



## Heritage Interest Properties

Property	Rationale
100-120 King Street East	The lower floor of the Revere House was rented to merchants and in 1861-62 the customs office was located in the building. After Rev. Blakey's death in 1858, the property was administered by his estate and in 1878 it was owned by John Huntington who earlier engaged in the railway business. It was probably Huntington who changed the name to the Revere House for prior to that time it was known as the Johnston House. Huntington advertised his hotel as large and commodious, with a billiard room and accommodation for 50 guests. Both sections of the building are constructed of hammer drilled limestone. The building is privately owned and used as a restaurant and apartments.
147 Dibble Street West	St. John's Manse originally was purchased by Justus Sherwood Merwin, a prominent businessperson. This beautiful stone home was likely built in the 1840s. Reverend William Lewin, a pastor of St. John's Anglican Church from 1874-1985, bought the house in 1891 as a manse; however, it is now a private home.
157 Dibble Street West	Red brick with numerous gables and dormers. Built between 1859 and 1861. On April 19, 1837 Susannah Jessup sold this lot with other land for 1,000 pounds to Justus S. Merwin. On October 11, 1859 Justus Merwin sold 42 perches for 5/ to Sophia French. On May 16, 1914 John K. Dowsley, executor of Sophia French sold the property for \$3,000 to Simon M. Pearson. Benjamin French, a grandson of Jeremiah French, a United Empire Loyalist and pioneer of Cornwall, Ontario, married Sophia Burritt, the eldest daughter of Colonel Henry Burritt in 1851. Sophia inherited the lot from her uncle, Justus S. Merwin in 1859.

171 Dibble Street West	<p>Italianate or Picturesque Revival Style, all wood construction, 1 ½ storeys, built in approximately 1880. Elaborate detailing around gables, windows, and doors. In original condition, no significant alterations. Originally belonged to property at 388 Centre Street. Built as a carriage house with accommodation for horse by Dr. Wm. Justus Jones, MD, who purchased the Centre St. property in 1880. Dr. Jones was the grandson of Dr. Solomon Jones, the builder of Homewood and one of Augusta Township's earliest settlers.</p> <p>Subsequently purchased by Dr. C.F. McPherson in 1920 and used as a garage for a motor car owned by Dr. Taugher, his brother-in-law. A cow was also kept in the building for a number of years that was looked after by the McPherson's housekeeper, Sadie Graham. Sadie Graham inherited the property on Dr. McPherson's death in 1969 and subsequently sold the coach house to her neighbour, Mr. Pat Kingston, a former mayor of Prescott. Mr. and Mrs. Kingston were awarded a certificate by Prescott's architectural conservation advisory committee (LACAC) in 1990.</p>
172 Dibble Street West	<p>The original church was a frame building of Norman design, and was built in 1822. Over the years, a new church was planned to accommodate the growing congregation. The present St. John's Anglican Church, erected in 1860, is an excellent example of Gothic architecture. In 1928, a new stone parish hall was built to replace the old wooden structure. The new hall was connected to the main building. It is interesting to note that the parish hall cost \$35,000, where as the church had been built for an outlay of around \$13,600 in 1860. The St. John's congregation dates back to 1814. In 1821, Prescott was viewed as a distinct parish and the Reverend Robert Blakey was sent here from England by the Society of the Propagation of the Gospel. He acquired the property from the Jessup family for a nominal fee as was the case with the other neighbouring church properties.</p>
177 Dibble Street West	<p>This house was built by George Fraser. George Fraser was born in Scotland in 1812 and was a carpenter and a joiner. He emigrated to Canada to work on the Williamsburg Canals on the St. Lawrence River. He met and married Elizabeth, a Canadian girl.</p>
186-198 King Street West	<p>Built by the Masonic Order in 1879, this building is composed of four sections each three-stories high. This commercial row has arched windows with the cornices and keystones decorated with linear designs. Over the central bay of each section is a symbol of the Masonic Order. They needed a new building when the Daniel's Hotel, where their meetings were held, burnt down. Some of Prescott's prominent citizens were members of the order in 1859 including: Misters J.P. Wiser, Dowsley, Purkins, Daniels, Keefer, Bacon, and Plumb. All members contributed to the construction of this block. The Prescott Lodge met in their quarters on the third floor of this building for almost 113 years.</p>
202-214 King Street West	<p>The Davis Building was built in 1878, which is inscribed on a plaque in the centre of the building at the top. It is a three-story, brick building and is similar in design to the other blocks along King Street. There are matching bays of windows starting with the Centre window with an arched, decorative cornice in limestone with etchings. The next bay has two windows and the last outside bays have three windows with the decorative cornices. Across the top is a bracketed cornice running the full length of the roof, with an arch highlighting the centre of the whole building. Also, most of the intricate storefronts are still intact and one store still sports an awning that was in vogue at the time.</p>

