

ACO's 41st Annual
Geranium Heritage House Tour

South Side Stroll



Sunday June 1, 2014

1:00 to 5:00

Walk begins at Mountsfield Public School
8 Mountsfield Drive

Refreshments are available from 2:30 to 5:00

Architectural Conservancy of Ontario—London Region Branch
www.acolondon.ca

“preserving London’s heritage”

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Founded in 1933

Aims

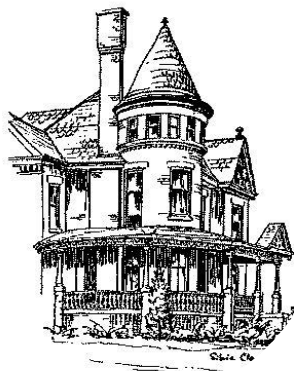
- To preserve the finest examples of architecture in the province.
- To protect its places of natural beauty.
- To preserve significant buildings regardless of age, style and size.
- To protect such buildings from unsympathetic alteration
- To preserve the architectural integrity of streetscapes.
- To protect places of natural beauty from destructive uses.

The London Region Branch Founded in 1966

When faced with the probable loss of the buildings in London's earliest and professional areas on Ridout Street, concerned citizens and groups combined to form the London Region Branch of the ACO. As a branch of the Provincial ACO it serves to further the *aims* of the parent organization in the London Region.

Activities

- Organizing walking tours, lectures, bus trips and workshops.
- Providing financial assistance to owners of selected properties.
- Influencing public policy at local and provincial levels.
- Holding an annual architectural tour on the first Sunday in June.
- Appointing a representative to the London Advisory Committee on Heritage (LACH).



Introduction

Welcome to the 41st annual Geranium Heritage House Tour. The South London neighbourhood you will be exploring on today's tour evolved from rural to urban over a period of time, officially becoming part of London in 1961. As a result you will see a wide variety of architectural styles, from traditional Georgian Revival to Edwardian Foursquare to Mid-Century Modern homes with Frank Lloyd Wright influence. More recent "infill houses" have been designed to blend in with those around them, creating a charming, harmonious streetscape.

One of the main aims of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario is "to preserve the finest examples of architecture in the province". Our annual heritage house tour provides an opportunity for Londoners to appreciate the richness of our built heritage. To further the preservation of our built heritage, proceeds from today's tour will help fund ongoing ACO heritage projects, including:

- an annual Restoration Grant to homeowners to help preserve or restore heritage features of their homes
- an annual London Heritage Scholarship to a post-secondary student who has completed a project within the past year that is related to and/or promotes appreciation of built or natural heritage in the London region.

Enjoy your stroll along the picturesque streets of London's South Side. You will find a map on the back cover of this booklet, but remember that the route shown there is just a suggestion. Except for the refreshment stop which opens at 2:30, sites are open from 1:00 to 5:00, and can be viewed in any order. A potted red geranium marks each house open for viewing (hence, the name of the tour!).

NOTE: As part of our commitment to property owners we would ask that tour participants be prepared to remove their shoes if asked, and please do not take interior photographs.

Thank you for your participation.

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Geraniums for today's tour have been graciously provided by Van Horik Greenhouses and Garden Centre.

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History

Before London's settlement began at the forks of the Thames, Westminster Township had been surveyed in three different segments at three different times. The area which encompasses today's tour was the second segment surveyed in 1810 by Deputy Provincial Surveyor Watson assisted by deputy Surveyor Bostwick. He was authorized to survey concession A and B plus C1 and C2 and to bring in settlers from Lower Canada. Watson ran a single straight line, or "base line", across the township south of the Thames laying out two concessions of 100 acre lots on either side of the base line.

Because settlers were required to clear roads in front of their properties, homes were built on Commissioners Road which was already open rather than on Watson's base line. As a result, only the sections of the road in Byron west of Commissioners and in old South were opened. Stymied by Thomas Talbot's interference in his settlement and financially compromised by the failure, Watson joined the invading Americans who raided the area in 1812.

In 1836 Captain John Stephens purchased 80 acres of Lot 29 Concession 1 for 50 pounds. Richmond Hill Farm extended north from Commissioners Road and east from Wharncliffe Road. His youngest son Richard took over the farm and lived there until his death in 1903. The original Stephens farmhouse, believed to date in part to 1850, is found at 127 Base Line. You will be able to catch a glimpse of it at the western end of today's walk.

Following Richard Stephens' death, control of this large tract fell to his son Rowland. Local children who grew up along Base Line fifty years ago and more remember a time when open orchards, large gardens and lots that stretched back from Base Line up the hill towards Commissioners Road allowed them to explore "Rolly's farm".

Land records for the first half of the twentieth century show an active sale and resale of the lots Rowland Stephens subdivided from the original family farm. By 1939 most of the houses on the south side of Base Line from Wimbledon Court to Wortley Road had been built on deep lots that followed the original land plan. The country setting, lower taxes, and easy access to London made this part of Westminster Township a very desirable address. Infill

houses that were built following 1945 and after the annexation of the area by London in 1961 are largely sympathetic to the architectural styles of their predecessors.

The north side of Base Line developed more slowly. Lots on that side were the park lands Watson surveyed that created large estates with many acres. This north side of the road was the site of several large market gardens such as Gerald Collyer's, east of Wortley and the Roberts (later Colwill) gardens and greenhouses that covered the area on the south east section of Elworthy Avenue facing Base Line. Imagine the market garden landscape of long ago and the gradual sprouting of stately homes as you stroll through this lovely Base Line Road neighbourhood today.



