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TOWN OF AJAX

HERITAGE CONSERVATION DISTRICT PROPERTIES

Properties designated under Part V, Section 41 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*



Last Revised: November 25, 2013

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Location: 57 Cameron Street
Year Built: 1888
Style: Vernacular Victorian double house
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Vinyl clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Currently a detached dwelling, this house was almost certainly built as a double house, similar in general character to the brick version at 19-21 Linton Avenue. The basic fabric of the building remains. Windows are not original, but are probably in original locations. The entry has been re-worked, with the original side-by-side doors replaced by a modern door and sidelight. Siding, fascia and soffits are modern, and none of the original gingerbread remains. Shallow front yard with conifer, large deciduous tree in back yard. Detached garage at the left rear.



Location: 20 Church Street North
Year Built: 2011
Style: Post-modern
Storeys: 1

Cladding: Stone
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern traditional

Description: A small building that is part of the McEachnie Funeral Home. Main block is under a steep hipped roof, with a projecting gable-topped bay, faced with field stone, and housing tall round-headed windows set widely apart. The left bay of the main body is glazed, and the right bay has a glazed entry door with a very large side light. There are large gable dormers above the side facades.



Location: 22 Church Street North
Year Built: circa 1880
Style: Vernacular Victorian cottage
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Vinyl clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Wood double-hung 2/2, probably original

Description: Fine example of the archetypal 3-bay Victorian cottage. Centre gable is trimmed with nuns-coif pierced bargeboard, and the window head has a low pediment. Shed roof front porch extends to protect the entry and both ground-floor windows and has elaborate brackets framing the side bays. There is an octagonal bay on the south side of the ground floor. Yard is generous in front and on both sides, with fine planting and an elaborately cut picket fence on the street line. An excellent house in excellent condition, and worthy of its Part IV designation.

History: The family of William George Ham owned this house for 72 years. Mr. Ham was active in the community, especially as a member and captain of the fire Company. William Dunbar, the owner of the lot in 1885 was a prominent merchant in the years 1880 to 1905—he operated the Dunbar Store at 2 Old Kingston Road—and he was the grandson of the founder of Dunbarton.



Location: 28 Church Street North
Year Built: 1890
Style: Victorian Gothic, much altered.
Storeys: One and a half.

Cladding: Aluminum clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements.

Description: L-plan vernacular Victorian house, with front-gable projecting bay on the right, with an angled bay window on the ground floor. Left wing has a archetypal steep gable window on the second floor. Gingerbread, front verandah, and windows are all modern replacements. Handsome landscaping, with many mature trees that make photography difficult. Driveway and front yard parking pad on the left.



Location: 36 Church Street North
Year Built: circa 1915
Style: Edwardian Classicism
Storeys: Two and a half

Cladding: Brick
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Original wood double-hung

Description: A large L-plan Edwardian Classic house, with a front-facing closed-pediment gable on the projecting north bay, within which is a slightly projecting bay housing the principal windows—a wide single window below, and triplet casements with transoms on the second floor. There is an eccentric bell-cast roof over this central projection, with a small third floor window near the top of the gable. The wider recessed wing has the entry door in the angle and windows on both floors to the south. A verandah fills the angle, with a walk-out on its roof. The lot is large, with a generous front-yard setback and mature trees. There is a detached garage at the rear of the south yard.



Location: 42 Church Street North
Year Built: 1913
Style: Edwardian Classical
Storeys: Two and a half

Cladding: Brick
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Elegantly simple 2-bay Edwardian design with front-facing open-pediment over two-storey brick façade. Entry is offset to the north, with the wide principal window to the south. Atypically, the second floor windows have different sill heights. The front porch extends across the entire Church Street façade, and may be a replacement. There is a small portico over the side door on Sherwood Road West, and a small projecting gabled wing at the west end. Lot is substantial with mature trees.

History: This house has been in the Balsdon family since 1913 when Gordon Law and Mary (Balsdon) Law built it. Gordon was the town blacksmith, whose shop was where Law Motors was. After Mary Law passed away in the late 1950's, her brother took over the property. He sat on Pickering Town Council and Pickering Village Council. The current owner, Bruce Balsdon removed the sun porch, and built the two storey addition at the rear.



Sherwood Road elevation.



Location: Includes road allowance, Old Kingston Road
Known as: Duffins Trail System

Style: Town of Ajax public parkland

History: As in many early Ontario villages, Pickering's existence and prosperity revolved around water-powered mills. Duffins Creek supplied the water, and the village was called Duffins Creek on the 1877 county map. The footbridge on the Duffins trail is in the approximate location of the old road bridge, and it leads to the site of Spink's Mill, the largest of them all.

The current footbridge is roughly aligned with the old road bridge. This view is looking west with Spink's Mill in the background to the right.



Totem pole in the park, erected in 2007 by the 1st Pickering Venturers to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Scouting movement. The 1st Pickering Scouting Troop, established in 1920, was one of the first groups established in the Toronto area.



Location: 2 Elizabeth Street
Year Built: originally 1915, much altered
Style: Vernacular cottage with modern additions
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Brick and aluminum siding
Roof: Flat and asphalt shingle
Windows: Modern

Description: A concatenation of small housing designs. South portion is brick below with small narrow windows and an elaborate portico at the entrance. Hip-roofed second storey of frame is set back behind a flat patio with a metal railing around it. Flat-roofed north portion is all frame with square sliding windows. Siding is vertical on lower floor and clapboard on the upper, with a narrow roof overhang at the second floor level. Mature trees.



