

ARCHITECTURE TOUR – *Burritt's Rapids Continued*

The bell and tower were erected in 1899. It was closed in 1974 and turned into a private home.



Stop #16: Richard Guest House (27 Centre St)

Built in c.1872 by Richard Guest, who owned a tannery and a cheese factory located on Henry Street. Both have long since disappeared.



Stop #17: The Todd House (7764 Burritts Ave.)

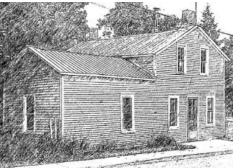
James Todd, the owner of the nearby sawmill, bought this property in 1904 and built his house shortly afterward. Of a period later than the rest of the houses on Burritts Ave., it was built in the vernacular version of the Queen Anne Revival style.



Stop #18: The Harris House (7760 Burritts Ave)

Built by Hebron Harris or his son in the early 1800's, this house is a combination of a heavy timber and balloon framing.

The eared mouldings are an early neoclassical feature and the off-centre door suggests that the interior was divided into two parts at one time. The interior was extensively renovated during the 1970's.



Stop #19: The Patterson House (7761 Burritts Ave.)

James Patterson, blacksmith, lived in this house built in the 1850's.

Narrow clapboard in 4ft. lengths suggests that the L-shape and the main portion of the house were built at the same time.



Stop #20: Christ Church Anglican (4419 Donnelly Dr.)

This frame church in the Gothic Revival style was built in 1831 - 1832 for a congregation formed in 1822.

On land donated by Daniel Burritt Jr., this church is one of the oldest operating in Ontario.



Stop #21: 6718 Dwyer Hill Road

The present cement block house was built by William Boyd of Osgoode in the early 20th century to replace the earlier brick one that burned down. It held a grocery store and telegraph office prior to 1900.



Stop #22: Carlow Lodge (4416 Donnelly Drive)

Built in the 1860's, William Kidd lived and operated a store in the house. In 1895, his son Thomas moved to a brick house on Grenville St. and the house was turned into a double house and rented. Harold Kidd, William's grandson, married in 1918 and undertook extensive renovations for his bride, Ray. Which included converting it back to a single home and buying adjacent property for a garden. Ray named the house 'Carlow Lodge' after the county in Ireland where the Kidd family originated. 'Carlow Lodge' appears in the stained glass transom over the front entry which includes a curved pediment, dentil trim and pilasters.



Stop #23: Edwin Burritt House (4368 Donnelly Drive)

Grandson of Daniel Burritt Jr., Edwin had this house built in the 1860's on land he inherited from his father, Daniel H. Burritt. The house, which was built in the style typical of the period, appears to have been built in two stages, the first being the part facing west.



Stop #24: The Depencier Hotel (4418 Donnelly Drive)

Originally an inn but now a private house, it is a classic example of post and beam construction.

The pitch of the roof, returned eaves, lack of ornamentation and simple symmetrical proportions are typical of the neoclassical style of the mid-nineteenth century. Uriah Depencier was the first innkeeper in 1857. It had several owners until the 1960's when it became a private home. At times during its life as an inn, it had a brick wine cellar and a dance floor with a nickelodeon.

The building has undergone extensive renovations. An addition at the back is balloon-framed. A large encircling verandah which was once used for selling articles you might find at a convenience store, has been removed.

The interior has also been altered to meet the needs of different owners.

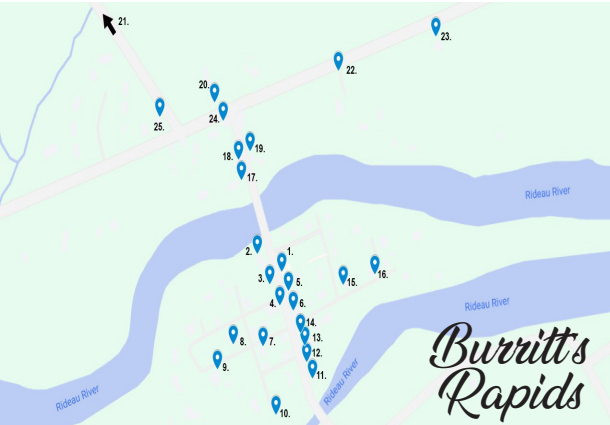


Stop #25: Marlborough Cottage (7744 Dwyer Hill Rd)

Christened 'Marlborough Cottage' by owners in the 1970's, this house was built in the 1870's in a style typical of the time.

It had several owners until 1920 when Mrs. Goodwin (Depencier) bought the house and enlarged it to the north to include the well.

Congratulations! You've completed the Architecture Tour. Please feel free to explore more or check out our other tours of the region. See you next time!



This brochure was designed by the Municipality of North Grenville, with original content adapted and expanded by the Burritt's Rapids Community Association (BRCA).



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ARCHITECTURE
TOUR

*Burritt's
Rapids*



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Welcome to the Architecture Tour

Stephen Burritt, his wife Martha (Stephens) and brothers Daniel and Edmund came to this area in early 1793. Stephen was granted land in the hamlet now known as Burritt's Rapids, and with the construction of the canal in 1827-1831 the land was "sub-divided" and subsequently the "island" became the heart of a thriving community.

By the mid-19th century the hamlet boasted several mills, a tailor shop, hat shop, two shoe stores, a bank, post office, two hotels and even a resident doctor. Unfortunately, once river traffic was superseded by the railroad, which by-passed the community, commerce declined and the hamlet was left in peace. Old photos show Grenville St. has not changed too much in 200 or so years - the shops have gone, but the structures have been carefully retained as private homes.