John Odell (1789-1854), one of the first settlers in this part of Westminster Township, arrived during the winter of 1811 along with his brother Joshua and their families.



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Mountsfield School 8 Mountsfield Drive



Mountsfield Public School was built in 1941, but the history of the local school in this area dates back as far as 1817. At that time Westminster Township, with a population of 428, had two schools. The Odell School, SS # 3, was on the southwest corner of the present Commissioners and Wellington Roads. The school was close to Odell Corners, named for John Odell who settled there in 1811. In 1830, Odell fenced off a piece of his property for a new one room lumber schoolhouse painted traditional red. In 1867 a new red brick schoolhouse to the east replaced the frame structure. When fire destroyed all but the school bell in 1883 a new brick building was constructed. Wood additions were made in 1899 and again in 1920-21 when the building of Westminster Hospital increased the enrollment. The school celebrated its 120th anniversary in 1937.



*Odell School, S.S. No.3,
Westminster 1883*

As residential development continued south of Emery Street beyond the London city limits it was decided that the old school was not only too small but not centrally located. A heated debate arose over the choice of one larger centrally located school to serve the areas on both sides of Wellington Road or to divide the school section and build two schools. The latter choice was made and on February 3, 1941 the new Mountsfield School was opened with three teachers and the principal, George Hotham, who transferred from the Odell School with the students. Genevieve Mitton, whose father was the first owner of 399 Wortley Road (the third stop on today's tour) was one of those three teachers.

Architects Riddle and Connor designed a brick state-of-the-art one floor school with four classrooms, principal's office, staff room, lunch room with kitchenette, washrooms, library, nurse's room, boiler and coal room and water fountains in the hall. Gerald P. Collyer who had sold the land to the school trustees asked that the school be named for his great-grandmother's house in Sussex, England, called Mountsfield Manor. When the Odell School was sold at auction, the bell that had been salvaged in 1883 was given to Mountsfield and permanently mounted on a cairn located near the school's front entrance.

In 1949 a new wing was added to the north of the original structure with four classrooms on the upper level and a large kindergarten and two other classrooms on the lower level. In 1951-52 a new entrance was created when a glassed in hallway was built joining the two earlier parts of the school to the large addition. You can see the earlier entrance to the east of the present entrance doors. Today's walk begins in this area that added a gymnasium with a full stage, a community kitchenette, eight new classrooms on two levels, principal and secretary offices, student washrooms and smaller rooms for storage and small classes. In 1957 the last addition was built on the east side with six classrooms on two levels and a teachers' entrance. When a large part of Westminster Township was annexed by the City of London in 1960, Mountsfield began the 1961-62 school year as part of the much enlarged Board of Education for the City of London.

**Exit the school and turn right (west) on Mountsfield Drive.
Walk to Wortley Road and turn right. (north)**

The modern home at 426 Wortley illustrates English Cottage Revival features, including a steeply pitched roof and an arched doorway in the front facing gable.

247 Base Line Road, the corner house, was built c1897 and designed by Moore and Henry

Architects in the Queen Anne style for Gerald P. Collyer. Main & Collyer Vegetable Growers operated on part of the large property. At that time it was surrounded by open countryside and it is very much in the tradition of the Ontario country houses of its era. The gables, faced in stucco with exposed timber framing, exemplify a Tudor influence. Note the brick corbelled chimneys and voussoirs over the windows on this substantial and graceful residence.



247 Base Line

Cross Base Line Road to the north side and continue your stroll along Wortley Road.

410 Wortley is a classic example of the Georgian Revival style. It is characterized by a perfectly balanced front façade with a central door. The entrance, with its sidelights, is pleasing.



410 Wortley Road

408 Wortley is a vernacular late example of English Cottage Revival style. Note the steep roof and prominent chimney, as well as the paired eyebrow dormers.

The clean lines of 406 Wortley identify it as Contractor Modern in style. Features of this style are the prevalence of vertical and horizontal lines and simplicity in design.

404 Wortley Road


 2


1932 Priority 2

This stately home was built for Joseph Chamberlain Knowles, who co-founded London Winery with his brother Arthur N. Knowles. Joseph and his wife Anna moved here in 1932 from Windsor Avenue when the success of London Winery enabled them to contract one of London's premier builders, Roy James, to construct a house in keeping with their status in London's business community. Roy James' other projects included East Park Gardens and the Carousel Hotel, now Shelley's Restaurant, on Wellington Rd. After Joseph's death in 1942, his wife Anna stayed in the house where the five Knowles children were raised.

The two-and-a-half storey Tudor Revival home is a study in solid workmanship and attention to detail, with its striking decorative multi-coloured brickwork and embedded stone squares and diamonds. The basic symmetry of the façade, with two front gables surrounding a central entranceway, is enlivened by the differences between the two sides. The left gable features stucco half-timbering capping a decorative



Joseph C. Knowles

square projection with paired windows, while the right gable has patterned brick half-timbering above matching upper and lower triple windows. A pair of round-headed single windows peeks out from beneath the central dormer.

Notice the brackets and "rafter tails" adorning the gables and the quaint oriel window on the south wall, partially concealed by a whimsical flare of the façade's right edge. The graceful porch, with a pediment roofline that echoes those above, frames an off-centre door and small window.



Gable on 404 Wortley Road

Exit the house and carefully cross to the west side of Wortley Road.

