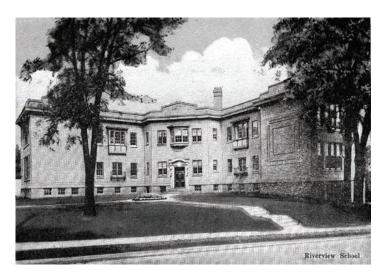
## ACO's 36th Annual Geranium Heritage House Tour *Riverview Rendezvous*



## Sunday June 7, 2009 1:00 - 5:00

Walk begins at the Children's Museum 21 Wharncliffe Rd. South

Refreshments are available at HMCS Prevost 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 36th annual Geranium Heritage House Tour. This year's tour winds its way along the south bank of the Thames River. The ACO is proud to begin the tour at the Children's Museum, which has featured during the month of May a unit on heritage architecture called "If Walls Could Talk: The Cool Stories Old Buildings Tell Us". This unit, sponsored by the ACO, includes a discovery tour of the architecture in the neighbourhood.

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 two ongoing ACO heritage projects:

- a \$2,000.00 grant to homeowners to help preserve or restore heritage features of their home.
- A \$2,000.00 grant to a student enrolled in a heritage trades program at Algonquin College

Enjoy your Riverview stroll today. You will find a map on the back cover of this booklet, but remember that the route shown there is just a suggestion. The sites are open from 1:00 to 5:00 (except the HMCS Prevost which opens at 2:30) and they can be viewed in any order. To avoid long lineups you may wish to use a different route. A potted red geranium marks each house open for viewing (hence, the name of the tour!).

NOTE: As part of our commitment to residential property owners we would ask that tour participants be prepared to remove their shoes if asked. Our guides will provide bags for you to carry them in as you tour the home.

Thank you for your participation.

## **RIVERVIEW HISTORY**

The history of this area of London is closely tied to the history of Dennis O'Brien. Mr. O'Brien, from County Cork, came to Upper Canada in 1826 and quickly saw the need for a fair system of trade between merchants and farmers rather than that established by the colonial system. His reputation for fair dealing inspired confidence and gave him a controlling influence over trade in the area from Niagara to London. The arrival of British soldiers in 1838 and the profits from military contracts added to his influence and O'Brien very soon became a millionaire of the time, owning not just acres of land but miles of property. In addition to his substantial brick house and store on Dundas Street at Ridout, he owned property in Westminster Township that stretched from the Thames River south to Commissioners Road and from Wharncliffe Road west to the Coves.

Following the Great Fire in 1845, O'Brien fled to his country property and built a large Georgian style home which he called Riverview some time between 1845 and 1854. Riverview was among the first of the fine residences to be built south of the Thames River. O'Brien, who was a devout Roman Catholic,



Riverview: The O'Brien Residence c. 1880 (London Free Press)

offered his house as the location of the first mass to be said in this part of Canada.

O'Brien's obituary in the London Free Press on June 3, 1865, praised him for his honesty and simplicity of character although he was easily imposed upon. His goodness of heart would not allow him to oppress anyone to collect debts so he lost thousands of pounds.

In the 1850's O'Brien's financial setbacks forced him to sell large parcels of his land. Some of his property was also appropriated by the Great Western Railway, land which is now part of the Canadian National Railway line that runs south of Evergreen Ave.

After his death, his daughter, Mary McMillan, occupied the house until it was sold to the Salvation Army for use as a Rescue Home in the mid 1890's. Significant numbers of homes were not built on the former O'Brien lands until after this sale and the annexation of Westminster Township by London in 1890. By the early part of the twentieth century many new homes were being built on the streets east and west of Wharncliffe Road South and new families moved in with school age children.

