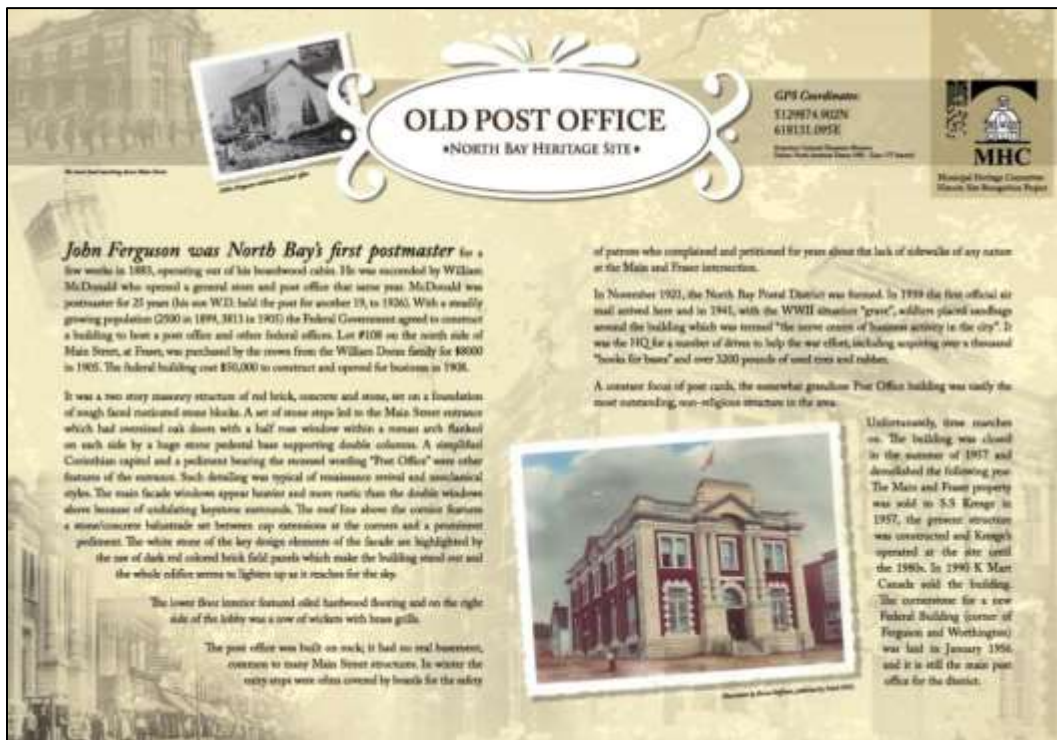
Location: Corner of Oak and Ferguson Streets

Constructed in 1886 by George Fee and J.J. Mackey, the Mackey House hotel was a large two story white frame building, extending from Oak Street to Main Street, and siding on Ferguson Street. The hotel portion of the building had its entrance on Oak Street, while the side facing Main Street had a number of businesses and storefronts.

Both George Fee and J.J. Mackey were heavily involved in the development of the community. They both worked for the railway and both men became involved in municipal politics. Fee was named the first Reeve of Widdifield Township in 1885, while Mackey was a city councillor for the Ferguson Ward for several years. In addition, the Worthington Street rink was established with the support of Fee and Mackey in the 1890s. This rink was greatly needed in order to form North Bay's first hockey league. Both men also helped pay for the grading of Ferguson Street to Oak Street in 1906.

On Saturday, February 19, 1945, the Mackey House burned to the ground in a terrible fire that started Saturday night in one of the upstairs bedrooms, and wasn't extinguished until Sunday afternoon. It was the largest fire in the city's history to that date, and the third major fire of the year in the city. The North Bay Nugget reported that one employee of the hotel died, and two people were seriously injured in the blaze. At the time, there were a number of varied businesses operating out of the Mackey House that represented the energetic spirit of early North Bay entrepreneurs.

The Mackey House was a well-known North Bay landmark that served as both a hotel and a commercial centre for over half a century.



Heritage Site Plaque 7: Old Post Office

Location: Main and Oak Parkette

With a steadily growing population, the federal government agreed to construct a building in North Bay that would host a post office and other federal offices. Lot #108 on the north side of Main Street, at Fraser, was purchased by the crown from the William Doran family for \$8,000 in 1905. The federal building cost \$50,000 to construct and opened for business in 1908.

The post office was a two-story masonry structure of dark red brick, concrete, and stone, set on a foundation of rough-faced stone blocks. A set of stone steps led to the Main Street entrance, which had over-sized oak doors with a half rose window within a roman arch. The entrance was flanked on each side by a huge stone pedestal base supporting double columns. A simplified Corinthian capital and a pediment bearing the recessed wording "Post Office" were other detailed features of the entrance. Other building details included the keystone surrounds on the first floor windows, and a roofline that featured a cornice, a stone/concrete balustrade, and a prominent pediment. The first floor interior had oiled hardwood flooring and on one side of the lobby was a row of wickets with brass grills.

A constant focus of post cards, the somewhat grandiose post office building was easily the most outstanding, non-religious structure in the area. The building was called "the nerve centre of business activity in the city," and it became the headquarters for a number of drives to help the war effort during the Second World War.

The building was closed in 1957 and demolished the following year. In 1957, the property was sold to S.S. Kresge, the present structure was constructed, and Kresge's store operated at the site until the 1980s. In 1990, K Mart Canada sold the building. The cornerstone for a new federal building (at the corner of Ferguson and Worthington) was laid in 1956. This new site is still the main post office for the district.



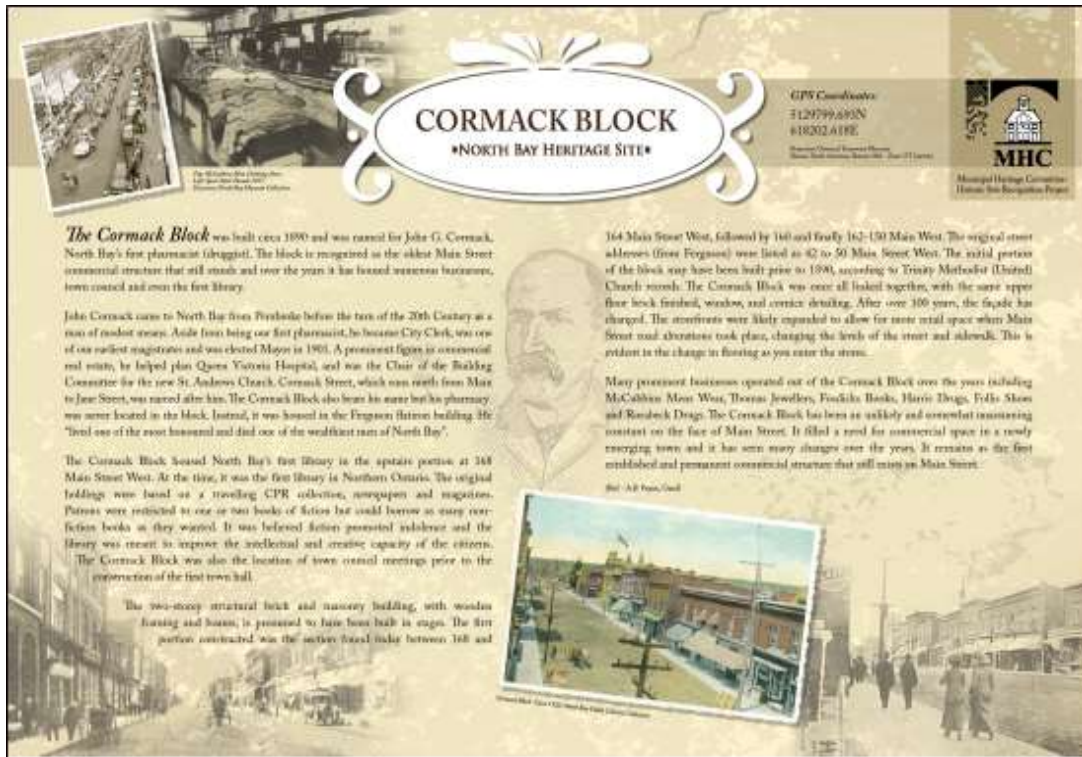
Heritage Site Plaque 8: Manitou Islands
Location: North Bay Waterfront