This tour will take approximately 45 minutes at a leisurely stroll. As stops 21 and 23 are more distant, driving may be preferred.



Stop #1: The Community Hall (23 Grenville St)

The Community Hall was built in 1840 by John Strahan French as a general store with living quarters above. Typical neo-classical with gable end facing the road. In 1902, the building was bought by the trustees of the Methodist Church for Church functions.

In 1935 it was purchased by a group of residents and is still today owned and operated by the residents of the village. In order to maintain the building, it is rented out to various organizations and for private functions. Note the plaque on the building and the Ontario Historic Sign beside the Community Hall building.



Stop #2: J.S. French (24 Grenville St)

In 1841, J.S. French, his wife and 5 children lived here. The stone building was a blacksmith shop and was known as

French's Forge. A sawmill was also located on the riverbank at one time and he operated a gristmill across the road. The original house was probably a typical neo-classical gable-roofed frame cottage with a single front gable and a rubble stone foundation. As his family grew, his house had become two storied, (possibly a reference to the basement which constitutes an entire above-ground level on the north side). The enclosed front porch was added in the 1920's.



Stop #3: Riverview (22 Grenville St)

Built in 1895 by Thomas Kidd, this Riverview home was built to replace a frame building. It was constructed of stretched bond

red brick with bracketed eaves that support the roof and boasts an elaborate verandah. The house is a Second Empire style with interesting wood and stone features.

There are 11 keystones on the exposed south and east sides of the house one plain and ten with terra cotta formed masks of the Egyptian deity Ammon with Greco-Roman styling. There is a second floor door, opening onto a sunken balcony. The steeply pitched roof with a gable was once decorated metal cresting which added to the house's prominence.



Stop #4: Stephen Hurd House (16 Grenville St)

Built by Stephen Hurd, c. 1851, son of Ashael Hurd and Sarah (Burritt). Late neo-classical style, medium pitch roof, semi-circular

headed window, large panes, the prominent quoins of dressed stone and square transomed doorway slightly narrower and taller. There appears to have been a verandah, secured by wooden ties, running the full length of the house. This feature could have been topped by a recessed balcony, which would explain the tall gabled window.



Stop #5: Erastus Harris House (17 Grenville St)

Bought by Erastus Harris, a blacksmith, in the 1850s. A steeper roof line and segmental headed doors and windows leads one to believe it was

probably re-built about 1873. Next to the house is the red pressed metal building which contains an intact forge last used in the 1940s. The forge was probably built around 1860.



Stop #6: John Healey Grocery (15 Grenville St.)

John Healey bought this lot from Henry Burritt in 1852. In 1853, tax assessment rolls show he claimed owning a grocery business here which he sold to Hamlet Burritt in 1875. Like most of the commercial buildings it was converted to a private home.



Stop #7: George/Edgar Burritt (14 Centre St)

Typical 1 ½ storey mid-19th century building probably erected by George Burritt or his brother Edgar who was a carpenter.

The elaborate treillage is a later addition. The house has been owned by the same family since 1922.



Stop #8: John Muir House (11 Centre St)

John Muir bought this property in 1859 and erected a home. Later he either sold or donated the building to replace the old log school house in the village. This

school operated until 1964 and the building was sold and converted back to a private home.

The large stone building has stone and rubble walls that are about two feet thick. Originally the main entrance was on the east-facing wall. In 1916 the building underwent extensive renovations. The walls were raised probably resulting in the changed roof line. The main entrance was moved to the south facing wall, The stairs to the second floor were moved inside.

Extensive renovations have been made by subsequent home owners.

When large front porch was added, the stone in front of the door was hidden. The frame extensions seen on the east and west sides are modifications made after 2002. However, hidden by a drop ceiling on the second floor is an original light fixture and in the basement is the old boiler and a student desk and chair.



Stop #9: Log House (8 Centre St)

Original log house. Probably moved from another location circa 1861. The siding covered portion is a newer addition.



Stop #10: Orange Masonic Lodge (3 Oxford St)

Thomas Johnson, an Irishman of Loyalist persuasion, donated this land in 1857 to build an Orange Masonic Lodge.



Stop #11: Bridgemaster House (1 Grenville St)

Parks Canada Heritage designated building c.1920 housed the Bridgemaster.

Note the Plaque on the building and the 1897 hand operated swing bridge. Historically, 3 blasts on a boats whistle was the signal to open the bridge



Stop #12: Patrick McGowan House (3 Grenville St)

In 1857, Patrick McGowan, the Bridgemaster lived here. A 1 ½ storey brick building (Note: the two southern corners are not at right angles). The roof's steeper pitch and segmental headed windows suggests a later style than most of the other houses nearby.



Stop #13: Shoe Shop (5 Grenville St)

Built around 1850 and used as a shoe shop. The construction is post and beam.

Over the years, it has housed various stores including a shoe shop and tea room. It is now restored as a private home.



Stop #14: Hugh Conn House (7 Grenville St)

Neo-classical in design and a handsome barge board home, this building is estimated to have been built by Hugh Conn in the

late 1800s.

The stone section attached to the main home has operated as a variety of commercial enterprises over the years. In 1912 it housed the Union Bank, and more recently a general and an equestrian store.



Stop #15: Old Methodist Church (25 Centre St)

The old Methodist Church, later a United Church was consecrated in 1855 and served as a place of worship for over 120 years.