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



930 Gainsborough London, Ontario. N6H 5L4



1921 photo of the former Riverview School, now the Children's Museum -Courtesy of the London Room

In 1914 overcrowding at Victoria School resulted in a group of grade 1 students being housed in a house on Riverview Avenue on property acquired at a cost of \$15,000 for the building of a school. In the fall, a grade 2 class was added in the kitchen and dining room. This house was torn down as the school was being built, so one class was put into a cottage by the river (rented for \$8.00 a month) and the other was accommodated in a large tent pitched near the river. Rain and cold weather made teaching and learning in the tent difficult so school was dismissed in the late fall of 1914 until new accommodations were found in January 1915 in a brick house at the corner of Becher St. and Wharncliffe Road.

Built by John Putherbough for \$53,500 and designed by L.E. Carrothers and J.V. Munro, the new school was originally intended to include only six classrooms to accommodate the 90 pupils in the temporary locations. The three classes from the old King St. School were added to the school enrolment and plans were changed to build an eleven room, two storey school with two wings. The kindergarten room was designed to do double duty as an assembly room and house-

hold science and manual training rooms also accommodated students from Victoria Public School and the Charles Street School of London West.

The official opening of Riverview School with its spacious playground and beautiful outlook to the southeast occurred on May 26, 1916 at 2:30 pm. The afternoon program allowed for the participants to attend the opening of Ryerson Public School in the evening. In 1978 the school was closed due to declining enrolment as families had left the area to move to new subdivisions in land London annexed in 1960. The Christian Academy of Western Ontario rented the school for three years until it was bought by the London Regional Children's Museum in July 1981. The museum had several homes in the City Centre and London Towers since it opened in 1975 and was pleased to move into the renovated school in September 1982.

#### The tour starts in the atrium.

Look up to observe the original Riverview School Edwardian doorway and intricate door surround. Where you are standing was at the basement level of the School. Notice the oriel window above the door and the two nicely balanced rectangular upper bay windows on the east and west wings. The rectangular bays are supported by modillions.

# Proceed through the doors to your left, below the whale's tail, and take the stairs or elevator to the second floor.

At the top of the stairs look up to observe the wall corner details at ceiling level – another architectural feature that makes this building such a gem. See how many of these wall details you can find.

Before you enter the former kindergarten room/auditorium note the terrazzo floor and look to your right through "Jellyfish Junction" and the original main entrance to the school.

The outstanding feature of the bright spacious kindergarten room is the centre window area with its nursery rhyme leaded glass windows. They found their beginnings in a book named "Nursery Rhymes" and the artwork, painting and etching were done at Hobbs Glass Company. Notice also the folding doors which would open to enlarge the kindergarten room into an auditorium.

### Return to the ground floor and exit the building.

Look back after exiting to view the cement heading over the door. It makes it clear that only boys are to use this door.

Note: If you wish to avoid f o u r t e e n steps, turn right and walk through the parking lot to Wharncliffe Road, turn right onto



Wharncliffe to Riverview Avenue and turn onto Riverview.

#### If steps aren't a problem, turn left when you exit the Children's Museum and walk around the back of the building.

You will pass the three storey, five-sided bay, with its generous windows, which housed the former kindergarten room and, above it, the household science room.

### As you climb the stairs notice the girls' entrance.

The windowless wall surfaces are enlivened by picture frame, h e r r i n g b o n e

brick detail that is further enhanced by stone diamonds and blocks. Note the double brick border under the eaves and above



the basement and the rusticated stone foundation.

#### Look across Riverview Avenue to the south side.

58 and 56 Riverview are Victorian houses that have been clad with angelstone, wood and brick. On 58 Riverview notice the fine cresting above the enclosed porch, the narrow panes of coloured glass and the rectangular bay windows. 56 Riverview features a double height bay on the east side and elaborate paired eaves and brackets. The detail on the porch matches the detail on the double bay and gable.

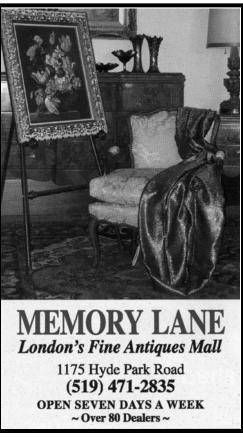
## Continue west on Riverview Avenue and turn right onto O'Brien Street.