393 Wortley is a fine example of Bungalow style. The roof is gently pitched and extends over the enclosed verandah concealing second storey living space.

The charming bungalow at 395 Wortley has some interesting features. Note the rafter tails (visible ends of the rafters) and the oversize dormer, called an above shed dormer. The piers and base of the verandah are built of rubble stone.



395 Wortley Road

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London Winery

In 1925 London Winery was founded by Joseph Chamberlain Knowles, later of 404 Wortley Road, and his brother Arthur Neville Knowles with a \$30 000 investment on a parcel of land on the east side of the Lambeth Highway or Wharncliffe Road. The site, south of Base Line Road at the crest of the hill, was known for many years as Winery Hill.

Arthur Neville, an electrical engineer who also established the largest electrical contracting business in the London area, and J.C., who was a trained winemaker, set up the business at a time when the Government of Ontario was refusing to approve additional licensing for wineries. The Knowles family purchased nine such licenses in the first twenty years, most notably that of J.S. Hamilton of Point Pelee, Canada's oldest winery dating to 1871.

During Prohibition when wine sales were limited to doctors' prescriptions and churches' sacramental uses, London Winery products were available at pharmacies. In 1927 after the repeal of Prohibition, wine could be sold in retail outlets and London Winery's first store opened on the northwest corner of Ridout and Dundas in 1932. In 1941 a new store with an Art Moderne styled front was opened on Dundas between Market Lane and Talbot. The store was ruined by fire in 1987 but the striking storefront was saved and moved to 417 Richmond just north of Dundas. By 1984 London Winery had 20 wine shops in Ontario.

In its early decades London Winery's production was concentrated on producing its sherry and port. It was one of the first to market a honey wine, or mead, in 1963 and sales were brisk. By this time the taste for dry table wines had grown and the firm's fermenting and aging cellars were extended underground at the Winery Hill site where more than 4 million bottles



were produced annually. In 1996 the second and third generation of the Knowles family sold the company to Vincor International (Jackson Triggs), now known as Constellation Brands Canada. The property on Winery Hill is now part of Wharncliffe Road's auto dealership area.



399 Wortley Road



1923

This is a fine example of a Foursquare style house, one of three you will see on today's tour. Also known as American Foursquare or Prairie Box, this simple plan consists of four rooms upstairs and four downstairs, making maximum use of space on small city lots. Developed in the early 1900s when Victorian excess was on the decline, the Foursquare followed the Edwardian ideal of minimal decoration and a simpler, square form. The style became so popular that patterns and pre-cut materials could be mail-ordered from catalogues such as Sears Roebuck in the US and Eaton's in Canada.

Characteristics of the Foursquare style include a hipped roof with deep overhang and centered dormer window, wide verandah, and large double-hung windows with simple stone sills and headings. The hipped roof of the verandah and dormer echo that of the main house, and the resulting strong horizontal lines make the house seem more broad than tall. The Foursquare style has been lovingly referred to as squat, plain, and endlessly comforting.

The Foursquare home in front of you features textured red brick, a rusticated stone foundation, and an off-centre doorway with beveled glass windows. The characteristic full-width verandah is supported by brick piers at the ends and short pillars on either side of

the entrance. Patterned brickwork and embedded stone diamonds add a decorative touch.

The home was first owned by Leslie Mitton, a real estate agent for F. D. Bainard, whose offices were located in the Moore Building on the southeast corner of Talbot and King Streets. Mr. Mitton and his wife Bertha had two daughters, Genevieve and Kathleen, who were both teachers.

Exit the house and continue to walk south on Wortley Road.

Compare 401, another classic example of a variation on Georgian Revival style, with the house across the street. The attractive entryway on 401 is capped by an arch supported by decorative columns and pilasters.



401 Wortley Road

Geraniums for today's tour have been provided by Van Horik's Greenhouses and Garden Centre.



930 Gainsborough
London, Ontario.
N6H 5L4



244 Baseline Road East



c1930 Priority 2

This unique eclectic home was built in 1930 for George Arthur, director of London Ice & Coal Company on Bathurst Street, and his wife Phyllis. Set on a corner lot, surrounded with mature trees and a rock garden, this is a city house in a cottage setting. In fact, the design incorporates many elements of Tudor Cottage style, with a steep, uneven roofline, tall gables, half-timbering, and a prominent stone chimney on the front façade. The red-brick front of the house contrasts with the east side, where the gable is stucco and almost completely surrounded by the steep shingled roof.

The slightly recessed entrance is set within a double gable and accented with decorative brickwork that echoes the gently curved top of the door and continues around the windows and along the front gable rooflines. As with most Tudor Revival houses there is no porch. Notice the variety of window shapes and sizes, from thin single windows reminiscent of firing holes to banks of diamond-paned casement windows, with every number from two on the south side to six on the west side. After you exit the house, take a look at the unusual dormer window tucked into the west side of the roof. From every angle, there is a lot to see here.

With its pleasing proportions and complex design, this home makes a dramatic statement on the street.

**Exit the house onto Wortley Road or Base Line Road.
Stroll west on Base Line Road.**

236 Base Line is an excellent example of sympathetic infill.

230 Base Line is a vernacular interpretation of Georgian Revival.



236 Base Line Road

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228 Baseline Road East



1937 Priority 2

Georgian Revival architecture has its roots in England during the reign of three King Georges, 1750 to 1820, and is characterized by symmetry, pleasing proportions, and understated elegance. These terms certainly apply to this stately home, built in 1937 for former cigar maker George H. McCullagh and his wife Thelma. It was their son, a successful Toronto business man, who arranged for construction of a home where his parents could retire in peace and quiet. The Reid family of London Life fame later purchased the home.