Five islands located roughly 10km offshore from North Bay on Lake Nipissing make up the Manitou. These five islands are Newman, Rankin, Little Manitou (also known as McDonald), Great Manitou (also Devil or Ghost Island) and Calder. From the air today the islands appear as a broken ring; the outline of an ancient rock structure.

The Manitou Islands have been used for seasonal human habitation for at least two thousand years. They were once hunting grounds for the Nipissing (a branch of the Ojibway Tribe). The Nipissing People had once flourished on the islands due to an abundance of available natural resources, including a healthy and varied fish and game population.

A small limestone kiln on Little Manitou Island was used during the construction of the North Bay portion of the CPR. In addition, a short-lived mineral exploration of the islands began in the mid-twentieth century. Certain mineral deposits were explored on Newman Island, but the deposits were never brought into production. The mine consisted of a large head frame and a 135m deep vertical shaft. The mine head frame collapsed in the winter of 2005 as it had weakened over time and due to heavy snow loads.

The islands became a Provincial Nature Reserve in 1989. Today they are a popular tourist destination known for their lush vegetation and sandy beaches.



Heritage Site Plaque 9: Cormack Block

Location: 158 Main Street West

The Cormack Block is a two-story commercial structure that is presumed to have been built in stages around 1890. It was named for John G. Cormack, North Bay's first pharmacist (druggist). The block is recognized as the oldest Main Street commercial structure that still stands. Over the years it has housed numerous businesses, town council and even the first library. In its current form today, the Cormack Block spans from 150 to 168 Main Street West.

Original brickwork can be seen in the second stories of 154, 164, and 168 Main Street West. The façade at 164 Main West remains largely unaltered, including an original wood door. A look at the interior of the block reveals many original features, including mahogany and cherry wood shelving, hardwood floors and beveled glass mirrors.

The Cormack Block was once all linked together, with the same upper floor brick finish, as well as similar window and cornice detailing. After over 100 years, the façade has changed through numerous transformations. The store fronts on Main Street were likely expanded to allow for more retail space when road alterations on Main Street took place, which would have changed the levels of the street and sidewalk. These alterations are evident in the change in flooring just as you enter the stores.

The Cormack Block represents unity, rather than conformity. This building filled a need for commercial space in a newly-emerging town. It has undergone many changes over the years, while maintaining a strong presence on Main Street. The Cormack Block is thought to have been one of the first, if not the original, merchant blocks in North Bay. Today it remains as a firmly established commercial structure on Main Street that acts as a solid anchor for the downtown core.



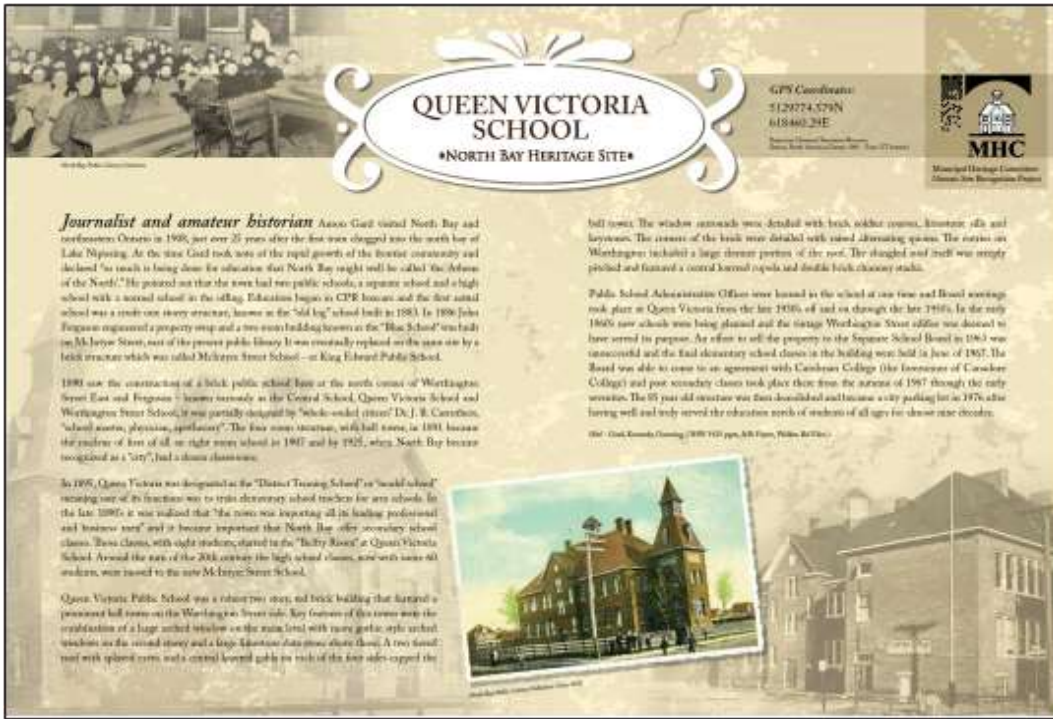
Heritage Site Plaque 10: Memorial Park Cenotaph Statue
Location: Memorial Park (Ferguson Street and First Avenue West)

The city block bounded by Fraser, First, Ferguson, and Second became the site of the North Bay Normal School, which opened in 1909 and still stands at the corner of First Avenue West and Fraser Street. In 1917, the province deeded the remainder of the land for use as a Memorial Park to commemorate the local residents who gave their lives in WWI.

The Agriculture and Parks Committee of Council, with input from local school children and from well-known sculptor Harold French (who helped plan the Vimy Memorial), came up with the design for the actual physical memorial. The 2,000-pound monument itself was crafted by Canadian sculptor C.D. McKenzie of Toronto. The largest monument cast in bronze in Canada at the time, it measures 26'6" from base to statue top. The statue of a Canadian soldier with bowed head, measuring 8'6" in height, stands on some 60 tonnes of granite. The base holds a North Bay dedication and is engraved with the names of important WWI battles. The contractors were Andrew Craig of North Bay and McIntosh Granite of Toronto.