Location: 4 Elizabeth Street
Year Built: 1948
Style: Vernacular suburban dwelling
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Brick and asphalt siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Mixed modern

Description: A three-bay front-gabled suburban house with an extended south slope on the roof. Two northern bays form a classic 2-storey façade with a garage in the north bay and a double-door entrance in the south. The southern bay is recessed slightly, and has a large bow window facing the street. A side porch extends across the entire frontage. There's a south-facing second-storey dormer midway back on the south slope. The lot is well-treed at the sides and back. The house is unapologetically modern, but its scale and design suit the Village.



Location: 10 Elizabeth Street
Year Built: 1890
Style: Vernacular Victorian cottage
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Aluminum siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Archetypal 3-bay vernacular Victorian house, with steep central gable. Siding, windows, and entry door are all modern replacements, but the casings, including the pointed-arch gable window, appear to be original. There is a small shed-roof addition towards the rear of the south wall. The lot is very large—the south side yard is wide and well-planted. The house appears to be in sound condition, without evidence of leaning or sagging. This could be a fine restoration project for a sympathetic owner.



Large side yard to the south of the house.



Location: 12 Elizabeth Street
Year Built: 1952
Style: Vernacular suburban dwelling
Storeys: One

Cladding: Aluminum clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: A simple L-plan bungalow, with a single garage in the recessed southern wing. The entry door is in the angle, and there is a gable-roofed extension on the north side of the front façade with a pair of casement windows in the centre. This may have been the location of an original front door. The short side wall of the extension has a small octagon window. The yard is nicely planted with a mature tree in front. The scale and domesticity of the house make it a good neighbour in the Village.



Location: 14 Elizabeth Street
Year Built: 2001
Style: Post-modern vernacular house
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Vinyl siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern casements

Description: Small post-modern suburban chateau, with an octagonal tower on the south east corner, set off by contrasting corner boards. Main block of the house is 3-bay under a hipped roof. To the north, there is a projecting single garage under a hipped roof, which continues in front of the main block to form a front verandah, which has a little Ontario gable above the entrance. The front yard contains some shrubs on the south.



Location: 16 Elizabeth Street
Year Built: 1950
Style: Vernacular bungalow
Storeys: One

Cladding: Vinyl clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Simple 3-bay hipped-roof bungalow, with centre entry and flanking windows with shutters. Set back on the lot, with a mature tree in front and many trees to the rear. Small scale makes it a good neighbour in the Village.



Location: Methodist Cemetery
Known as: Elizabeth Street Pioneer Cemetery
Year Built: 1842
Style: Cemetery

Description: A small cemetery, though having a large frontage in the context of the Village. A number of standing headstones, with a central display of collected older stones, such as is found in many older Ontario cemeteries.

History: The presence of the Methodist Church in this area began in 1817 with the Village as part of the Smith's Creek circuit of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. A circuit was a group of settlements that were served by an itinerant clergyman. A circuit rider might visit only once a month, with weekly service conducted by a local lay-person. The meetings might be held in someone's home, or a local school. When the population could support it, a church would be built. The Smith's Creek circuit originally stretched from Toronto to Belleville.

As population increased, circuits became smaller and more numerous, and clerical visits more frequent.



The Old Wesleyan Methodist Cemetery is one of the earliest in the Town of Ajax, and was the site of one of Duffins Creek's early churches—a white wooden structure dating from 1843. The church was used until 1879, when the congregation moved to a new and larger brick building on Old Kingston Road, where the Montessori school is now located. It is believed that the wood church was sold to Mr. J. Linton, who dismantled it and used the lumber to construct the semi-detached frame building across the street.

Many members of families from the early settlement of Duffins Creek are interred in the cemetery. It appears that burials include members of the Primitive Methodist Church and the Bible Christian Church, as well as Wesleyan Methodists. The first recorded interment was in March 1842, and the last was in 1955.

Families buried in the cemetery include: Woodruff, Gordon, Hartrick, Linton, Leavens, Leng, Wise, Madill, Gormley, Richardson, Powell, Cuthbert, Dixon, Dickie.



Location: 9 Elizabeth Street
Known As: Frank Prouse House
Built: 1870
Style: Vernacular Victorian cottage
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Aluminum clapboard siding
Roof: Flat metal tiles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Archetypal Victorian house with steep central front gable and central entry with flanking windows. Shed roof front porch is not original. House is fairly close to street, with substantial front yard shrubbery. Driveway to the south. The house appears to be solid, but all original detail has been lost over the years.

History: Frank Prouse, who arrived in the Village in 1919, established himself as a reliable builder. He held the position of inspector for 27 years in Pickering Township, and for two years in the Village. He served as a Village Trustee from 1923 to 1948, and was a member of the Volunteer Fire Brigade for 17 years, 12 of which as Fire Chief. Mr. Prouse and M.S. Chapman were responsible for canvassing the Village residents to extend Hydro to the Village in 1925.



Location: 11 Elizabeth Street
Built: Circa 1962
Style: Vernacular suburban house
Storeys: One

Cladding: Aluminum clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern mixed

Description: L-plan suburban bungalow with wide front-facing gable on the north with a pair of short, wide double-hung windows. South 1/3 of the gable is over a recess extending back to main wing, which provides a covered porch over the entrance. A 5x3 bow window occupies most of the remaining wing to the south. House is sited at a shallow angle—unique in the area. Front yard is landscaped with boulders and a mature tree. Wide driveway to the north with a detached garage at the rear. Mature trees to the north and rear. Small scale makes this house a good neighbour in the village.



Location: 13 Elizabeth Street
Built: 1875
Style: Vernacular Loyalist cottage, much altered
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Aluminum siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Originally an archetypal 3-bay Loyalist cottage, with central door and flanking windows. Alterations include a shed dormer with two large windows extending most of the width of the house, greatly enlarged ground floor windows, and a new front porch. These alterations have not been kind to the heritage character of the house. There are mature shrubs flanking the porch and a young tree on the south side of the front yard. Driveway to the north.