Stroll down O'Brien Street for a view of the Thames and to see the hidden Shirley Avenue with its 4 small cottages along the river.

3 O'Brien Street (c1910) also has a splendid location on the river. The style is eclectic with arts and crafts elements in the second storey and gable.

#### Return to Riverview Avenue and turn right. (west)

Across the street is the Salvation Army Bethesda Centre. Dennis O'Brien's house, "Riverview" was slightly east of this.



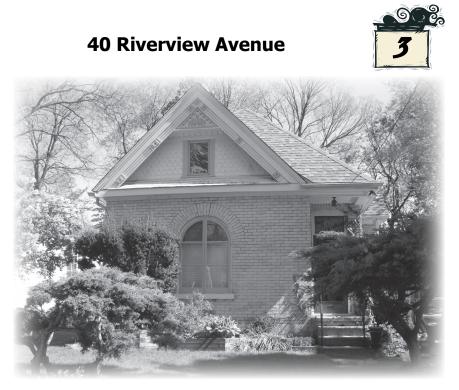


#### Priority 2

Built c. 1928, the elegant home at 49 Riverview was designed by London architect John M. Watt as his own residence. It was constructed on the site of an earlier house which belonged to Watt's father. The Arts and Crafts style house is horizontally proportioned and covered in white painted stucco. It is topped by a steep roof with exposed rafters. A gable with halftimbering dominates one side of the front elevation, and similar gables are prominent features of the side elevations. The door and doorway are original, with arched tops and an arched hood supported by brackets. Typical of the Arts and Crafts style, tall narrow casement windows are gathered in multiple groups with multi-pane glazing.

## Exit the house and continue west on Riverview Avenue.

42 Riverview Avenue (c1870) is a delightful side-hall plan cottage with tongue in groove siding. Note the fine double door with transom and the window surrounds.



Priority 3

This modest yellow brick house first appears in the CityDirectory in 1891 but was probably built prior to this date when the area was part of Westminster Township. It was one of the first houses built on the south side of the street after the O'Brien family began to sell off parcels of their land. Its original neighbours were Dennis O'Brien's daughter in Riverview to the east and stables to the west. The first occupant listed in the directory was Charles Patmore, a tinsmith, employed at William Stevely & Son.

Queen Anne style cottages like this home are similar to larger Queen Anne homes built between 1870 and 1910 except that the style was adapted to a one story home that included an attic. The front off-centre gable and the smaller gable on the west side of the house create the irregular, asymmetrical silhouette common in this style. Note the sunburst detail at the base of the front gable and the decorative bargeboard that borders it. Both gables are also filled with decorative shingles. Beneath the larger gable is a row of small brackets or modillions. The small window and vent in the gables are also bordered by pilasters. The segmental arches above the double hung windows are pleasing details on the long brick walls. The front off-centre, round headed window is particularly well defined by the voussoirs that surround it. Notice the transom over the front door. On the west side the graceful bay window is typical of Queen Anne style.

The rise of Queen Anne style in the late nineteenth century coincided with the industrial revolution that brought new technologies to factories. Factory-made, precut architectural parts were transported by expanding railways that brought them to builders who combined them to create fanciful homes. Widely published pattern books were available to the wealthy industrialists who built lavish castles and working class people who wished to give their homes a degree of respectability.

#### Exit the house and continue west on Riverview Avenue.

As you continue along Riverview Avenue, you will see that the houses are of a variety of ages and designs. Some have experienced significant change over the years: for example, windows that were once arched are now straight across.

At the end of Riverview there was a small "industrial" area. The building that is number 17 and 19 Riverview was once the London Scale Works and to the west was a die-stamping plant.

#### When you reach the end of Riverview Avenue, turn left (east) onto Evergreen Avenue.

47 Evergreen (c1870) isanotherside-hallplan cottage with tongue in groove siding. Note the sidelights and transom that are part of the doorway.