The official unveiling of the monument took place on September 17, 1922 during a well-attended ceremony. In November of that same year, the first official Armistice Day ceremony took place at the cenotaph. In 1923, through a series of agreements between the municipal and provincial governments, Memorial Park was created and officially named at the November ceremony of that year.

In 1975, the Royal Canadian Legion installed an Honour Wall for veterans of the two World Wars. This monument was designed by former soldier and City Recreation Director Sam Jacks. In the mid-1990s, a group of war veterans formed an organization called Project Flanders to commemorate all who served their country. This new Honour Wall recognizes each of the seven wars and UN/NATO Missions of the 20th century, including World Wars One and Two, as well as the Korean and Vietnam Wars



Heritage Site Plaque 11: Queen Victoria School
Location: Near Intersection of Ferguson Street and Worthington Street East

In 1890, a brick public school was constructed at the north corner of Worthington Street East and Ferguson Street. Known variously as the Central School, Queen Victoria School, and Worthington Street School, the building was partially designed by Dr. J.B. Carruthers. In 1891, the structure consisted of four rooms and a bell tower. Subsequent additions occurred in 1907 and 1925, when the school grew to eight and then twelve classrooms.

Queen Victoria Public School was a robust two-story, red brick building that featured a prominent bell tower on the Worthington Street side. Key features of this tower were the combination of a large arched window on the main level with more gothic style arched windows on the second floor, and a large limestone date stone above the latter windows. A two-tiered roof with splayed eaves and a central gable on each of the four sides capped the bell tower. The window surrounds were detailed with brick soldier courses, limestone sills, and keystones. The corners of the brick were detailed with raised alternating quins, and the steeply pitched shingled roof featured a central cupola and double brick chimney.



**NIPISSING UNIVERSITY
AT CASSELLHOLME**
•NORTH BAY HERITAGE SITE•

GPS Coordinates:
43.30562, -79.465N
61.9572, -77.5E

MHC
Municipal Heritage Commission
Heritage Site Recognition Project

In September 1967, Nipissing University College opened its doors here, on the site of the old Cassellholme Home for the Aged. It was the result of a decades-long campaign to bring university education to North Bay. Under its affiliation agreement with Laurentian University, Nipissing College enjoyed financial and administrative independence, but its academic programs had to be approved by the university in Sudbury.

For a number of years prior to 1967, professors had travelled to North Bay to teach extension courses in rental rooms at Scotland Hall and Cassellholme. One of these professors was Sociologist Dr. Daniel Hill, the great-grandson of American slaves, who was later appointed as the first Director of the Ontario Human Rights Commission in 1962. Dr Hill is often called the founding father of human rights in Ontario.

During the 1959 – 1960 academic year, Northeastern University, Northern Ontario's first chartered university, had a brief existence at the Scotland Hall high school campus, where it offered students an opportunity to attend its university courses on a full-time basis in North Bay. Unfortunately, the operation was short-lived, when it was returned to Sudbury and ultimately became the foundation of Laurentian University, which was founded in 1960. The social Northern Ontario university to receive a charter was launched in 1965.

The struggle to establish a university presence in North Bay continued and by 1967, with the opening of Nipissing College, the dream of providing access to a liberal arts post-secondary education was realized.

In preparation for the opening, the dilapidated Cassellholme site the Aged building was renovated to provide classrooms, faculty offices, and other academic spaces. The floor plan included space for a library, although resources were limited, requiring faculty members to share their own holdings and purchase library books on periodic trips to Toronto. A 16 year old projector represented the only piece of audio visual equipment available at the university for the first couple of years.

In its first year of operation, Nipissing College had 49 full-time students and seven full-time faculty members offering courses in Biology, Philosophy, History, Geography, Sociology, English, and French. Post-tersec offered courses in Psychology and Economics. Over the next five years, the college expanded rapidly, thanks in large part to local elementary and high school teachers who were anxious to enhance their educational qualifications. This demand enabled the college to add full-time faculty in Psychology, Classics, Mathematics, and Economics. Space quickly became an issue, leading to the requirement to renovate the basement to accommodate more offices and lecture space.

In 1973, all four colleges in North Bay moved to a new building at the College Education Centre campus on the escarpment. At that time the Teachers' College joined Nipissing to become the Faculty of Education, while St. Joseph's School of Nursing merged with Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology. Placing the university college and the community college on one campus realized a dream of Premier William Davis to see a closer relationship between universities and college throughout the Province of Ontario. At about this time, Dr. George Zyzanski, the President of Nipissing College, subtly and without authorization, established the word University into the name, when he would refer to the institution as Nipissing University College to distinguish it from Canadore College of Applied Arts and Technology.

On December 10th, 1992, after 25 years of operation, Nipissing University College received its Charter – the Nipissing University Act – from the Province of Ontario, thereby allowing the new university to grant degrees independently.

From its modest beginnings at the Cassellholme site, Nipissing University has evolved into an institution providing post-secondary education to students from across Northeastern Ontario and beyond. Nipissing University granted over 10,000 degrees to students in the Arts, Sciences, Education, Nursing, Business, and other programs at the first 20 years since reaching its charter in 1992.

This plaque commemorates the 45th anniversary of the establishment of Nipissing College at the Cassellholme site in 1967 and the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Nipissing University Act by the Province of Ontario in December 1992.

*The Original Seven 1967:
Front Row from Left to Right: Dr. Stanley Stobbes, President Clarence Aron, Professor Sally Hamilton, Dr. George L. Zyzanski.
Back Row from Left to Right: Dr. Robert L. Brown, Dr. Donald H. Ashbury, Professor David Larkin.*