Typical features of Georgian Revival style are the symmetrical five-bay design (five windows on the upper floor aligned with four windows plus central door on the ground floor), gable end roof, and simple unadorned windows with small (8 over 8) panes. The doorway is adorned with fluted pilasters and topped with a triple keystone and scroll ornamentation. Many Georgian Revival homes you will see on today's tour are brick; on this house, white vinyl siding nicely imitates the clapboard construction typical of many Georgian houses in older parts of Ontario.

As you exit the house, take note of the fieldstone chimney on the west side with a small window built into the centre.

Exit the house and continue your walk west on Base Line.

224 Base Line with its steep and sweeping gables, casement windows and arched doorway in the front facing gable exemplifies English Cottage Revival style.

The tall red brick house at 222 Base Line was built c1929 for Edward Parnell, manager of the Parnell-Dean Steam Baking Company. A most unusual feature in the remarkable façade is the semicircular front window. Notice the casement windows centred on the second storey and the narrow windows in the peaks of the front gable and to the right of the entrance.



220 Base Line, c1929, is a handsome home which has Tudor Revival elements, especially in the end gables, imposed on a Bungalow style. The sweeping roof extends over the corner verandah and casement windows are positioned to catch the sun from the south, especially welcome on a winter day.

Cross Elworthy Avenue

216 Base Line Road is a late example of Colonial Revival style architecture. Observe the symmetrical façade, the simple classical detailing and that the second storey juts forward from the first storey elevation.

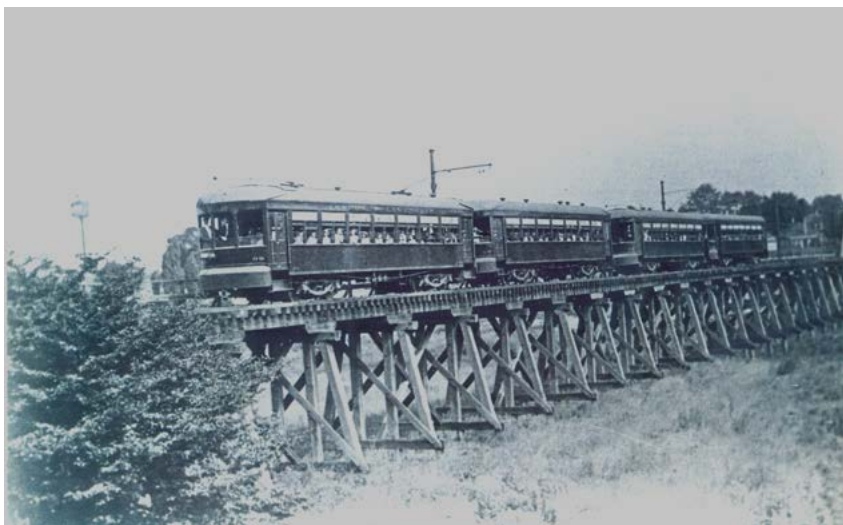
200 Base Line is another fine example of infill. This attractive home complements the architecture of its neighbours.

198 Base Line boasts stained glass in the transoms and the small window to the east of the front door as well as shingling in the gable. Built in the Vernacular style (exhibits local design characteristics and uses easily available building materials), this home dates to c1892. A. Roberts & Sons Florists extensive greenhouses lay east of the house as far as the intersection of Elworthy Street and Baseline. From 1927-1936 the greenhouses were run by the Colwill Brothers Floral Company.

As you stroll along Base Line Road take a moment to picture in

your mind's eye a trolley car from the South Western Traction Line passing you by on its way to Lambeth, St. Thomas, and eventually Port Stanley. The electrified "traction line", a competitor of the London & Port Stanley Railway, was in operation from 1902 to 1918 and provided up to 1,000 passengers per day a comfortable two-hour "street-car ride" to Port.

From its London Terminal at 183 Horton Street East, near Richmond, the line ran south over the river, along Carfrae and then Base Line, before heading onto Wharncliffe and out of the city. A forerunner of modern-day light rail transit, the cars operated on the innovative Ganz system, a first in Canada. The arrival of the automobile, a disastrous fire in the storage barn and pressure for metal during World War I spelled the end of the venture.



Traction Line cars on bridge crossing the Thames near Carfrae

The polychromatic brickwork and brick design over the second storey windows on 184 Base Line are striking.

The rug brick home at 174 Base Line, constructed in 1932 for a manager at Hobbs Glass, contains 11 original stained glass panes recently restored by Ted Goodden.

Notice the attractive window framing and surrounds on the Bungalow style house at 150 Base Line which dates to 1935. The balconette on the west façade is a whimsical feature.

Cross Cathcart Street and turn right (north).

285 Cathcart Street



1920

When Charles (Charlie) Foster and his wife Bessie built this solid Foursquare home in 1920, it was "in the country" south of the city limits, in Westminster Township. Charles had returned from service with the Air Force overseas in 1918 and had joined John A. Nash, a former co-worker at William Young's jewellery stores, in his new venture, "John A. Nash - My Jeweller and Optician". In addition to his bookkeeping duties, Charlie Foster was billed as Doctor of Optics, reminding the public that "prevention of eye trouble is better than cure ... and cheaper". The new company was located at 206 ½ Dundas Street, just down the street from Nash Jewellers' present location at 182 Dundas Street. Bessie (Norton) grew up in the yellow brick farmhouse beside Brick St. cemetery where family members still live, and her mother was one of the early teachers at the original Brick St. School; her father was postmaster at Woodbank Post Office which ran out of the side verandah of the house.