218-224 King Street West	Mr. Miller owned and operated Miller's Store, a mercantile and a telegraph office. Mr. Miller was the pioneer of telephone service in Prescott. He introduced the service to town in 1884, only 8 years after it was invented by Mr. Alexander Bell. In the same year, he became the agent for the Bell Telephone Company of Canada. The little switchboard was installed at the Miller's store with only 7 subscribers, some of whom included: J.P. Wiser Distillery, Willard Hardware, Mayberry Grocer, and the Grand Trunk Railway. The subscription fee was \$20.00 per year and this included a telephone at each end of the line.
241 Water Street	This stone building was one of many inns on Water Street in the days of the forwarding trade. The property was built after Samuel Glasgow bought the land from Ebenezer Bacon, a prominent tanner, for 75 pounds, in 1843. The next year Alexander Smyth, a merchant like Samuel Glasgow, bought the eastern half of the lot from Mr. Bacon. Together, the two men built the Water Street property and then built the stores on the north side of the lots fronting on King Street.
253 King Street West	The date of construction of this building is unknown but the land was bought in 1843 by Samuel Glasgow from Ebenezer Bacon, for 75 pounds. It would have been built sometime after the adjoining property on Water Street (Glasgow-Smyth Building). When Samuel Glasgow first started as a merchant, he sold liquor. His son James Glasgow, (Mayor of Prescott in 1902), inherited the building and operated a dry-goods business with his brother. The business operated as London House. A few years after his death in late 1902, the business failed and the building was sold in 1910 under bankruptcy proceedings to a Margaret MacDonald. Alexander MacDonald ran a dry-goods business, which he called Glasgow House. This tradition continued for many years under a variety of owners from this location.
262, 270, 272 Dibble Street West	It is thought that these homes are one of the first terraced, or row houses of this type of architecture ever to be built in Upper Canada. John Dowsley purchased part of this property from Susannah Jessup in 1828. This 2-storey, terraced stone building was constructed in two stages one year apart about 1834 by William Hillyard and John Dowsley. Dowsley was co-owner of the Jones-Dowsley Foundry. The property has intricate ironwork on the east section, no doubt made at the foundry. The Foundry was known for the manufacturing of graceful wrought iron benches, chairs, and fences. Also, made there were Dowsley ploughs. In 1866 the foundry produced a wood burning box stove.
281 Dibble Street West	The earliest part of this house was constructed by forwarder Alfred Hooker in 1840. The main house first appears on an 1860 map of Prescott. William Dunn purchased the property from Isaac D. Purkis in 1867 and added to the house shortly thereafter. The 2-storey home covered with stucco has logs for roof supports and sawmill beams in the basement. It was purchased in 1956 by Fischl Glove Company founder Louis Fischl. Mayor John T. Horan (1937 to 1942, 1949, 1950) owner of The Hotel Queen Alexandra, went to Montreal and convinced Louis Fischl, owner of the Fischl Glove Factory to re-locate to Prescott. Louis Fischl had left his factory in Czechoslovakia fearing Nazi invasion. In May of 1939, Louis Fischl occupied the Elliott Brothers' former casket factory. Skilled glove-makers, from Czechoslovakia, followed the fortune of Fischl and his family. They formed the nucleus of a work force capable of training local labour. Mrs. Fischl, as an expert glove designer, worked in the plant along with others in the family, including Dr. Hanna Spencer, who wrote about the frightful, perilous life of a young Czechoslovakian girl in Hanna's Diary, 1938-1941 - Czechoslovakia to Canada. From the beginning it was hoped that goats could be raised on farms near-by to provide the skins previously bought in Europe and South America. At one time the Fischl Glove Factory employed 120 people. Portolano Glove Company purchased the business in 1986. It is operated as a factory outlet.