Location: 15 Elizabeth Street
Built: 1890
Style: Vernacular Loyalist cottage
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Wood clapboard
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Wood double-hung 2/2, possibly original

Description: Simple vernacular 3-bay Loyalist cottage with a low slope roof, and a kitchen tail behind. The full width porch is probably a later addition, but also quite old. The building is remarkably intact. Wide lot with a shallow front yard. Large tree in front of the north side of the porch. A fine heritage property.

History: The original owners of this property (Racey/Hoskins) drew up the plans for Elizabeth Street, known then as Mill Road, in the 1860s. The property was purchased by John Spink, who built and owned Spink's Mill, in 1878. He sold the property to Alfred Allaway, who had followed Mr. Spink from Whitevale and worked for him as a cooper at the mill.



View from the southwest.



Location: 19 Elizabeth Street
Known as: The Dairy House
Built: 1895 on original site, moved here in 1949
Style: Vernacular Victorian Gothic house
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Vinyl clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Mostly modern replacements

Description: Vernacular 3-bay Victorian Gothic house with steep central gable. The gable window is original, with gothic tracery in a pointed arch, and there is an original finial at the peak. There is an enclosed front porch across most of the front, of a later date. The 'kitchen tail' appears to be more recent, but there would have probably been such a wing in the original design. Front yard is fairly deep with many coniferous trees and shrubs. This is a corner lot, and the driveway is entered from the side street. A fine heritage property in good condition.



View from the west.

History: This house was originally on Old Kingston Road, where the McEachnie Funeral Home now stands. That property was purchased by the Robinsons in 1934. They erected a concrete block building on part of the lot and operated the Pickering Dairy from it. When they retired in 1949, they sold the dairy operation to the Hyland family, and moved their house to this site.



Location: 23 Elizabeth Street
Known as: The Sheppard Residence
Built: 1875
Style: Vernacular Victorian cottage
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Wood clapboard siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Original wood double-hung 2/2

Description: Archetypal 3-bay Victorian cottage with steep central gable. The nuns coif gable trim and the shallow pedimented head on the gable door and windows on east and south elevations are similar to the details on 22 Church Street North. Bay window on south elevation may be later addition. Front yard is nicely landscaped with mature trees, shrubs, and planting beds. A fine heritage property.

History: Around 1914, this became the first home in the village to be equipped with indoor plumbing and central heating—to lure a retired miller from Toronto to run Spink's Mill during World War I. This building had been covered with insulbrick until 1980. When a recent owner undertook its restoration, he discovered that original boarding was intact. The veranda was rebuilt to duplicate the original as closely as possible, as part of that restoration, and the gable window was replaced with the current door.



Location: 27-29 Elizabeth Street
Built: See description and history below
Style: Vernacular house with modern additions and alterations
Storeys: Two (No 27) & One and a half (No 29)

Cladding: Mixed horizontal siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: The northern portion (No. 29) has the form of a small L-plan cottage, with a projecting front-gable wing on the south having two tall narrow windows, and a four-gang set of casement windows in the wider side-gable wing on the north. The southern part of this building has the form of a vernacular suburban house, with a front facing gable on the jettied second floor, and large picture windows on both floors.

Landscaped lawn with trees and shrubs, driveway to the north and south



View from No. 29 from the northwest

History: The northern portion (No. 29) is a historical puzzle. This whole half of the building has visibly settled down to the north, due to the lack of a foundation. It is recorded as dating from 1875, but there's little stylistically to give any substantial clues as to its original form. The southern portion (No.27) was rebuilt in 2002 after a fire, with only the foundation remaining.



Location: 22 Linton Avenue
Known as: The Hartrick House
Year Built: 1843
Style: Neo-classical cottage
Storeys: One and a half
Cladding: Fieldstone, east wall rendered as ashlar masonry.
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Wood double-hung 12/12, probably replacements

Description: Original property was extensive, with main entry (now facing the south side yard) fronting Old Kingston Road. That façade is a simple 5-bay design. Entry with sidelights is a replacement, and there is evidence of previous portico. Dressed limestone lintels and sills. Wide basement windows below main floor windows, and gabled dormers above inner ground floor windows. A broad porch faces Linton Avenue, and the wall has been rendered to appear as ashlar masonry. This is the kind of “upgrade” that was often applied to make an old house fit a new fashion. Substantial front and side yards with mature trees provide a fine setting for a fine house.



South façade, originally the front. Wonderful stonework.

History: William Hartrick (1804-1874), a magistrate, and his wife Phoebe Hartrick nee Haight (1810-1882) built this neo-classical, Ontario style cottage in 1843. One of their three children, Lydia Linton, after whom Linton Avenue was named, resided here for several years after William’s death in 1874. See also historical note for 2 Old Kingston Road.



Location: 19-21 Linton Avenue
Year Built: 1875
Style: Vernacular Victorian double house
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Polychrome brick
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Wood double hung 2/2, appear to be original

Description: Mirrored pair of 1-1/2 bay vernacular Victorian design—a rare building type in the Village. Entry doors offset to the centre wall. Each half has a steep gable dormer with a semi-circular arch window. Building is red brick with buff brick quoins, lintels, arches and a band above the second floor level of the front façade. Porches are replacements, and poorly done. Except for the porches, the exterior fabric is remarkably intact. They deserve investigation for designation under Part IV of the OHA.

There is a large side yard to the south, behind a row of mature conifers.



South façade, looking between the conifers. One storey kitchen tail at the rear is visible here.