43 Evergreen (c1870) exhibits the essential features of an Ontario cottage (hipped roof and central doorway flanked by symmetrically



43 Evergreen Avenue

placed windows). An unusual feature is the raised main storey and large basement windows. Observe the decorative paired brackets under the wood eaves and the original double hung windows with wood sills.

39 Evergreen (c1895) is Queen Anne influence with stained glass windows and attractive porch detail.

The Queen Anne style house at 37 Evergreen (c1890) has a number of noteworthy features. These include the elaborate front doorway, decorative bargeboard and modillions supporting the verandah roof and gables. Note the fish-scale shingles on the gables.

35 Evergreen has an oculus in the gable.

34 Evergreen (c1900) is a shingle style H-shaped house. Note the dentils over the porch and the trim below the shingling. Observe the leaded and stained glass windows.

Evergreen Avenue was originally called Centre Street until its annexation by London as part of Westminster Township in 1890. A plan for subdividing the north side of Centre Street, Westminster Township was registered in the Registry Office in June 1873 by Duncan McMillan, son-in-law of Dennis O'Brien. The 1893 directory shows the street name changed to Evergreen Avenue, probably to avoid confusion with a Centre Street in London West.

The south side of the street was developed later as the J. S. Pearce & Co. Seed Trials occupied most of the land and the only house listed on this side was 70 Evergreen Ave. In the 1902 directory the seed trial grounds were no longer listed and houses had begun to be built on the south side. The remaining homes on the south side were built in the next fifteen years. The London Sewer Raceworks occupied the land to the west of 48 Evergreen and several homes were built on the lower land closer to the Thames River.



This Queen Anne style cottage has undergone extensive renovation to enlarge the living space but a strong attempt was made to renovate the home in sympathy with its origins. This house predates its first appearance in the 1891 City Directory which recorded its early occupants as Charles Lennie, a traveler, followed by Albert Sheere, a bookkeeper.

An attractive colour scheme sets off the decorative bargeboard details in the front gable. The second floor bay window or oriel is a modern window but the brackets that support it give it a more authentic appearance. The wraparound verandah is an addition to the home that adds to the charm of the home. Above the front door and partially hidden from the street is a stained glass transom. Have a close look at it when you enter the house. On the west facade of the house you can see an original stained glass oval window surrounded by voussoirs and the large bay window with a dormer window above. The large garage is part of an addition that was built almost thirty years ago, with stylistic features that complement those of the house.

#### Exit the house and cross the street.



#### Priority 3

This block built house, in a version of Edwardian classic design, was constructed in 1904 by Charles A. Smith, a builder, as his family residence. Members of the Smith family occupied the house until 1966. Smith also constructed the house at 24 Evergreen several years later. The manufacture of rusticated blocks of concrete that were treated to make them look like stone was a new innovation in London at this time. These cement blocks buttress the corners of the house.

The design of the house is simpler than Victorian era houses but still retains popular details from the earlier era such as the gables on the front and west sides of the irregular roofline. Fish scale shingles are in keeping with the age of the house. Notice the pattern in the gable and the sunburst decoration. The bargeboard decoration that borders the gable is more restrained in its detailing than is often seen and ends in a graceful curve. The top of the bargeboard is finished in a dentil pattern. A series of large brackets and modillions are found in the peak of the gable. The much smaller, less ornate west gable is dominated by a tall double chimney. The attractive porch has changed from its original style to a simpler version with double columns and modillions for decoration. Original stained glass transoms are found in the front window and front door.

## Exit the house and continue east on Evergreen Avenue.

The property at 25 Evergreen is remembered by long time residents for its rose gardens. The home was called Rose Villa in the 1890s.

24 Evergreen (c1900) is another example of concrete block construction.

Many interesting and attractive details are present on the exterior of 22 Evergreen Avenue: keystone window, stained glass in matching windows at the side and front, double bracketing supporting the gable, rusticated brick around the windows and a rusticated brick coursing emphasizing the shape of the windows.