Heritage Site Plaque 12: Nipissing University at Cassellholme

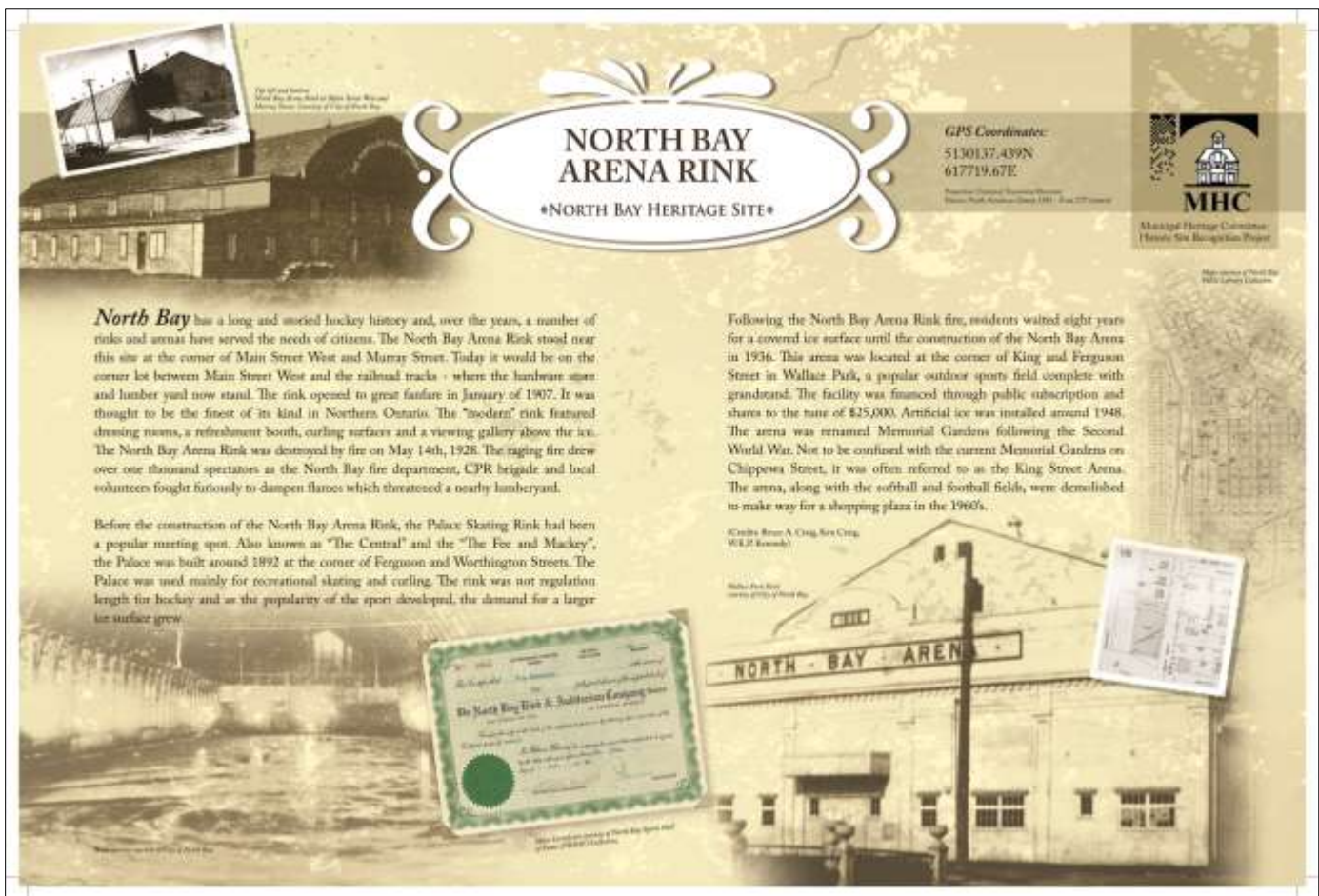
Location: Near Intersection of Cassells Street and Olive Street

In September of 1967, Nipissing University College opened its doors on the site of the old Cassellholme Home for the Aged. The opening was a result of a decades-long campaign to bring university education to North Bay. In preparation for the opening, the old nursing home building was renovated to provide classrooms, faculty offices, and other academic spaces.

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Heritage Site Plaque 13: North Bay Arena Rink

Location: Memorial Drive, past the Intersection of Main Street West and Murray Street

North Bay's story as a Northern Ontario city would not be complete without a history of the arenas and rinks that have served its citizens. The Palace Skating rink was the first, built around 1892 at the corner of Ferguson and Worthington Streets, and was used primarily for recreational skating and curling.

Demand for a larger rink for hockey was met with the creation of the North Bay Arena Rink, which opened in January 1907 at the corner of Main Street W and Murray Street. The new rink was thought by citizens as the best in Northern Ontario - it had dressing rooms, a refreshment booth, curling rinks and a viewing gallery above the ice. The Rink burned down on May 14th, 1928, drawing over a thousand spectators to watch the blaze.

The next covered rink was built in 1936 at the corner of King and Ferguson Street in Wallace Park. The North Bay Arena was financed through public subscription and shares totalling around \$25,000. The arena was renamed Memorial Gardens following World War Two, although it shares nothing but the name with the modern structure on Chippewa.

The arena and its surrounding fields were demolished and turned into a shopping mall in the 1960s.

NEW ONTARIO BREWING CO. LTD
NORTH BAY HERITAGE SITE

GPS Coordinates:
5128892.469N
618339.073E

Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American Datum (1983), Zone 17E (100m)

MHC
Municipal Heritage Committee
Historic Site Recognition Project

New Ontario Brewery sign, courtesy of the Barry Facilities Collection.

Top image: Courtesy of University North Bay Museum Collection. Middle image: Courtesy of the North Bay Public Library Collection.

Bottom image: Courtesy of University North Bay Museum Collection.

Local history of the Barry Facilities Collection (www.embayheritage.com) and the Collection of Barry Street Collection (www.barrystreet.com)

North Bay citizens have long enjoyed a refreshing tankard and for a short time in the early 20th Century, residents were served by their own brewery. The New Ontario Brewing Company Ltd. was the area's first commercial brewery, producing an aptly named beverage "Nipissing Lager". New Ontario Brewing stood near this spot and operated for almost a decade from 1905 to 1915, supplying both local and regional hoteliers and merchants with lager. The brewery was headed by brewmaster Frank Schaller of Chicago and the bookkeeper was Charles Blyth. The brewery's exact location may be pinpointed on a 1905 municipal insurance map, not far from the original mouth of Chippewa Creek. Due to changes in topography, the Lake Nipissing shoreline and the Chippewa Creek bed, the brewery building today would be located behind the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The site was close to rail transportation as distribution laws at the time allowed for export only. An interesting aside – the location was convenient for the busy railway crews, given the parlours they were known to frequent.

In 1904, the brewing company made a request to North Bay Council to be supplied with municipal water. The company likely drew water directly from Lake Nipissing as opposed to Chippewa Creek. As a main ingredient in their lager product, water quality control was quite possibly an issue. The site was bound by the CPR shops and livestock yards to the north and Chippewa Creek to the south. During this time, Chippewa Creek was a convenient drainage point for effluent from many homes upstream. These factors would not have been ideal for the brewmaster's desire for a quality water source.

Earliest photos of the brewery show a two story block building, with glazed wooden windows and a prominent chimney. The New Ontario Brewing Company Ltd. is painted in white across the façade. One photo finds a busy 'brewery booster', his wagon stocked with kegs and crates of the fine lager product. Brewery workers peer out from the upper windows of the second floor. This was most likely a promotional photograph intended to highlight North Bay's bustling brewery and associated products. The establishment operated until it was razed by fire in 1915.

(Credits: W. Stees, W.K.P. Kennedy, J. Bowering)

NIPISSING LAGER
Brewed & Bottled by
THE NEW ONTARIO BREWING CO. LTD.
NORTH BAY, ONTARIO

Heritage Site Plaque 14: New Ontario Brewing Co. Ltd
Location: Near Intersection of Memorial Drive and Regina Street

From 1905 to 1915 the New Ontario Brewing Company Ltd operated on the shores of Lake Nipissing, supplying local and regional hoteliers and merchants with their aptly named "Nipissing Lager". The exact location of the Brewery is best demonstrated by a 1905 municipal insurance map, which placed it just off of the mouth of Chippewa Creek. Topographical changes in Lake Nipissing and the Chippewa Creek bed indicate that if it were still standing today, the brewery would be located behind the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This site was ideal for the brewery because it was close to rail transportation, allowing for easy exporting of goods.