Location: 2 Old Kingston Road
 Known as: The Dunbar Store
 Year Built: 1884
 Style: Vernacular Victorian Commercial
 Storeys: Two

Cladding: Polychrome Brick & wood siding
 Roof: Flat asphalt shingles
 Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Vernacular Victorian commercial building with elaborate polychrome details: lintels, corners and machiolation at top of the facade. Lower storey on front elevation covered with diagonal wood siding, obscuring original detail. Modern storefront.

History: In 1883 J.R. Brownridge purchased a small parcel of land on this corner from Lydia Linton, the daughter of William Hartrick. She subdivided the front portion of the Hartrick estate, initiating the commercial growth on the north side of Old Kingston Road in Pickering Village. Brownridge built this general store shortly after acquiring the property, and in 1885 sold it to William Dunbar for \$1,250. The Dunbar name was prominent in the Pickering area. The Village of Dunbarton was named for William's grandfather, William Dunbar Senior. With his wife Margaret, William continued to operate this general store until 1912 when he sold it to James Richardson, a local grocer. At the time of construction, the architectural style of this retail building was considered very modern for a small farming community such as Pickering Village. Commercial centres in larger towns and villages in southern Ontario were developing streetscapes dominated by two-storey, flat roofed stores. Devoid of windows, the adjoining side walls were built on the property line to utilize the narrow urban lot and to allow for the sharing of a common wall.



Historic image from Ajax Archives.

The name Dunbar was once prominently painted on the front façade, and a front porch and wooden sidewalk have succumbed to an expanding Kingston Road.

Situated at this busy crossroad, the Dunbar Store is a visible reminder of the commercial centre of Pickering Village before the turn of the century.



Location: 6 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1953
Style: Vernacular Modern Commercial
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Masonry—stone below, tan brick above
Roof: Flat
Windows: 3-part picture window 2nd floor

Description: Modest Vernacular modern commercial building. Symmetrical façade with shallow angled shopfront windows flanking single entry door. Retractable awning and backlit sign.



Location: 8 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1986
Style: Post-modern Traditionalist Commercial
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Range veneer, mansard roof
Roof: Flat & asphalt shingle mansard
Windows: Mixed modern

Description: Eclectic traditionalist façade: ground floor is classically inspired, second floor dormers are steep-roofed in the Victorian manner. Front elevation is arranged symmetrically, with 4-unit bow windows in side bays flanking centre door with sidelights under a large pediment. Symmetry compromised by large overhang to the west. Signage is well integrated with fascia.

A historical 'mash-up' but well-mannered in terms of scale and detailing.



Oblique view showing west wall and adjacent parking lot. The building behind is part of the McEachnie Funeral Home, and is described under 20 Church Street North.



Location: 22-28 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1960, per files, but probable more recent renovation.
Style: Modern commercial building with modest polychromy
Storeys: One

Cladding: Polychrome Brick & mansard roof
Roof: Flat & asphalt shingle mansard
Windows: Modern windows

Description: Basic symmetrical layout with a small wing to the east. Recessed entry bay with projecting porch flanked by two blocks with large central windows. Building sits on narrow podium with planting and wide central stair. Simple signage on porch fascia.

History: This was the site of the Pickering Dairy and the associated dwelling, which was moved to 19 Elizabeth Street in 1949.



Rear outbuildings. The one on the right is recent. The one on the left may have been a stable/garage for the old dairy.



Location: 32-36 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: circa 1950
Style: Modern commercial
Storeys: One

Cladding: Stone
Roof: Flat
Storefront: Aluminum

Description: A very nice modernist commercial building in almost original condition. Eastern shop includes a recessed storefront with a stone planter in front. Western shop has symmetrical façade with recessed central bay of two wide shop windows flanking a single entry door. This shop has an awning spanning the full glazing width. Back-lit sign boxes fill the entire spandrel area. An upright pylon sign on the roof of the eastern store un-necessarily detracts from the horizontal form of this classic modernist building.



Recessed garage to the west



Location: 40-44 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1970
Style: Vernacular Modern Commercial
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Painted brick
Roof: Flat
Windows: Aluminum storefront, aluminum sliders

Description: Simple utilitarian box. Symmetrical façade with single centre door for access to second floor. Four shops on ground floor. Parking slab in front. Similar-sized back-lit sign boxes above shopfronts, plus a varied patchwork of other signage.



Location: 56 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1956, renovated 1998
Style: Domestic-style Commercial/Institutional
Storeys: One

Cladding: Vertical wood siding & painted concrete block
Roof: Asphalt shingles & flat
Windows: Modern double-glazing with applied muntins

Description: A rather sprawling one storey building. At the rear, it is a simple flat roofed box, with the street frontage domesticated by provision of sloped-roof elements reminiscent of ranch-style housing. The appearance from the street is modest, and the building is set back behind a shallow lawn with a number of trees near the street.

History: This was the local IGA supermarket until large-scale chain stores in surrounding malls rendered it uncompetitive. The bulk of the supermarket building remains. The Montessori School occupied the building in 1997, and constructed the domesticated front façade, which goes some way to fitting in to the Village character. The trees and landscaping provide an additional softening effect.



Parking lot to the east of the school. The simple box mass of the original.



Location: 62 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1860, with later alterations
Style: Vernacular Victorian with additions/false-front commercial
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Horizontal vinyl siding
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Hidden behind the façade is a vernacular Victorian L-plan dwelling with a front-facing gable at the west end of the façade. A 'wild-west' false front on the second floor conceals the gable, and a shopfront has been installed on the ground floor of the projecting ell. The dates of these alterations are unknown, but appear to be from the early 20th century. The shopfront is symmetrical with an angled recessed entry. The main body of the house has received unsympathetic alterations in the form of a shed-roof porch and a large picture window.