18 Evergreen has an intact finial and oval window. Observe the three-part window in the gable with decorative arched detail.

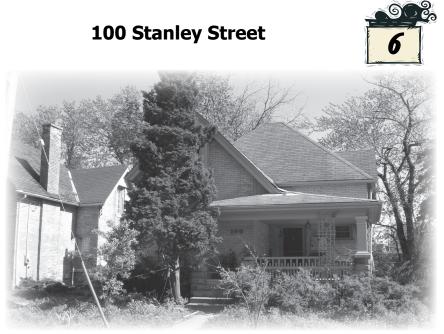
#### Continue to Wharncliffe Road, turn left and cross at the crosswalk. Walk south (right turn after you cross) on Wharncliffe Road and CAREFULLY cross Stanley Street.

Stanley Street was so named because it was the main route out of the city to Port Stanley. In early pioneer days Stanley Street was busy with the traffic of stage coaches and heavilyladen wagons pulled by teams.

The Ivy Green Tavern was located near here and it saw some colourful incidents – the tavern-keeper shot himself after his wife ran off with one of the customers.

The commercial block contained shops serving the local area: butchers, bakers, barbers, shoe repairers, grocers.

The railroad arrived in 1857; the track originally ran atop wooden trestles and this constituted an effective boundary to the district.



Priority 1

Though located at one of London's busiest intersections, the picturesque home on the southeast corner of Wharncliffe Rd. and Stanley St. has the air of a country cottage. Built about 1896 as an income property, the home has features typical of the Queen Anne style, such as a verandah, unique windows, and an irregular outline. Note the "keyhole" window once so popular in the London area and, above it, the oriel window in the front gable with its decorative base and "ruff" below the window sill. The present porch is a later addition but likely replaces an earlier porch with a similar footprint.

The first tenant in the new cottage was Maria Arkell, widow of Robert Arkell, who likely owned the New American Hotel on Ridout St. and later the Revere House (now the Richmond Hotel) at Richmond and King. After Maria died in 1902, the house had many residents but has remained remarkably wellpreserved under so many different hands.

#### Exit the house.

There was once a park on this land, named St. James Park, which abutted the railroad tracks on the south side and

extended the length of Stanley Street. Later it was leased as a potato patch and in the 1870s residential development began.

## CAREFULLY cross Stanley Street again and walk north on Wharncliffe Road to The Ridgeway. Turn right.

Becher Street and The Ridgeway are part of a subdivision (previously an orchard) developed in the 1850s by Henry Becher, a prominent lawyer, along with several others. Formerly MacBeth Street, The Ridgeway was a prestigious address in early London as large mansions were constructed along its north side overlooking the Thames River. ("The Ridgeway" was the name of the mansion owned by barrister Edmund Weld, that stood at the eastern edge of The Ridgeway.) To-day, many of these stately homes, dating from the 1890s, have been converted into apartment and rooming houses, confining the street's prestigious image to the past. Look closely and you can still see decorated bargeboards, massive Tudor chimneys, carved stone lintels and other attractive architectural details.

41 The Ridgeway is a later addition to the street and was built in the bungalow style. (broad, gently pitched roof extending over a porch or verandah) Note the "eyebrow" dormer windows, high centre gable and oriel window on the west side.

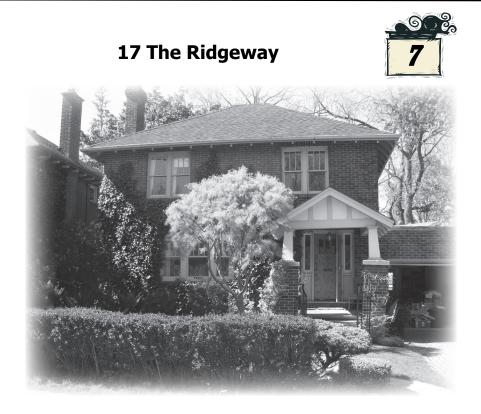
The gables of 35 The Ridgeway (1896) are trimmed by patterned bargeboards. Note the stained glass transom over the large front window.

