



REGISTER OF DESIGNATED PROPERTIES

Ontario Heritage Act, R. S. O. 1990, c. O.18, s. 27

ST. JAMES ANGLICAN CHURCH

By-law No. 1980-260 - passed September 8, 1980
Amended by By-law No. 2013-35 – passed March 18, 2013

Legal Description

St. James Anglican Church,
58 Peter Street North,
Orillia Ontario.

PIN 58667 0030 (R) being Lots 6 and 7,
south side of Coldwater Road, Lot 7, Plan
8, save and except RO783883; Orillia

Name and Address of Owner

The Encumbent and Church
Wardens of St. James Anglican
Church Orillia Trustees
58 Peter Street North
Orillia, ON L3V 4Y7

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

St. James Anglican Church has been recommended for designation for architectural and historical reasons. This solid brick, Gothic Revival Church, was designed by W.H. Croker and built in 1891. The Sunday School addition was built in 1903. The first religious services in Orillia were held on this site and the present building is the third church on this location.

Description of Heritage Attributes

The structure is of a solid brick construction laid in a stretcher bond fashion, sitting on a cut stone foundation. Typically, the Church employs a Gothic Revival style, with a single offset tower on its front facade. The exterior walls of the Church are comprised of a variety of features which include buttresses, plinth, and elaborate corbelling and imbrication. Limestone is used to create several string courses, and to adorn the tops of the buttresses and exposed gable ends. All structural openings are gothic or centre pointed in shape. The building's larger windows employ limestone sills, quoins, radiating voussoirs, and labels which are finished with terra cotta rosettes.

The secondary windows maintain brick for the voussoirs and labels. Stained and leaded glass is used extensively throughout the Church. All entrances to the Church are marked with heavy wooden doors with gothic shaped transoms above. The narthex at the front of the Church was built in 1970, replacing a small porch. It was designed by Mr. Robert Sinclair, an Orillia architect, as a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Wright.



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Built largely of limestone and old brick, the upper walls have been constructed of wood and boast several leaded glass windows. The roof is gable shaped surrounded by decorative wood trim similar to that found on the eaves of the main Church structure. The roof of the Church is a steep gable with smaller cross gables. The roof line between the main gable and the bell tower consists of crenellated parapets made up of limestone blocks. The main gable itself is flanked by two large round brick and limestone projections. The spire is sheathed in slate and carved wood trim. Metal finials and crosses are used to decorate the spire and gable peaks.

The Sunday School Building was erected in 1903. This large two storey structure is also of a solid brick construction. The hip shaped roof has a large centre gable on each of its façades. Each corner of the building consists of a multi-storied bay; the main entrance is located at the base of one of these bays. All of the structural openings are either rectangular or centre pointed in shape. On the main façade there is one large gothic window in which the glass has been removed and replaced with wood and decorated with a wooden cross sometime during the 1950's. The only other changes to the exterior of the building are to the entrance where the main doors and steps have been replaced. The Sunday School Building is located off to the left and slightly behind the Church, and in 1956 an addition was designed by Switzer and West which joined the two structures together. Hardly visible from the street, this addition houses offices, parlor and a kitchen. Through the use of red brick the building has been incorporated with the original structures without creating a strong contrast.