Before the brewery opened, in 1904, the company made a request to North Bay Council so that they could be supplied with municipal water. Water quality control was integral to the success of the brewery, as fresh, clean water was a key ingredient in their lager. Their location suggests that the company likely drew water from Lake Nipissing itself as opposed to the nearby creek, due to issues with homes draining into the water upstream.

The earliest photos of the brewery illustrate a two story block building with glazed wooden windows and a prominent chimney. The name, New Ontario Brewing Co. Ltd was painted in white across the front of the building. The brewing company operated for nearly a decade before it was razed by a fire in 1915.



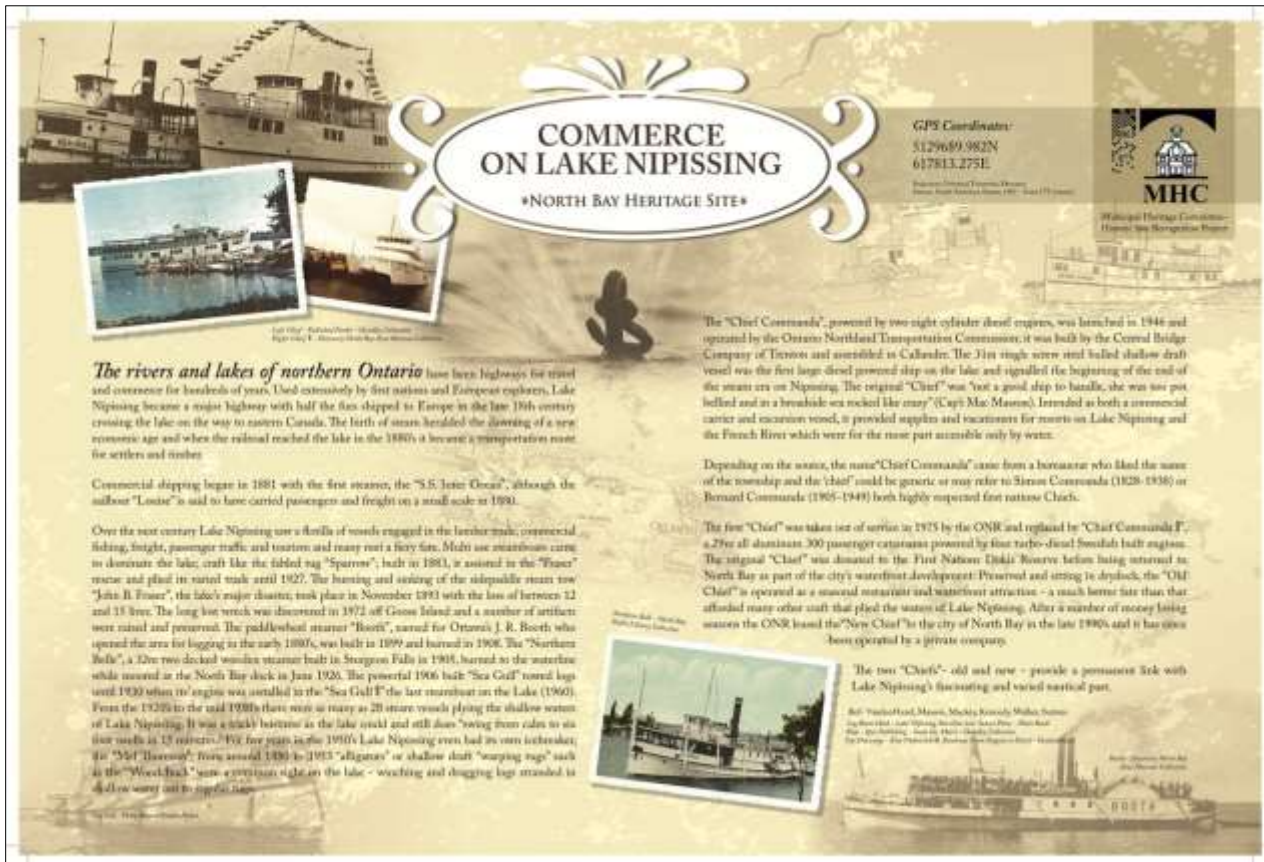
Heritage Site Plaque 15: Bomarc Missile

Location: Near Intersection of Memorial Drive and Regina Street

Throughout the Cold War, North Bay's position as an important NORAD military base led to both pride and fear within the city's citizens. While happy about the addition of many jobs and great prosperity, the people of North Bay were also worried about the city's positioning if war ever actively broke out between the United States and the Soviet Union. The presence of Bomarc missiles in the city is an illustration of this tension.

From 1961 to 1972 28 Bomarc missiles were stationed at a site just north of Highway 11. Despite extensive controversy about accepting nuclear armed warheads, a change in federal government from Diefenbaker's Progressive Conservatives to Pearson's Liberals resulted in the arming of the warheads at the end of 1963. With the introduction of intercontinental ballistic missiles in the 1960s, the Bomarc missiles became effectively obsolete and were subsequently removed from North Bay and the other Canadian site, La Macaza, Québec.

From 1979 to 2009, a Bomarc missile was mounted on a pedestal in Lee Park (Veteran's Fields) to serve as a reminder of this important and controversial period in North Bay's history. The missile was removed to the National Air force Museum in Ohio in 2009 to prevent further deterioration from age and the elements.



Heritage Site Plaque 17: Commerce on Lake Nipissing
Location: North Bay Waterfront


The rivers and lakes of northern Ontario have been highways for travel and commerce for hundreds of years. Used extensively by first nations and European explorers, Lake Nipissing became a major highway with half the furs shipped to Europe in the late 18th century crossing the lake on the way to eastern Canada.


Commercial shipping began in 1881 with the first steamer, the "S.S. Inter Ocean", although the sailboat "Louise" is said to have carried passengers and freight on a small scale in 1880.

Over the next century Lake Nipissing saw a flotilla of vessels engaged in the lumber trade, commercial fishing, freight, passenger traffic and tourism and many met a fiery fate. The burning and sinking of the side paddle steam tow "John B. Fraser", the lake's major disaster, took place in November 1893 with the loss of between 12 and 15 lives. From the 1920s to the mid-1930s there were as many as 28 steam vessels plying the shallow waters of Lake Nipissing.

The "Chief Commanda", was launched in 1946 and operated by the Ontario Northland Transportation Commission. The vessel was the first large diesel powered ship on the lake and signaled the beginning of the end of the steam era on Nipissing.


The first "Chief" was taken out of service in 1975 by the ONR and replaced by "Chief Commanda II".





THE EMPIRE
NORTH BAY HERITAGE SITE

GPS Coordinate:
45.29920, 144.618245 SE



For almost five decades the Empire was not only the finest hotel in North Bay it was also the social and business hub of the city - the place to stay if you were a visitor and the place to meet, to do business or to play if you were a resident. Centrally located within walking distance of the CPR and CNR/TASCO railway stations when the easiest way to travel was by rail, the Empire Hotel was also only a block off east-west Main Street and close to a pair of north-south corridors where the automobile came along.