The red brick mansion at 22 The Ridgeway (1900) has an outstanding front door with rusticated stone surround and bevelled glass in the sidelights. The façade still shows remnants of former grandeur with its matching gables and centred Palladian window.

20 The Ridgeway was built in 1902 for Charles L. Jeffrey, a director of the London Life Insurance Company, which his father had founded. Notice the half-timbered upper story and heavy-set turret.



Turret at 20 The Ridgeway



This attractive two-storey home was built in the Arts and Crafts style. You may notice that this house is the mirror image of the home to its left at 15 The Ridgeway.

The first listing for 17 The Ridgeway appears in the 1935 city directory as Frank J. Fisk, auditor for the London & Port Stanley Railway. In 1945 the owner is listed as Lewis E. Carrothers, Superintendent of Buildings for the Board of Education, followed by Blanche Carrothers (his daughter) in 1948. The present owners purchased it from Blanche's estate.

The wonderful variegated brick home has several Arts and Crafts style influences including wide eaves with decorative rafter ends, external chimney, porch gable showing structural wood details, inward sloping square porch roof supports and original double hung windows with period storm windows. Note the three rectangular panes in the top frame of the window with a single pane in the lower frame. The house has an efficient side hall plan so all the major first level rooms and access to the second story are off the hall which goes from the front door through to kitchen and back entrance. Note the leaded glass side light at the front door.

It is said that the evergreen ivy growing on the house was "obtained" by Blanche from Buckingham Palace.

The garage was added at a later date. It is rumoured that Blanche acquired a white car with a white convertible top which she wanted to keep clean.

#### Exit the house.

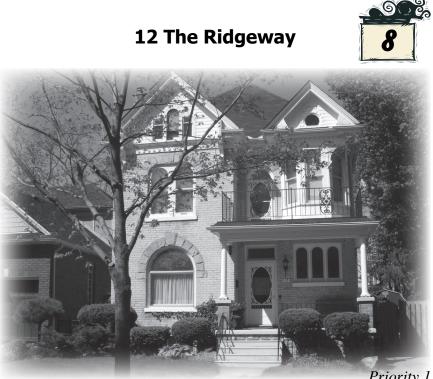
16 The Ridgeway (1905) has an elegant chimney for the style of the house and a highly detailed gable.

The attractive infill at 14 The Ridgeway has incorporated the elements of the neighbouring houses including fish-scale detail and decorative brickwork. It has Arts and Crafts influences.



14 The Ridgeway





Priority 1

This attractive 3 storey home is an elegant example of the Queen Anne revival style. The facade is well-proportioned around a central doorway, despite the variety of window shapes and design features. The large gable on the left side is nicely balanced by a smaller gable and balcony on the right side. Notice the multiplicity of arches in the home's design. There are arched windows, some with heavy stone lintels, a triple arch in the porch, a double arch upstairs and a Palladian window in the third storey. Other elegant details include a frieze and dentil work and arched trellises on the south bay windows.

12 The Ridgeway, appears for the first time in the 1901 City Directory. For many years the lots along The Ridgeway be-tween number 6 and number 22 stood vacant. The first occupant of this home was 25-year old John Higginson McKinley, a carpenter at Hilliard and McKinley contractors. He lived to the ripe old age of 83 and his obituary stated that he was "a First World War veteran and organizer of military bands".

#### Continue on The Ridgeway until it meets Becher Street. Walk a few steps to your right to observe 49 Becher Street.

49 Becher Street (c1882) is a charming sidehall plan cottage that was built for Michael McNamara, a labourer. Note the dichromatic brick voussoirs and small centre gable.

#### Walk east, cross The Ridgeway and continue on Becher Street.



49 Becher Street

Look across the street to number 40. "Wincomblea", was built in 1856 for a grocer named Finlay McFee. It is a Georgian house with two striking chimneys, a classically detailed side porch and small brackets under the eaves.