For more than ten years the Fosters continued to live "in the country" with room to enjoy as houses slowly were built south along Cathcart from Emery and new street names such as Iroquois and Elworthy Avenues began to appear. The part of the property where the addition has been built used to be open space where the two sons were pressed into making a skating rink each winter. They were less impressed with this arrangement than their sisters

were! Look carefully at the early photograph of the house in the bottom left corner where the evidence of a house in the country is noticeable.



The characteristics of the Edwardian Four-square style are evident here – simplified square form, minimal decoration and hipped roofs on three levels – main, dormer, and verandah. The single upper floor windows have stone

sills and reach right up to the roofline, making the house appear more broad than tall. The matching red-brick addition to the south side, built in 1988, was purposely set apart from the original house in order to maintain its integrity. The later placement of a low brick wall along the front of the house echoes the strong horizontal rooflines and unites the original house and the addition.

Exit the house.

Look across the street to 286 Cathcart. This Mid-Century Modern house was designed by architect Charles Gillin and was his family home. Gillin was an intern under Frank Lloyd Wright. The low-pitched roof, prominent chimney, “hidden” front door on the south side, warm brick and floor to ceiling windows are identifying features of this style.

Return to Base Line Road and cross to the south side of the street. Turn right (west).

Pause to admire the Georgian Revival residence, built c1934, at 125 Base Line. Set well back from the street in park-like surroundings, this handsome home has a commanding presence. Note the perfectly balanced five over five bays. The classical porch is superbly executed.

119 Baseline Road East*1920 Priority 3*

The distinguished home at this address comes with an equally distinguished history. It was built in 1920 for art dealer James Colerick who, along with his brother Chester, owned Colerick Brothers Wallpaper, Pictures and Frames, Painters and Decorators at 212 Dundas Street. It was at this store where Paul Peel's famous painting *After the Bath* is said to have received its first London showing.

The home was purchased in 1931 by Letitia and Park A. Manross, who came to Canada to found the Canadian division of Ruggles Motor Company. Park Manross became president of National Dry Ginger Ale Manufacturers, which by 1968 had six Canadian plants operating under its franchises, and was the head office for the well-known local bottler, Wishing Well. He subsequently entered politics and served as Conservative MP for London from 1945 to 1949. Manross died in London in January of 1951, and in 1961 Mrs. Manross sold the property to John White, provincial cabinet member and MPP for London South from 1959 to 1975.

The home's eclectic design includes many Tudor Revival elements, including the steeply pitched front gable, complex roofline, and

rafter tails under the eaves. Despite its extreme asymmetry, the façade is well balanced around a central doorway, with the height of the gable offset by the bulk of the deep shingled gambrel roof. The arched doorway is accented with a simple molding supported with brackets and its shape is echoed in the newer arched window of the enclosed verandah on the east side. Paired windows in the upper floor and one-storey bay feature small panes in a 6 over 6 pattern, repeated in the patio door and sidelights. The subdued elegance of this home, with its architectural details outlined in white against the smooth stucco, make it a true gem in the neighbourhood.

Exit the house and turn right (east) on Base Line, retracing your steps to Cathcart. Continue to stroll east.

Notice the wide range of architectural styles and lot sizes in this area. Most of the homes date from the early 20th century while others are recent infills. This diversity is an appealing quality of the neighbourhood we are visiting today.

The large Bungalow style house at 149 Base Line, built c1922, appears to have had a number of sympathetic changes over the years.

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157 Baseline Road East

1910 Priority 2

Dr. Charles Morris purchased this parcel of land in 1911 from Rowland Stephens, whose family farm once stood here, and had this charming stucco bungalow built c1912. He used a room on the east side as a doctor's office, complete with its own patients' entrance. In the mid 1950s the property was sold at auction and the new owners made extensive alterations to accommodate their large family, converting the attic into three bedrooms and adding dormer windows. An addition to the back during the 1960s was finished in matching stucco and blends in well with the rest of the house.

Bungalow style has its roots in India, where the term "bangala" referred to a small single-family dwelling with a verandah. The space-efficient style became attractive to British colonists and eventually made its way to Canada and the US. This rustic bungalow features a low-pitched shingle roof with a wide overhang that extends over the verandah and ends in exposed rafter tails. Windows are in sets of three, with plain wooden surrounds and small panes in the upper half. The central door has the same simple wooden outline and a small triple window. Notice how the matching green shutters blend well with the grey stucco and help to create a harmonious façade. The side gable has shingle infill, matched in the newer garage.

Exit the house and continue to the next home that is open for viewing.



169 Baseline Road East



c1903 Priority 2

The Queen Anne Revival style is on full display in this magnificent 2 ½ storey white brick home. Queen Anne features include an irregular roofline usually involving gables or turrets, large verandahs, a variety of window shapes, and an overall abundance of decoration. Note the dramatic contrast between this style and Georgian, where simplicity and symmetry are the ideal.