<p>305 Centre Street</p>	<p>Cut limestone on gabled façade. Coursed rubble stone on other walls. Front door in paneled recess on right with large shop window on left. Upper storey has two pairs of over-sized casement windows in unusual 60/40 split (likely to allow max. light and ventilation into a work room). Interior has original beamed ceiling and exposed stone wall between the 1830s and 18520s sections.</p> <p>Purchased by Robert Ballantine in 1831 for 75 pounds and sold to Read Burritt in 1837 for 300 pounds indicating that a building has been erected during these years. Purchased in 1853 by William Dunn, a tailor and clothier, and mayor of Prescott in 1875 and 1880. The rear portion was likely added by Mr. Dunn in the 1850s.</p> <p>Purchased in 1900 by Louisa McPherson for her son. Dr. Charles McPherson, who used it as his surgery until his death in 1969 at the age of 92. Dr. McPherson was the youngest medical graduate from Queen's University. In 1902 he was named Medical Officer of Health by Town Council, a position he held for over 50 years. He is credited with banning certain water sources and implementing a purifying system to eliminate the threat of typhoid.</p> <p>Dr. Taugher joined Dr. McPherson and was his brother-in-law. He was Mayor of Prescott in 19229; 19336; and 19445. He was the Liberal candidate in Grenville-Dundas for the 1930 election and lost to A.C. Casselman.</p>
<p>320 Dibble Street West</p>	<p>The large Georgian style house was built in between 1827 and 1832 by masons brought over from England by Alpheus Jones. The front of the house is made of Kingston limestone. When first cut, the stone has a bluish tint, so during the first few years it was referred to as "The Blue House" and later as the "Holmstead". There is a complete circular driveway and the front door is showcased by the grand staircase. The house was heated by eight fireplaces including the kitchen fireplace with a built-in-oven, until a hot water system was installed in the early 1930s. The Earle Brothers bought the house in 1938. They separated the interior into two halves and started a lumber business in the coach house at the back. Alpheus Jones came to Prescott from Augusta in 1813. Between the years of 1816 and 1828, Jones was postmaster at Fort Wellington to serve the British Army troops. As the town grew he was appointed Postmaster of Prescott and was also Collector of Customs in 1823, which he continued to do until his death in 1863.</p>
<p>388 Centre Street</p>	<p>The structure is a 2-1/2-storey stone building with a long, narrow 1-1/2-storey addition on the back which was possibly used for storage and deliveries. The front has a large entrance with a columned porch, very much in keeping with the architecture of that time period.</p> <p>This large stone house at the corner of Centre St. and Dibble St W was built by Robert Glasgow, a shipbuilder, sometime after 1833. He bought the land from Susannah Jessup for 25 pounds in that year. He died without any descendants in 1856 and left the house in equal shares to his six siblings. His brother, Samuel, who was a merchant on King St., subsequently bought other shares and after he died in 1866, his widow, Mary Easton Glasgow, rented the house to the Merchant's Bank from 1868 to 1875. In March 1875, she rented the house to Dr. W.J. Jones, a graduate of McGill who had practiced in Dunn's store building on Centre St. Dr. Jones bought the house in 1880, lived and practiced there for many years. In 1895, Dr. Young moved his practice into the Jones residence. In 1920, the estate of Dr. Jones sold the house to Dr. Charles Franklin McPherson, who together with his sister and her husband Dr. Taugher, lived in the house for many decades with a housekeeper, Sadie Graham. Thus the house was occupied by doctors over a period of close to 100 years.</p>