The double house at 35 Becher Street has rusticated stone headings over arched windows and elaborate detail in the gable.

31 -33 Becher Street is another double house with dichromatic brick voussoirs over the windows and doors.

As you continue along Becher Street note that there are several semi-detached houses of differing styles. 23 - 25 Becher is Italianate with paired brackets under the eaves and arched transoms over the front doors.

On your right at 18 Becher Street is "Tait Manor" which occupies a pretty spot by the river. Originally an extensive verandah bordered the house on the river side. This large residence, with Italianate features, was built in 1889 by Andrew McEnvoy, a county treasurer. In 1935 it was bought by Bernard Tait, who added a new wing and third storey and subdivided it into apartments.

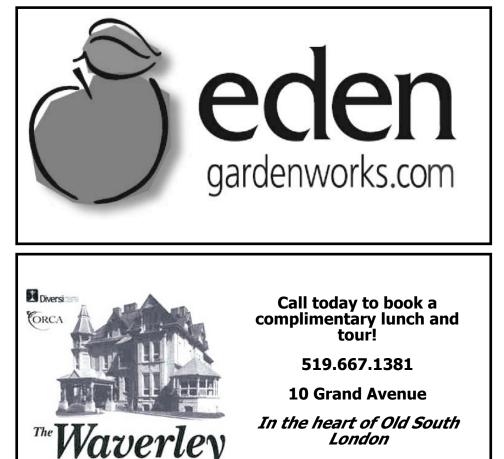
## Please proceed into HMCS Prevost for a tour and refreshments.



London Division of the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve was founded in 1938 and occupied the second floor of the Darch Building (which was part of the demolished Talbot streetscape) and used Market Square as a parade ground. With the outbreak of World War II, the division moved to the Carling Block at Richmond and Carling where it became a vital training and recruiting centre for the wartime navy. In keeping with tradition, the navy decided in 1941 to commission shore establishments as "Stone Frigates" entrusted with the names of historically significant ships. London's Division was christened HMCS Prevost after HMS Lady Prevost, a schooner brig which served in the Lake Erie Squadron during the War of 1812 and was named for the then Governor-General's wife.

After the war, HMCS Prevost was converted from a wartime establishment to a permanent naval division. New boats, equipment and training aids were acquired. In 1950 a boathouse was established in Port Stanley and in 1957 this building was officially opened. Unfortunate budget cuts in 1964 meant the division was decommissioned and the building turned over to the army to house militia units. The navy returned to London in 1978 as a detachment of Hamilton based HMCS Star. In 1990 HMCS Prevost was recommissioned. Recently, sailors trained on this ship have served on peacekeeping and NATO missions, in Afghanistan and on Maritime Coastal Defence vessels.

This June, the Royal Canadian Navy begins the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its beginning in 1910. We are pleased to celebrate with them. Enjoy the displays provided by the officers and crew of HMCS Prevost and then head to the second deck Wardroom for refreshments and a wonderful view of the Forks of the Thames - a perfect Riverview Rendezvous!



etirement Reside



Supporting the community for 13 years

519.933.6658



Specialists with over 50 years experience in Restoration, Replating and Repairs

email: Antiquemetal@ody.ca

www.antiquemetalfinishing.com



## 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.

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

**Buttress:** an exterior mass of masonry bonded into a wall which it supports.

**Casement window:** a window where the opening lights are hinged at the side like a door.

**Column:** tall, cylindrical support, usually with details from Classical orders.

**Corbel:** stepped brickwork projecting from a wall, usually to support a window.

**Cornice:** the decorative termination to a wall; transition between wall and roof.

**Cresting:** ornamental finish along the top of a wall or roof, usually decorative and sometimes perforated.

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

**Dichromatic brick:** brickwork laid in two colours.

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

**Edwardian** - a time period, roughly the first decade of the 20th century; also a style whereby a building has an irregular footprint and roofline, similar to Queen Anne style but with more restrained decoration.