Location: 68 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1910, alterations and additions 1965
Style: Post-modern domestic-style commercial
Storeys: One

Cladding: Board and Batten
Roof: Flat asphalt shingles
Windows: Mixed modern windows

Description: A simple and modest presence on Old Kingston Road with a closed pediment above an awning shopfront window. There is a low planter in front and an entry stair to the west and more raised planting extending between the entry area and the flanking Linton Avenue. There is an extended addition running the length of the Linton Avenue frontage, with extensive shrubbery planted between the building and the sidewalk. The building has good manners in its scale, detailing, and planting.



Looking up Linton Avenue at the west side of the building. The planting minimizes the extensive length of the façade



Location: 72 Old Kingston Road
Known as: The Doctor's House
Year Built: 1871
Style: Vernacular Victorian Gothic with additions
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Brick, with stone and wood siding additions
Roof: asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Vernacular Victorian gothic L-plan house. Projecting quoins. The recessed east wing addition is 1-1/2 storeys, with a single raised dormer window on the upper front façade. Most of the openings have shallow pointed arches with ornate hood details. The stone front porch and the rear frame addition are later additions, and stylistically different. Deep front yard compared to other properties on Old Kingston Road, with a wealth of large mature trees. This significant building is showing signs of neglect. It deserves consideration for Designation under Part IV of the OHA.



Linton Avenue elevation, showing modern frame addition at the rear.

History: This impressive house was built in 1871 for Dr. Byron Field by his father. It was referred to as "The Doctor's House", as it was the residence and office to an unbroken line of doctors in Pickering Village, beginning with Dr. Field in 1871 and ending with Dr. Tomlinson in 1969. This house has a steep front gable with rectangular windows, featuring curved woodwork above and brick detail set in the arch. The original brick, now painted, was red with buff accents. The east wing, built to house the medical office is shown in an 1891 Fire Insurance Plan. The stone front porch and living room extension probably dates from the early 20th century.



Location: 76-78 Old Kingston Road
Known as: Monney's Bakery
Year Built: circa 1915
Style: Vernacular Edwardian commercial building
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Brick
Roof: Flat
Windows: Wood double-hung 6/6 upstairs

Description: Vernacular Edwardian mixed use, with commercial downstairs and residential up. On ground floor, the shopfront is to the west, and the residential entry hall is to the east, both raised on a 4-step podium above the sidewalk. The building is very much in original condition, with residential door and shopfront intact. Wonderful shopfront details including store name in leaded glass, and sliding leaded glass interior doors for the shopfront display area. See next page for barn behind. This building deserves consideration for Designation under Part IV of the OHA.



The shop name in the leaded glass transom, the leaded interior display area doors, and the old milk-glass light fixtures are visible here.

History: This two storey brick building is a typical example of a combined business/residential occupancy. The unusual parapet and masonry work and relatively unchanged façade make it an important aspect of the Pickering Village streetscape. In 1919 Herbert Russell Monney purchased the building and operated a bakery. There remains a lead glass window in front with "H.R. Monney Bakery". The building remained in the Monney family for 60 years.



Location: 76-78 Old Kingston Road Rear
Year Built: unknown
Style: Vernacular gable-roof barn
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Vertical Board Siding
Roof: Gable, metal roofing and asphalt shingles.
Windows: mixed, not original

Description: Simple vernacular barn with smaller shed to the west. In horsedrawn days, it was not unusual for a business to have such a building nearby to house their delivery wagon and horses. This may have been such a building.



View north toward the barn, showing the concrete block rear addition to the Monney Bakery building.



Location: 80-84 Old Kingston Road
Known as: The Dale Block
Year Built: Circa 1850
Style: Vernacular Victorian Hotel
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Angel stone & brick additions
Roof: Flat
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: The character of the original brickwork is visible on the recessed bay to the east. A good heritage asset underneath the angel stone. In the main body of the building the only visible original details are the cornice brackets. The quality visible on the recessed bay suggests the character that a restoration might bring to the street.

History: The Dale Block was the largest commercial building in Pickering Village. Originally a hotel owned by Peter Head, it became a store and residence when Edmund Wright purchased it in 1874. With its decorative brickwork and detailed parapet, it was one of the most impressive structures in the village.

Many prominent community members operated businesses generally dry goods or hardware from here. The unique single storey portion on the east end was used as a residence. The local Independent Order of Oddfellows met in the large second floor meeting room known as Dale's Hall. For many years Christopher Dale, who was born in Pickering Village, ran a hardware store in this building. In 1890 he purchased the east half of the building. Christopher Dale and eleven other family members are interred in the Society of Friends cemetery on Mill Street.



1905 photograph. Note that this photo pre-dates the construction of the bakery next door. Historic photograph from Ajax Archives.



Location: 88 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1963
Style: Utilitarian
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Brick, aluminum siding
Roof: Roll roofing
Windows: Modern

Description: Shallow front-gable roof on aluminum siding second storey. Lower storey of brick with large false-muntin windows. Set well back from the street with fence paved yard. An awkward building, without any architectural ambitions.



Location: 90 Old Kingston Road

Year Built: 1880

Style: Original style probably classically derived, much altered.

Storeys: Two

Cladding: Stucco

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Windows: Chicago windows with wood double-hung 2/1 flanking

Description: Symmetrical 3-bay house with side-gable. The double-chimney breasts at the gable ends are similar to those at 100 Old Kingston Road—suggesting an earlier date than might appear at first glance. Small hipped-roof enclosed porch with single door and sidelights is a later alteration. The building would have originally been brick. The house is set back from the street behind a lawn with some young trees. This is a modest and unassuming building that could be improved by some attention to detail.