The Empire Hotel, built by contractor Lou Maccioni and designed by Jules Jousson, both of Timonium, opened its doors on August 1st, 1928. The five story structure was an unassuming brick rectangular box on the outside but inside, it was a different story, with "neither pains nor expense... spared". Attention to detail and heritage was also the case in 1997 when the 100,000 square foot building was purchased, refurbished and retrofitted as a retirement home by the Retirement Living Centres Company.

Elegant and ornately crafted original features still abound in the magnificent main lobby, the dining room, the ballroom and the main staircase; features which transport the viewer to a time gone by. Upon entry you need only look up or look around and you will see original and restored heritage features, many of them examples of craftsmanship imported from Italy. There was a small orchestral balcony near the ballroom (Empress Room) ceiling accented by a hidden corridor where musicians would practice and smoke before going out to entertain; this is now closed off. The ballroom had a stage area which hosted clandestine card games back in the transitional 1930s as well as a barber shop, a bar and 26 pocket square rooms.




Parts of the 1942 Warner Bros film "Captains of the Clouds" were shot in and around the city and some of the cast, which included James Cagney, Dennis Morgan and Allan Hays, were hosted by the hotel. October 29th, 1951 saw then Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh stay at the Empire during their first Royal visit to Canada.

The Empire was a popular choice for weddings, for service clubs, sports, business, political and civic group meetings, special banquets, fund raisers, Sunday brunch, New Year celebrations, dances and general fun making. Financially struggling local Alderman Roy Thomson (who later became Lord Thomson of Fleet, one of the richest men in the world) celebrated the 1951 opening of CPCH, his first radio station and the beginning of his media empire, with a celebratory dinner at the Empire. There were so many informal meetings in the bar/lounge off Fraser Street in those years in the Registry and Cloud Room upstairs. The Cloud Room in particular was a favourite spot for important local and regional sports, business and social gatherings.

Not long after the Empire opened the dance band era swung into full beat. North Bay had an ample supply of trained musicians thanks to men like Egidio Virgili and the city's vibrant concert band tradition. Dance bands and groups sprang up to play at the Top Hat, the Masonic Temple, the Capitol and Royal Theatres as well as the Empress Room. Nick Casigara, Rocco and Carlo Lovetti were among those who led bands that played at the Empire through the 1930s and 40s; the Northernites, led by Frank Christie and their pianist Pete Desrosiers and featuring the likes of Cori Polanco, Eddie Barbo and Ralph Barbo played hard in the 40s and 50s while Norm Mason led his smooth big band sound orchestra in the late 1950s and 60s. Later in the 20th century, as musical tastes changed, the Empire hosted the likes of Rip Barham and the "Sophisticates" and Don Bosa and the "Clouds". Good Hornsby, who played at the hotel back in the 1930s, led his jazz quartet entertaining Living Centre residents early in the 21st century.

The Empire was North Bay's social and business anchor for fifty years. The North Bay Municipal Heritage Committee declared it a Heritage Building in 2011 and a commemorative glass plaque is mounted by the Fraser Street entrance.

Ref: WPG Old Photos, Bill McMillan, Ross Thompson/Gordon Proctor Photo Archive
Photo: Heritage Canada, City of North Bay, Photo: Heritage Canada, City of North Bay

Heritage Site Plaque 18: The Empire
Location: 425 Fraser Street

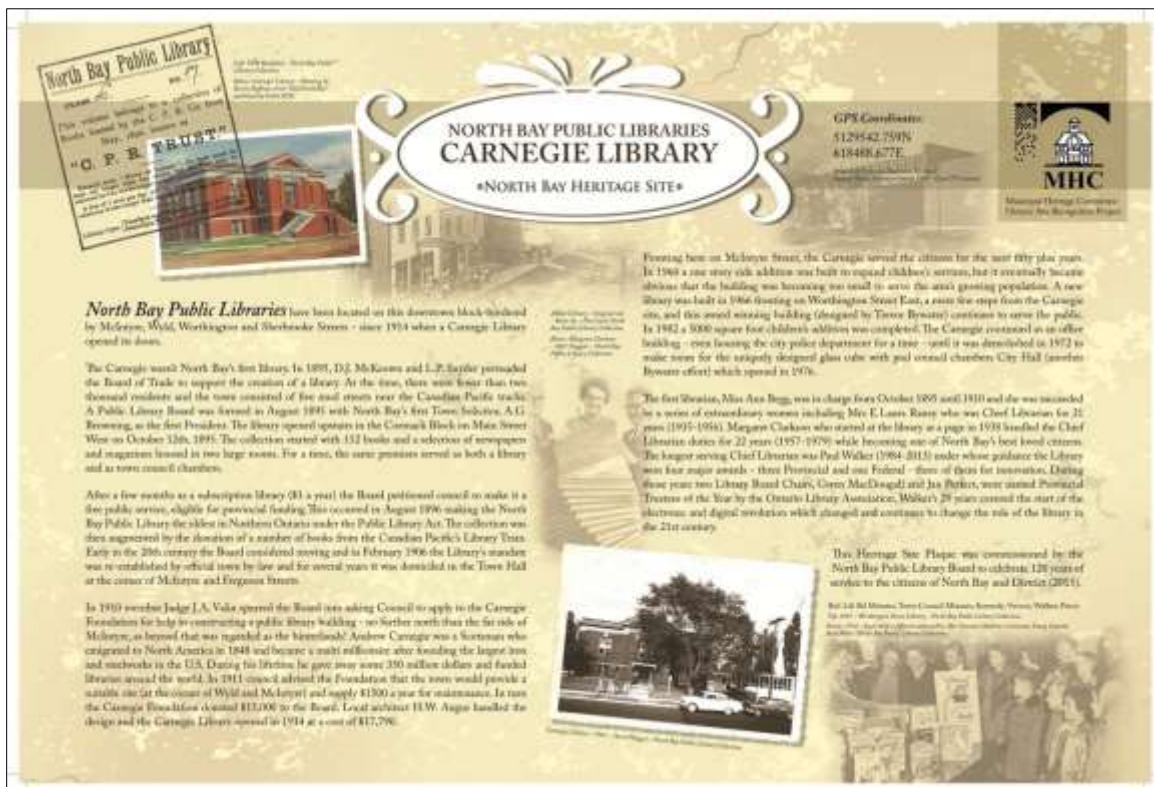
For almost five decades the Empire was not only the finest hotel in North Bay it was also the social and business hub of the city.

The Empire Hotel opened its doors on August 1st, 1928. The five story structure was an unassuming brick rectangular box on the outside but inside, it was a different story, with "neither pains nor expense...spared". Attention to detail and heritage was also the case in 1997 when the 100,000 square foot building was purchased, refurbished and retrofitted as a retirement home by the Retirement Living Centres Company.

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The Empire was North Bay's social and business anchor for fifty years.



Heritage Site Plaque 19: Carnegie Library
Location: 200 McIntyre Street

North Bay Public Libraries have been located on this downtown block – bordered by McIntyre, Wyld, Worthington and Sherbrooke Street – since 1914 when a Carnegie Library opened its doors.