**Finial:** ornament ending the top of a gable or turret.

**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 side.

**Georgian** - a style originating in England whereby a building is symmetrical around a central doorway.

**Hipped Roof:** a roof sloping on all four sides.

**Keystone:** the stone at the top of an arch or window surround.

**Lintel:** horizontal structural member at the top of a door or window.

**Modillion:** horizontal bracket, either scrolled or block shaped.

**Oculus:** a round window, also called a roundel.

**Oriel window:** upper-floor bay window supported by corbels.

**Palladian Window:** a three-part window with the centre section larger and arched at the top.

**Pilaster:** rectangular feature in the shape of a pillar, projecting from a wall.

**Pillar:** square column.

**Portico:** small porch with columns or pillars supporting a roof.

**Queen Anne Style:** an architectural style originating in England and popular in London at the turn of the century. Queen Anne homes are characterized by irregular footprints and rooflines. There is a great deal of variation, but generally seen are decorative gables, bay windows, verandahs, intricate woodwork and brickwork, and occasionally a tower or turret.

**Rusticated:** rough or grooved masonry.

**Segmental arch:** a gentle arch formed of bricks or stone over a window or door

**Sidelights:** glass panels on either side of a door.

**Transom:** a glass panel above a door or window.

**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.

## Bibliography

These works have been consulted in the preparation of this booklet:

### Brackets and Bargeboards: Walks in London, Ontario.

Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, London Region Branch, London, Ontario, 1989

*City of London Heritage Designations.* Published in London by the London Advisory Committee on Heritage

*Down by the Riverforks*, ACO, 1997 Geranium Walk brochure

### Inventory of Heritage Resources, City of London.

Prepared by the London Advisory Committee on Heritage and The Department of Planning and Development, London, Ontario, 2006

London Free Press. London Room, London Public Library

*Riverview School 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.* London Room, London Public Library

*The South and the West*. John H. Lutman and Christopher L. Hives, Corporation of the City of London, Ontario, 1979

## Acknowledgements

We wish to show our appreciation to all the volunteers who make the annual Geranium Heritage House Tour possible. Special thanks go to the homeowners who have allowed us access into their buildings. Without them this event would not be possible.

We would also like to thank the following individuals for their contributions:

#### **GHHT Organizing Committee:**

Sylvia Chodas (chair), Marlyn Loft, Sharon Lunau, Ken Fitchett, Bob Porter

#### **House Captains:**

Mary Lake Collins, Kris Sikkema, Genet Hodder, Paul Grabowski, Jenny Grainger, John Manness, Theresa Regnier

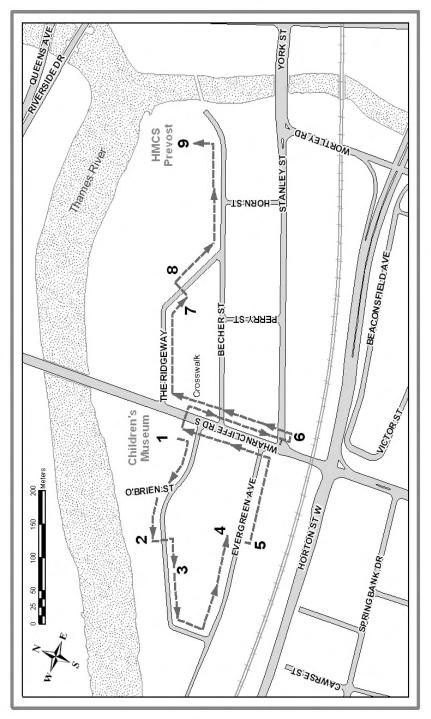
#### **Brochure:**

Writers: Marlyn Loft, Sharon Lunau, house captains

**Consultants:** Anne McKillop, John Lutman, Arthur McClelland

Map: Chris Howell

Layout: Sylvia Chodas, Marty Peterson



ISBN 0-929026