Location: 94 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: N/A
Style: N/A
Storeys: N/A

Cladding:
Roof:
Windows:

Description: Vacant Lot



Location: 100 Old Kingston Road
Known as: The Music Media Building
Year Built: Circa 1850
Style: 5-bay Georgian with eccentric additions
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Polychrome Brick
Roof: Asphalt shingles & copper cupolas
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: The symmetrical front façade is defined by the copper-topped projecting octagonal bays which appear to be later additions. The original building, with its twin chimneys at either end, appears to have been a Georgian house in the American Federal style. The bell-cast verandah, reflecting the shape of the cupolas, was probably built along with the projecting additions. The polychrome corner bricks oddly extend only through the first storey. Verandah details are inauthentic, and the signage is distracting. This is a totally unique piece of heritage architecture. It deserves consideration for Designation under Part IV of the OHA.



Rear view.

History: This two-storey brick building situated on Old Kingston Road dominates the property it sits on. Built around 1850, this unique building with its multi-storey projecting bays topped by two copper cupolas has been a longstanding landmark in the old village. Originally the home of the village's earliest physician, Dr. Robert Burns, it has been used for over 30 years as a music store and music school and is still often referred to as the "Music Media" building.



Location: 106 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: Recorded as 1954
Style: Vernacular residential box
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Horizontal vinyl siding
Roof: Flat
Windows: Aluminum fixed over sliders.

Description: Symmetrical 5-bay façade. The entry appears to have been a nicely-proportioned classical composition with sidelights—suggesting that there is more to this building than is apparent at first glance, and it may be mis-dated.



Location: 110 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1998
Style: Post-modern Commercial
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Polychrome brick & cultured stone
Roof: Flat
Windows: Aluminum

Description: Simple 6-bay composition with lower bays defined by brick pilasters, and 2 closely-set windows above in each bay. Upper storey is red brick with buff lintels. Lower storey is grey brick with buff accents, topped with a cultured stone band. 4-bay west façade of the same composition, facing adjacent parking lot. A well-mannered building, sympathetic to the area in material and scale.



Parking lot to the west.



Location: 118 & 120 & 130 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1995
Style: Post-modern residential
Storeys: Four

Cladding: Polychrome Brick & metal mansard
Roof: Flat
Windows: Aluminum

Description: A large residential development, alongside and behind No. 110. The lower level of these buildings shares the polychrome brick and cultured stone details with No. 110. The upper floors are red brick with punched windows under buff brick lintels. The upper floors of the Kingston Road façade is symmetrical with a pair of A-B-A compositions, having narrow single windows flanking a pair of large windows in the middle bays. The middle bays extend to the roof, and the flanking windows are expressed as dormers in the mansard. In the village context, this is quite a large development, but the design elements tend to reduce the apparent scale, which is further softened by the presence of street trees and shrubbery on the street frontage.



Location: 138 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1951, with later additions and alterations
Style: Vernacular bungalow
Storeys: One

Cladding: Vertical wood siding & scalloped wood shingles
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern casements

Description: Front gable bungalow design. Symmetrical façade with triplet casements on either side of an entry door with sidelights. Small front porch with open gable. Main front-facing closed pediment gable faced with scalloped wood shingles. Building set back from the street with mature tree and flower garden in front, with parking to the west front. Very small scale sympathetic to the village context.



Location: 144 Old Kingston Road
Year Built: 1991
Style: Post-modern traditionalist commercial
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Polychrome Brick
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Victorian-inspired vernacular commercial building. Old Kingston Road façade has projecting front-gable bays at east end and centre, and an octagonal tower with a complex conical roof. Building is set back behind a broad lawn, with young trees and shrubs, on Old Kingston Road. The design continues for three projecting bays along Elizabeth Street. Continuous verandah with slender posts at each bay. Lower grade on Elizabeth Street frontage means verandah is elevated on a precast retaining wall with a white picket railing. Detailing is post-modern mixture of historic elements, including quoins, keystones, and palladian windows.



View from northwest.



Location: 39 Old Kingston Road
 Known As: Pickering Village Urban Square
 Built: 2011
 Style: Public open space

Description: Small open space at narrow-angled intersection of Old Kingston Road and Kingston Road West. Includes precast paving, a pavilion, a seating area, a bridge, and the old village fire bell.

History: This was the site of the 1857 Canton Presbyterian Church, which was abandoned as a church after the Union of the Presbyterian Churches in 1879.

When the First Pickering Company of volunteer firemen was formed in 1888, money was collected from the villagers by subscription to ensure fire protection. The men rented the former Canton Presbyterian Church which then stood vacant on this site, and beside the church they built a six-storey bell tower. This was considered to be a good central location.

Then the volunteer fire fighters ordered a 200 pound bell from the Clinton H. Meneely Bell Company in Troy, New York. When concern was raised that the bell might not be large enough to be heard everywhere, it was returned and a 500 pound bell was cast. Whenever fire was discovered in the village, the first person to reach the fire hall would ring the bell to call the volunteers to report for duty.

Besides its principal function as a fire alarm, the bell was rung four times daily by a paid bell-ringer at the hours of 7, 12, 1 and 6 to announce the beginning of the work day, lunch time, the end of lunch hour and the close of the work day. On Sundays the bell called the villagers to worship at the various churches. On V.E. day, May 8, 1945, the bell rang out the good news all that day and the next, that the Second World War was over.

Among those citizens who were employed as bell-ringers were: George Gilders, Richard Moor, Isaac Wise, Robert Ham, George Cowan, Robert Rankin, George Elliott, and his wife Elsie, the only woman known to have performed this duty. The Elliotts were the last bell-ringers. The village fire bell, though now silent, bears quiet testimony to earlier times in the Village of Pickering.



The bell tower is behind the Hydro pole on the left. The Dunbar Store is on the right. The Town Hall building was torn down in 1956. Historic photograph from Ajax Archives.