The Carnegie wasn't North Bay's first library. In 1895, D.J. McKeown and L.P. Snyder persuaded the Board of Trade to support the creation of a library. At the time, there were fewer than two thousand residents. The library opened upstairs in the Cormack Block on Main Street West on October 12th, 1895. After a few months as a subscription library (\$1 a year) the Board petitioned council to make it a free public service, eligible for provincial funding. This occurred in August 1896 making the North Bay Public Library the oldest in Northern Ontario under the Public Library Act.

In 1910 member Judge J.A. Valin spurred the Board into asking Council to apply to the Carnegie Foundation for help in constructing a public library building. Local architect H.W. Angus handled the design and the Carnegie Library opened 1914 at a cost of \$17,790.

Fronting here on McIntyre Street, the Carnegie served the citizens for the next fifty plus years. A new library was built in 1966 fronting on Worthington Street East, a mere few steps from the Carnegie site, and this building continues to serve the public. The Carnegie continued as an office building until it was demolished in 1972 to make room for the uniquely designed glass cube with pod council chambers City Hall (another Bywater effort) which opened in 1976.



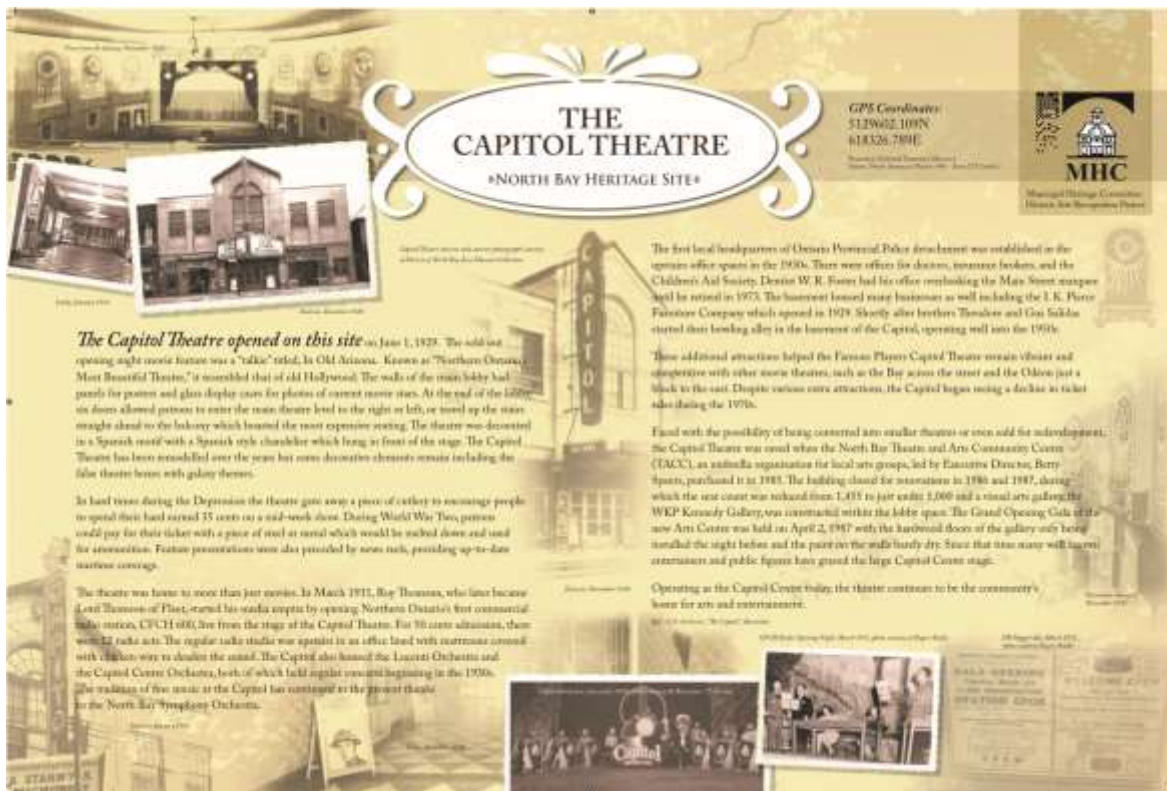
Heritage Site Plaque 20: Wallace Park

Location: 120 King Street W

For over fifty years, this block of land enclosed by King, Victoria and Ferguson Streets was North Bay's premier outdoor sporting and entertainment facility. It was initially known as Wallace Park and later became known as Memorial Gardens. The large field served as a home to a plethora of sports, teams, games, shows and events from its opening in 1910 until 1962.

The city purchased the park property in 1934 and it was used extensively until the 1940s. After the war, refurbishment was necessary and with funds from North Bay Rink & Auditorium Co. stock and volunteer work parties, lights were installed and a massive roofed grandstand, topped by a pressbox was constructed. Three quarters of the field was enclosed by North Bay's own 'green monster' - a wooden fence ten feet high on the property line.

In 1947, Wallace Park and the North Bay Arena combined to form Memorial Gardens. When Memorial Gardens opened, the King Street Arena was decommissioned and the park became known as Memorial Stadium. The city sold the property for \$101,000 in 1962, the historic facility was demolished and an A&P shopping plaza took over the space.



Heritage Site Plaque 21: Capitol Theatre
Location: 150 Main Street E

The Capitol Theatre opened on this site on June 1, 1929. The sold out opening movie feature was a “talkie” titled, In Old Arizona. The theatre was known as “Northern Ontario’s Most Beautiful Theatre,” it resembled that of old Hollywood. The walls of the main lobby had panels for posters and glass display cases for photos of current movie stars. At the end of the lobby, six doors allowed patrons to enter the main theatre level to the right or left or travel up the stairs straight ahead to the balcony which boasted the most expensive seating. The theatre was decorated in a Spanish motif with a Spanish style chandelier which hung from the front of the stage.

In hard times, during the Depression, the theatre gave away a piece of cutlery to encourage people to spend their hard earned 35 cents on a mid-week show. During World War II, patrons could pay for their ticket with a piece of steel or metal which could be melted down and used for ammunition.

The theatre has housed more than just celebrities as the Ontario Provincial Police, the Children’s Aid Society, Dentist, W.R. Foster, I.K.P Furniture and the Salidas’ Bowling Alley all occupied the space at one point.

Operating as the Capitol Centre today, the theatre continues to be the community’s home for arts and entertainment.



Heritage Site Plaque 22: The Barry Building Explosion

Location: 128 McIntyre Street W

In 1975, an accident that occurred during a routine excavation led to the largest tragedy in North Bay's history. In the afternoon of January 8, a crew from the gas company working next door used a backhoe to pull up a charged natural gas line connected to a recently demolished house and accidentally severed the line.

At 3:30 p.m., a violent explosion tore through the Barry Building as the natural gas ignited, lifting the building's roof five feet into the air. Within a minute, a raging fire had erupted, complicating rescue efforts.

It took an hour and a half for the natural gas to be shut off and the fire to be brought under control. During this time, countless police officers and many heroic private citizens selflessly charged into the rubble to help. Those injured were taken across the street to Cochrane Dunlop Hardware for triage, despite the store having had its front plate glass window blown out by the blast.