The prominent front and side gables of this home feature scalloped shingle infill, dentil moulding, and paired windows framed with elaborate brackets. Take a moment to compare the ornamentation in the two gables; the only differences are the supporting brackets and triangular panels at the peaks. Note the matching little “gabled” between the gables.

Other Queen Anne Revival features are the round-headed front windows adorned with alternating brick and stone voussoirs outlined in red, patterned glass in the door transom and front window, and the large wraparound verandah supported by graceful paired columns. Notice how the home’s architectural details have been accented by the use of contrasting shades of paint.

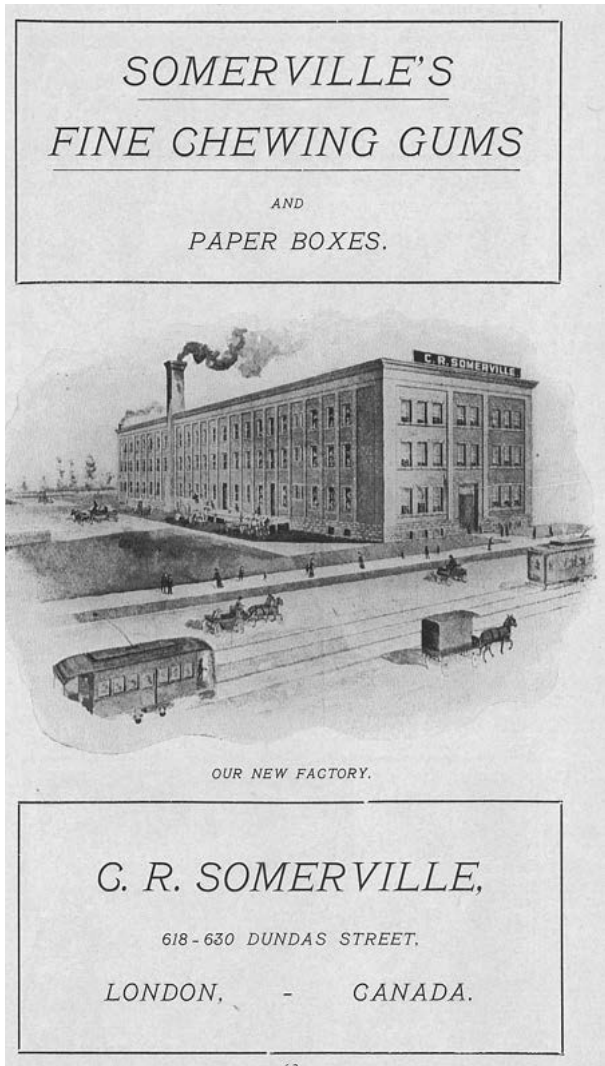
This house was likely built for William Mooney, who purchased

this property in 1903 for \$1500 and sold it in 1916 for a whopping \$9000 to Duncan Hugh McDermid and his wife Edith. Mr. McDermid was vice president of Somerville Paper Box Company, a business he and his brother John McKinnon McDermid had purchased from their cousin Charles Somerville in 1910. The company thrived during the jigsaw puzzle craze of the 1930s. The McDermid brothers also formed O-Pee-Chee Gum Company in 1911, named for the family's summer cottage at Grand Bend.

Exit the house and continue walking east on Base Line.

Can you identify modern infill? Most of it on Base Line blends very smoothly into the streetscape.

191 Base Line is another attractive, modern example of the Georgian Revival style.





199 Baseline Road East



c1913 Priority 2

This red brick Foursquare home, the third on today's tour, was built for Caroline and Henry Augustus Wilson, listed in the 1913 Westminster Township assessment as farmers owning 14 acres of land and a house valued at \$900.

Typical elements of the Foursquare style are the hipped roof on three levels, triple dormer window with small panes, large upper storey windows with stone lintels and sills, and off-centre door. Despite the standard layout of the Foursquare there was room for variation, and in this house it is particularly evident in the verandah. There is an open brickwork pattern along the front and sides, and the central post has been eliminated so that the verandah roof is supported only at the outside corners by sturdy paired pillars. As you approach the front door, notice the pleasing leaded glass design in the main floor windows, including the small window to the right of the door.

Exit the house, continue to walk east.

Enjoy and admire the stately mature trees that line the street. They provide coolness in the summer, a home for birds and animals and are a beautiful background year round for the neighbourhood.

211 Base Line is a handsome Foursquare house built c1924. Take

a moment to admire the prominent sweeping verandah and the juxtaposition of the corner posts, the third floor dormer perched on the slate roof and the oriel window on the west façade.

215 Base Line, built c1925, is a vernacular interpretation of Tudor Revival style. The half timbering in the gables is typical of the style.

The large (seven bedrooms and five bathrooms) Foursquare house at 219 Base Line was built c1924. It still has its original slate roof.

The imposing home at 223 Base Line was built in 1923. Note the piers and the trio of short columns that support the roof of the substantial porch. Regard the oriel window above the porch and the exposed rafter tails under the eaves.

Bungalow style was a popular building style in the Base Line area in the early part of the 20th century. Compare the features of 227 Base Line, c1920, with the other bungalows you have seen on the Tour. Notice the stucco finish, the wide overhang of the hip roof that shades the small corner porch and the bay window.

231 Base Line blends Bungalow, Tudor Revival and English Cottage design elements. Observe the half timbering in the end gables and tall tapered stone chimney. This house was built c1929 for Rowland Hill Jr.

233 and 235 Base Line are fine examples of Contractor Modern style. Note the prevalence of vertical and horizontal lines and simplicity in the design. These houses, infill between the older buildings, still harmonize with them.