Location: 49 Old Kingston Road
Known as: The Birthing House
Built: 1890, later rear addition
Style: Vernacular Victorian Gothic House
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Painted Stucco, painted angel stone
Roof: Asphalt shingle, Flat
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Archetypal 3-bay Victorian Gothic dwelling, with steep central dormer housing a pointed arch window. On the Old Kingston Road façade, the front porch, door and windows are modern replacements, but the basic form is original. Other facades have been revised more heavily. Original siding was probably either stucco or board and batten, and it would be nice to see a return to one of these some day. Attractive planting in front of the house and mature street trees to either side.



The richly-treed and hedged side yard includes a dining patio. The more modern rear addition is visible here.

History: This charming storey and a half cottage, originally of white stucco, was once the home of the carriage makers in Pickering Village. Its medium pitched roof, broken by a central gable and the Gothic window, were typical of the late 19th century. The discovery of a small trap door and sealed room behind a stone wall led to local hearsay that rum runners once lived here. The most prominent owner of this house was Rachel Irish, a locally famous midwife who moved here with her family in 1921 and purchased this house in 1938. There are still many local people who were born in this house under Rachel's care.



Location: 59 Old Kingston Road
Known As: The Village Store
Built: 1890
Style: Vernacular village store
Storeys: One

Cladding: Wood clapboard
Roof: Flat
Windows: Wooden shopfront

Description: A simple vernacular shop, with large-pane mullioned wooden shopfront with a angled, recessed entry. There are two doors separated by a substantial post, suggesting that there once may have been two businesses here. The shopfront is framed with pilasters and a cornice is anchored by substantial brackets which are duplicated at the top corners of the building. The substantial spandrel above carries a modern backlit sign. The west side was formerly a residence—a common Ontario village arrangement. The residence is described on the next page.



Detail showing pilaster, bracket, cornice, mullions, and clapboard spandrel.

History: This small frame mercantile with attached residence was built here in the 1880s for Thomas Dyke, a local merchant, on what was then called King Street. The mercantile has survived largely intact, and retains much of its original detail. The recessed entrance, high windows and strong mullions give it a special charm. The attached residence, although much altered, is of a typical wood-frame, storey-and-a-half design.

Through the years, the building has housed a variety of businesses, and a library. Its most prominent occupants were Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Wise. During the 1890s they were involved in a variety of commercial ventures, including groceries, millinery, and the jewellery business. They were long-time residents of the village, and active in community affairs. They are buried nearby in the Pickering Old Methodist cemetery on Elizabeth Street.



Location: 59A Old Kingston Road
Known As: Part of the Village Store
Built: 1890
Style: Vernacular Loyalist cottage
Storeys: One and a half
Classification: Listed

Cladding: Wood clapboard
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Concealed by shutters

Description: Simple vernacular 3-bay Loyalist cottage with a low slope roof, and a kitchen tail behind. Basic form of the building is intact. Door and trims for door and windows are not original, and windows are concealed by closed shutters. Shrubs and mature trees in front and to the sides of the combined store and residence.

Those old enough to remember the Doctor Ben Casey TV show will recognize the symbols for "man" and "woman" over the door. Other symbols on both sides of No. 59 are pharmacy symbols. These are all believed to be recent embellishments.



In contrast to urbanized townscapes, village commercial areas are characterized by varied setbacks, with buildings framed by trees.



Location: 65-67 Old Kingston Road
Built: circa 1850s
Style: Vernacular "Carpenter Gothic"
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Board and batten
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Vernacular L-plan house, with small hipped-roof entry porch in the angle. Recessed wing to the east has a steep central dormer with a pointed arch window. Modern hipped roof additions on the west and south.

This house is in excellent condition, and is the last board and batten building in the Village.

History: The original land patent went to John Smith on November 6, 1795 for 200 acres. His son, David Smith, sold this lot to Elizabeth Hulet in 1821. A 1860 survey map shows buildings on the property, which was owned by William Hartrick at that time. William was a prominent member of the community, serving as magistrate for almost 30 years. He built and lived in the designated home at 22 Linton Avenue.



View from the west.



Location: 71 Old Kingston Road
 Known As: The News Building
 Built: 1908
 Style: Wild west false-front commercial building
 Storeys: One
 Classification: Listed

Cladding: Painted cultured stone
 Roof: Asphalt shingles
 Windows: Modern replacements

Description: Simple gable roof commercial/industrial building with a flat-topped false-front parapet. Kingston Road façade is symmetrical, with recessed central door flanked by two large windows. The moulded concrete block is laid in a fairly elaborate pattern with large quoins. The main entry and the western side door feature lintels with "THE NEWS" integrally cast in large block letters. Entry is 5 steps up from the sidewalk. There is a later block addition at the rear. Raised planted area along Linton Avenue frontage on the east.



East elevation along Linton Avenue. The later rear extension is visible here.

History: This building, constructed in 1908, was once home to the Pickering News, established in 1881 as an independent weekly. W. H. Higgins was the publisher, who also published the Whitby Chronicle. John Murkar became the sole owner and publisher in 1907, and built this building, next door to his home. Three generations of Murkars ran the newspaper until it ceased publication in 1965.

This is one of the few structures in the Village possessing a false front, (facing Kingston Road), making it of particular historical interest. "The News" is cast into the front and sides of the structure, and is still visible today. A door on the west, now blocked up, would be a convenience to the proprietor, who lived in the adjacent house at 73 Old Kingston Road.

It's fitting that the old news building is home to a printing shop today.



Location: 73 Old Kingston Road
Known As: The Murkar House
Built: 1875, with modern rear additions
Style: Vernacular Victorian house
Storeys: One and a half

Cladding: Polychrome Brick
Roof: Asphalt shingle
Windows: Original wood double-hung 2/2

Description: Vernacular Victorian 3-bay house with steep centre gable, with finial, housing a semi-circular arch window. Lower openings are segmentally arched, and the single door has a transom. Voussoirs and quoins are buff brick, contrasting with the red brick field. Wide porch on front and east side sits on round wood columns atop cast stone piers. The porch is believed to date from the 1920s. Large rear addition pays homage to Victorian style in polychromy gable dormers, and segmentally arched windows, without being authentic in detail or proportion.