The fire immediately claimed the lives of eight people and one other several weeks later in hospital. The community members who died as a result of the explosion were: Elsie Brooks; Louise Brousseau; (Dr.) James Cobean; Elizabeth Hall; LaJuana Hallauer; (Dr.) Garnet Julian; Gertrude Larocque; Mary Margaret MacDonald; and Sarah Murdoch. Another twenty-three people were injured, several of them severely. This tragedy led to several investigations, a coroner's inquest and recommendations to change provincial procedures regarding natural gas detection.



APPENDIX

Property Evaluation System

The Evaluation Process

Priority Rankings

Heritage Site Plaque Program



Property Evaluation System

Properties are evaluated according to their architecture, history, environment, sustainability, and integrity. The evaluation procedure system used by the North Bay Heritage Committee is modeled upon the system used by Parks Canada in the evaluation of national historic sites and buildings. The following characteristics are sought in the appraisal of heritage buildings or sites:

Architecture

A property with architectural significance has exceptional quality in its design, style, structural systems, materials, and craftsmanship, and also has a particular compatibility with its setting. Overall, the structure and/or site should be an outstanding component of this City's best character and image.

This value may be influenced by the architectural style or classical period that its design is derived from.

Consistent with the Parks Canada system, evaluation of each site or building is weighted on its architectural merit and value, whereby it represents a significant example of the best elements of our natural and built environment.

History

A property with historical significance is evaluated in terms of the person, group or event that may be associated with the building on its origin or during its lifetime. This measure is also based upon the usefulness of the structure itself for teaching cultural or social history at a local, regional or national level. Aging of the structure, in terms of its lasting capability over the years since its construction, is of great importance.

Environment

A property with environmental significance is a structure or site which contributes to the community in the character of the street, neighbourhood, or area in which it is located. This may arise from the importance of the property as a focal point of its locale, and/or from its recognition as a welcome sibling of the family of buildings to which it belongs. Furthermore, notable worthiness can arise from the successful marriage of structure and natural setting such that they complement each other and form a bond that is mutually supportive.

Sustainability

A property is considered meritorious in sustainability when there has been continuity of use for the purpose originally intended or potential for the property to be modified for other commendable purposes. Both are dependent upon the availability of public utilities and services for continuing use and the implementation of a program of usage that is economically viable. The cost to preserve, restore and maintain the structure must be reasonable in comparative terms.

Significance is gained in this context by fellowship of usage and character with its neighbourhood and/or its capability of retrofit to meet the demands of new requirements.



Integrity

Compatibility of the structure with the site, the street and the neighbourhood is important in assessing the integrity of any property. Another consideration is the possible adaptability for retrofitting without modification to the original architectural elements that establish its merit.

A policy of wisdom in maintaining heritage value should be implemented whereby external restoration, where necessary, is carried out with consistent integrity in the reconstitution of the original design without compromise. Alterations and/or additions should be complementary to the original design.

Internal renovation may be necessary in order to achieve functional capability, but not at the expense of external integrity.

This system is designed to assist evaluators in determining which properties are sufficiently significant to warrant conservation and preservation, and most important, to develop the criteria on which this can be established.

It is intended that architectural value judgments may be made rationally, objectively and confidently, as outlined in the process described on the following page.



The Evaluation Process (Glass Plaque Program)

The Site Evaluation Program seeks to recognize properties that have architectural and/or historical characteristics. The program is sometimes referred to as the Glass Plaque Program, as certain properties with exceptional qualities are commemorated with a glass plaque.

The Municipal Heritage Committee develops a list of properties that might merit consideration from the Committee. This list forms the basis of Committee's work plan, enabling members to prioritize which properties to evaluate. Members of the public, City staff and City Council are encouraged to suggest properties that should be considered. This list is regularly reviewed and revised.

The Committee obtains the property owner's permission before conducting any form of evaluation. Once the owner's consent is achieved, all available Committee members attend the property in question to conduct a site visit. Photographs are taken, notable features are documented and Committee members ask questions of the owner to gain an understanding of the property's history and characteristics.

The Committee has always benefited by having an architect as a member of the Committee, which enables the Committee to gain a detailed understanding of the history of the building's construction, features and the property's significance to the community's built form.

Following the site evaluation, the Committee reviews third party information to get a more fulsome understanding of the property's history. Sources of information include (but is not limited to) the North Bay Public Library, Discovery Centre museum and a title search at the Land Registry's Office.

The next step is for the Committee to complete the scoring evaluation sheet. The scoring system is a numerical system that grades the subject property to a maximum of 100 points on characteristics such as architecture and historical significance, as outlined above (see "Property Evaluation System"). This score establishes the property's heritage priority level, as per below:

Priority-One Heritage Sites: Properties that score 90-100 are recognized as being some of North Bay's most historic properties and are deemed to be a Priority-One Heritage Site. Properties earn this distinction through outstanding preservation of historically and/or architecturally significant properties. Priority-One Heritage Sites are presented with a commemorative glass plaque, to be affixed on an exterior wall. With the concurrence of the owner, the Municipal Heritage Committee typically organizes a press event to unveil the plaque and publicly acknowledge the property.

Priority-Two Heritage Sites: Properties that score 80-89 are recognized as having visible architectural and/or historical attributes and are deemed to be a Priority-Two heritage Site. Priority-Two Heritage Sites are recognized for their important contributions to North Bay's history by way of a certificate.

Priority-Three Heritage Sites: Properties that score 70-79 have some architectural and/or historical attributes and should be recognized. These properties receive a letter commending the heritage attributes of the property.



Information gathered from the Site Evaluation, research and the scoring chart is then compiled into a Site Evaluation Report. The Site Evaluation Report is intended to be a comprehensive summary of all historical aspects of the property. It will touch upon subjects such as historical events, architecture, persons of interest affiliated with the property (famous owners, architect, etc.).

The Site Evaluation Report varies in length and in depth of information, depending on the amount of research material available to the Committee. Reports are typically written by a solitary author, with all other Committee members sharing in the responsibility of editing. The exception to this structure is the section pertaining to architecture. This portion is typically written by the Committee's architect.

The Site Evaluation Report is the core of the Municipal Heritage Committee's functions, documenting properties in an interesting and educative fashion for future generations. The information and text prepared for the Site Evaluation Report is utilized in other information materials, such as this Illustrative Guide and online content.



Heritage Site Plaque Program

The Municipal Heritage Committee, in cooperation with the City of North Bay's Parks and Recreation Department, established the Heritage Site Plaque Program in 2009. This program has resulted in a series of plaques being placed throughout the community on sites that have heritage characteristics but have undergone significant changes. This might mean a building that once was present but has since been removed, or a natural feature that previously utilized in a different manner.

The goal of this initiative is to share the community's history by featuring an interesting story. By placing the plaque on site, the readers can ostensibly look around and see how the property was once used.

Similar to the aforementioned Glass Plaque Program, the Municipal Heritage Committee receives the property owner's approval prior to commencing work.

The location of these plaques is identified by a brown number on the map on page 6.

For more information on heritage and evaluation please contact:

The North Bay Municipal Heritage Committee
C/o Planning Services Department, City of North Bay
P.O. Box 360, 200 McIntyre Street East, North Bay, ON P1B 8H8
(705) 474-0400