237 Base Line, Georgian Revival in style, shows off a half moon window in the west gable. In the east gable the window is bisected by the chimney.

Turn right (south) at Wortley Road. South of 423 Wortley Road turn right into a lane that will take you to the parking lot behind Hillside Church. Cross the parking lot and enter the church.

Refreshments will be served between 2:30 and 5:00.



Hillside Church 250 Commissioners Road East



This excellent example of Mid-Century Modern architecture style was opened in 1961 for the congregation of Wortley Baptist Church. The original church which was built in 1881 on the east side of Wortley Road between Craig and Bruce Streets has been creatively adapted for reuse as apartments.

As reported in the London Free Press the new church was a “striking building of brick, concrete, glass, wood and steel”. The local architect, Harold L. Hicks, and church officials felt the building was a pilot model for a new trend in church architecture. The functionality of Mid-Century Modern style made it an ideal choice. A series of auditoriums with acoustically treated folding doors allowed for the quick set up of classrooms in larger or smaller configurations as needed for Christian education classes. As you enter from the back of the church notice that all of the structure is above ground because it is built into the hillside. It was set far enough back from Highland Road, as Commissioners Road was known, to allow for expansion which occurred in 1976.

Hicks designed a square concrete grounding for the church with two flat levels. The exterior wall of the box-like structure is constructed of alternating massive pieces of glass and bricks. The Gothic Revival style of the original church was acknowledged by the soaring A-framed roof rising from the flat body of the church. The simple overlapping geometric figures of the stained glass are echoed in the angular decorations in the exterior and interior.

Take time to notice the exterior façade of Hillside Church, as it was renamed in 2007. Harold Hicks' use of geometric figures such as triangles and parallelograms and the trapezoidal entrances reflect the simplicity and precision of the architectural style but still evoke the sacred image of hands in prayer. He was able to meet the physical needs of the congregation with the functionality of the architectural style but was also able to meet the congregation's spiritual needs with his strikingly simple symbolic design.

On behalf of the ACO, we hope you have enjoyed today's tour!



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Glossary

Bargeboard: board, usually ornamented, under a gable

Bay: a division of a façade usually indicated by an opening such as a door or window; or projection, as in "bay window"

Bracket: a projection from a wall, usually beneath the eaves

Bungalow: a style which grew out of small, practical dwellings in India; usually 1 to 1/2 storeys, featuring a gently pitched roof extending over a verandah

Casement window: a window hinged at the side, opening like a door

Colonial: a style that recalls North American colonial heritage; may be distinguished from the original by the use of modern materials, different scale and a mixture of elements

Column: tall, cylindrical support, usually with details from Classical orders (Doric - plainest with a simple capital, Ionic - decorated with scrolls on the capital)

Corbel: stepped brickwork projecting from a wall, usually to support a window or chimney top

Dentil: small rectangular block, similar to teeth; usually a number of blocks repeated as a band in a classical cornice

Dormer: vertical window in a projection built onto a sloping roof

Eclectic: drawing from a variety of styles

Edwardian: a style similar to Queen Anne but with more restrained ornamentation, typically featuring a moderately pitched, gable roof and classical porch

English Cottage Style: a subtype of Tudor Revival featuring an asymmetrical plan, steeply pitched roof, large stone or brick chimney, and front facing gable with arched doorway

Fluting: long, vertical grooves decorating a column or pillar

Foursquare: a practical, Edwardian style with four rooms on each floor, hipped roof, and simple decoration

Gable: the triangular portion of a wall between the enclosing lines of a sloping roof

Gambrel Roof: a gable roof having two slopes on each sides

- Georgian Revival:** built in the Georgian style after it had gone out of fashion and characterized by symmetry and simplicity
- Half-timbered:** timber framing with plaster or masonry infill
- Hip or Hipped Roof:** a roof sloping on all four sides
- Keyhole window:** a window shaped like a keyhole
- Keystone:** the stone at the top of an arch or window surround
- Lintel:** a horizontal length of stone or timber above a window or door
- Oriel Window:** an upper floor bay window supported by corbels
- Palladian Window:** a three-part window with the centre section larger and arched at the top
- Pediment:** a triangular area within a gable or above a portico
- Piers:** square masonry supports
- Pilaster:** a rectangular feature in the shape of a pillar projecting from a wall
- Pillar:** a rectangular column
- Quatrefoil:** a window having four lobes
- Queen Anne Style:** a style originating in England and popular in London in the early 1900s; featuring irregular rooflines and house footprints, gables, towers, and intricate decoration
- Rafter tails:** visible ends of the rafters supporting a roof
- Rusticated stone:** rough or grooved masonry
- Sidelight:** glass panels on either side of a door
- Stucco:** plaster or cement applied as a finish to the exterior surface
- Transom:** a glass panel above a door or window
- Tudor Revival:** a style of architecture developed in the United Kingdom in the mid 19th century as a reaction against ornate Victorian excess, featuring steeply pitched roofs, gables, decorative half-timbering, and patterned brickwork
- Vernacular:** exhibiting local design characteristics and using easily available building materials
- Voussoirs:** wedge-shaped stones or bricks used to form an arch

Designation

Some of the buildings described or noted in this booklet are on the City of London's *Inventory of Heritage Resources*. The *Inventory* is a list, compiled to date by the London Advisory Committee on Heritage (LACH), and the Planning Department. It consists of nearly 2,000 buildings and structures located throughout the city, which have architectural or historical significance. Many of them are eligible for designation under the provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act or may already be designated. Some are part of a designated heritage conservation district.