Historic image from Ajax Archives, Murkar house in the centre, News building beyond it.

History: This 1½ storey house on the south side of Old Kingston Road is in excellent condition, and is a fine example of a small town house design of the latter half of the 18th century. The veranda on the north and east sides of the home was added in the 1920's. The home was purchased in 1912 by John Murkar, who was a principal of Pickering Secondary School No. 4 for a period of time before he acquired an interest in the Pickering News. In 1907, he became the sole owner and publisher of the paper. After buying the house in 1912, he moved the newspaper office to the building directly east of his home. The newspaper building still stands with the inscription "THE NEWS" over the front and side doors.



Location: 81 Old Kingston Road
Built: 1969
Style: Modernist commercial
Storeys: One

Cladding: Brick and stucco with aluminum shopfront
Roof: Flat
Windows: Modern aluminum fixed glazing

Description: Small modern commercial building, originally a branch of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. The building is neatly detailed, and the brick is handsome. The building shows good manners to the village character in its small scale, material palette, and front-lit signage.



Location: 87 Old Kingston Road
Built: 1988
Style: Post-modern traditionalist small office building
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Polychrome Brick
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern false muntin

Description: Front gable building with small bay to the west slightly projecting. Shallow shed-roof porch on the east. Top of gable has a small oriel near the peak. Building mass is red brick, with oriel, segmental arch window heads, quoins and a 5-course band at the second floor level of buff brick. The arches and the banding include red brick accents. East elevation has a similar side gable with oriel near the front. West wall is windowless, gableless, and featureless, except for the second floor band—it presents a fairly bluff appearance across the wide parking lot when viewed from the west.



View from the southwest (rear).



Location: 93 Old Kingston Road (West of 87 Old Kingston Road)
Built: N/A
Style: N/A
Storeys: N/A

Cladding:
Roof:
Windows:

Description: Parking lot, otherwise vacant. This parcel is separate from the adjacent properties.



Location: 103 Old Kingston Road
Known As: The Gordon House
Built: 1881, addition 1884
Style: Vernacular Victorian hotel
Storeys: Two

Cladding: Polychrome Brick
Roof: Flat
Windows: Original wood double-hung 2/2

Description: Richly detailed polychrome brick building, with bays divided by projecting pilasters. Semi-circular arches above main entrance and upper windows—windows having masonry spandrels above flat headed windows. Segmental arches above other lower level doors and windows. Brickwork is elaborately detailed with mixed colours in the lintels, toothing, herringbone coursing and diapering. Transoms are elaborate. A very fine and very well preserved building. See original cresting and entry porch in the historical photo on the left.



Photo circa 1920 from Ajax Archives.

History: The Gordon House was built as a hotel in 1881 by John Cuthbert. This impressive building displays skill and craftsmanship in the highly decorative brick façade and interior striped hardwood floors. James Gordon was proprietor for several years prior to purchasing the hotel in 1893, and his family continued to operate the establishment until 1952. During this period the dining room developed a fine reputation for its home-cooked meals prepared by Mrs. Susan Gordon. Early in the hotel's history the east wing was occupied by the Standard Bank. The building underwent extensive renovation in 1988, including masonry restoration.



Location: 109 Old Kingston Road
Known As: The Courtyard
Built: 1987
Style: Post-modern traditionalist (Tudor)
Storeys: Two & three

Cladding: Half-timbered stucco with brick and cultured stone
Roof: Asphalt shingles
Windows: Modern casements, predominantly

Description: A sprawling modern mixed-use development constructed around a spacious interior courtyard. The design reflects a style that is at odds with local precedent, except for the similarly inspired 'stockbroker Tudor' houses found in urban centres around the world. It is nonetheless village-ey in that it borrows from a style found in towns large and small in Britain, and the myriad gables are each of a domestic scale. It has become a defining landmark announcing arrival in Pickering Village, and the courtyard is a charming place for latte-sipping and people watching. It's earned its place in the village; but not to be copied as a precedent for new work.



History: Prior to construction, most of the site of this development consisted of ravine land, sloping down toward Duffins Creek. When Kingston Road was re-aligned to the original concession layout, the ravine was filled in (see map on next page).

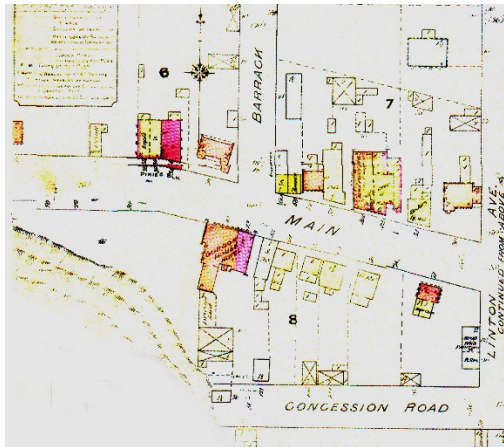
A modern traditional landmark. You've arrived.



Location: 113 Old Kingston Road
Built: N/A
Style: Vacant lot

Description: Vacant lot is a potential development site.

History: Historically, this site consisted of ravine land, sloping down toward Duffins Creek. When Kingston Road was re-aligned to the original concession layout, the ravine was filled in.



The slope is indicated in this 1906 Fire Insurance Map. Kingston Road, here called Concession Road, ended at the top of bank behind the Gordon House Hotel. Only a small triangle of land was at the elevation of Old Kingston Road, here called Main Street.