Owners of any property can request designation by City Council through LACH and the City of London's Heritage Planner. Designation, which is done through the passage of a by-law, provides some protection for buildings against alterations and demolition. Copies of the *Inventory* can be viewed at the City Clerk's office, in libraries and is available online through the City's website.

Priority 1 buildings are London's most important heritage structures and merit designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act. This group includes landmark buildings and other structures with major architectural and/or historical significance. On Council's recommendation they may be designated without the owner's consent.

Priority 2 buildings merit evaluation for designation because of their significant architectural and/or historical value.

Priority 3 buildings may merit designation as part of a group of buildings or as part of a heritage conservation district.

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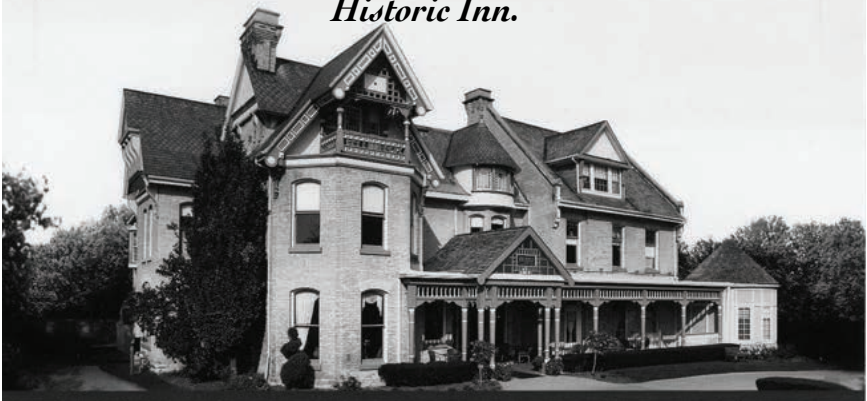
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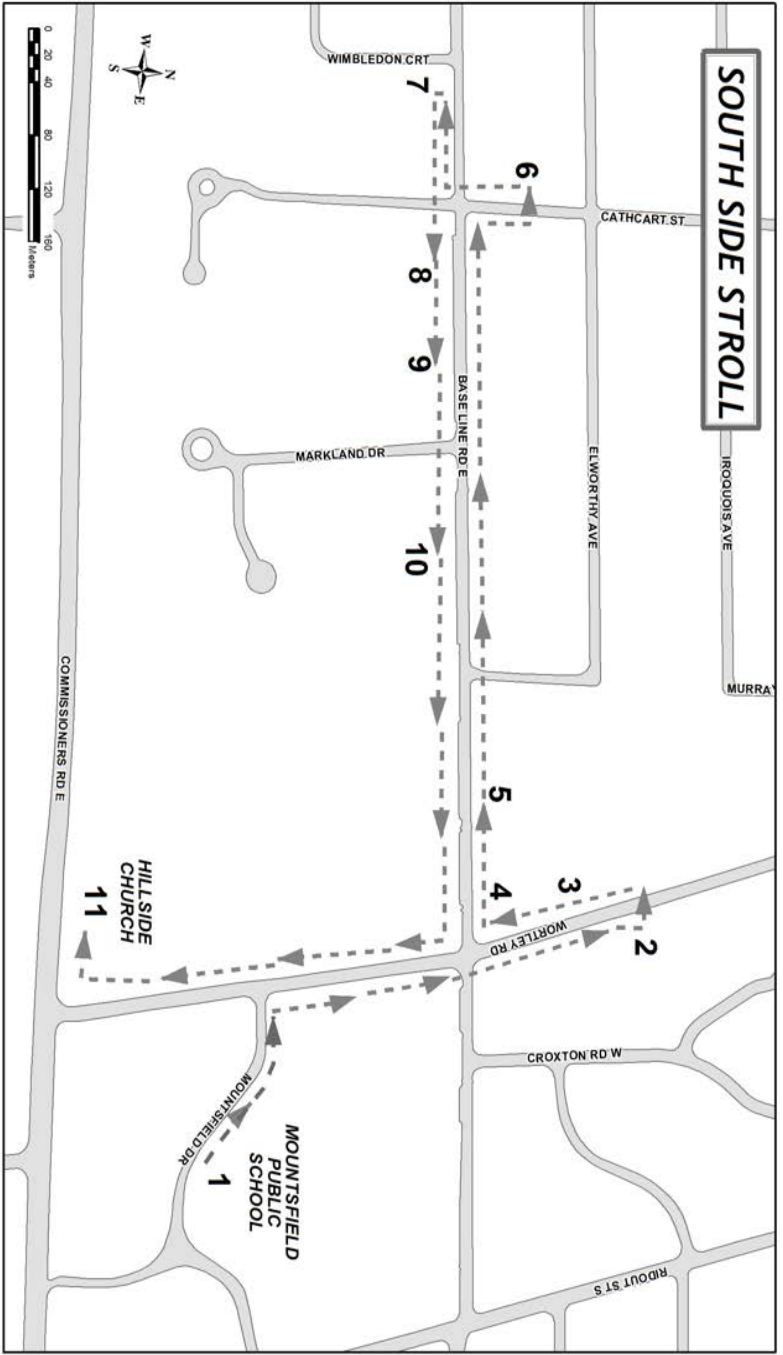
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