392 Edward Street	Neo-classic style, west front façade rectangular cut stone, north and south ends are rubble stone. Thomas and William Fraser purchased lot 6 on August 1, 1827 for 45 pounds. Thomas Fraser purchased lot 5 on May 17, 1831 for 30 pounds. The house was built in 1835 by Thomas Fraser. He was a member of the first Board of Police when Prescott was incorporated as a Police Village on March 6, 1834. Bruce Hutchinson, Prescott's most famous and well known journalist, political commentator and author, was born in this house on June 5, 1901. he would later write about his memories of his birthplace in his book, The Unknown County.
408 East Street	Three storey stone house known as the Colonel's Inn. Built between 1851 and 1861. In 1823 Colonel McDonell purchased Lot 39 for 1.50. Isabella McDonell was the sole owner until her death in 1865. She left the house to her unmarried daughter Sarah. In 1909 the house was purchased by Denis Higgins. He commissioned extensive renovations, added a dining room, kitchen, porches, and a carriage house. The open porches on the second floor were railed originally and not enclosed until the 1980's. These are the only major changes, other than minor decorating, that has been done in the last eighty-seven years.
461 Centre Street	The present red stone church has a Victorian influence evidenced by the circular, towered south end of the building. Dedication of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church took place in 1893. Placed in the cornerstone were a number of documents some of which were lists of: the Board of Education members, Town Hall officials, Educational Institutions, the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, and the Communion Roll of 1892. Some of the prominent families of Prescott were on this roll list such as: Carruthers, Dowsley, Davis, Ferguson, McPherson, Purkis, Glasgow, Keeler, Walker, and many more. Note the beautiful stained windows by Harry Horwood. An interesting note is that J.P. Wiser was part of the building committee and also presented the church with an organ which is still impressive today. In 1821 a frame church 36' x 50' was built on land granted to Reverend Robert Boyd by Susannah Jessup. The original church was replaced by a second one built of stone in 1850, which was destroyed by fire in 1892. In April of that year, a bid of \$12,700 to build a new church was accepted, but that did not include the window glass, seats, lamps, furnace, furnishings nor the woodwork. Work began on the manse in May, 1892. It was constructed of stone and has 2 storey's. Of special interest is the centre half round dormer window on the front.
491 James Street West	This gracious home site sits on land originally granted by the Crown to Corporal Nicholas Mosheir in 1797 for his services to King George III during the American Revolution. The red brick might have been purchased from Prescott's brickyard. There is great attention to detail, and a delicate touch to balance the elements of height, window sizes and trims, achieving an understated elegance. A map of the Town of Prescott includes this house around 1858. Legend has it that the house was built by a merchant for this daughter's wedding gift. The home was the residence of respected Prescott lawyer Harpin "Beau" Beaumont for many years beginning in the 1940s. Mr. Beaumont joined the Prescott law firm founded in 1929 by MP A.C. Casselman. He worked with lawyer Barry Laushway under the name Beaumont Laushway until he retired in 1993. The Prescott Rotary Club was founded in 1939, under the auspices of the Brockville Rotary Club. Harpin Beaumont was the charter president of the club.

<p>495 King Street West</p>	<p>The building was constructed out of cut stone on the three sides facing Water and St. Lawrence Streets. Rubble-stone was used on the side that faces King street because in 1832, this was the back of the house and King Street was not the main street. To see the front of the structure, you have to view the house from the water side. This Georgian style, 2-storey Irish farmhouse. It has five fireplaces, one each in the great room and the dining room, with the huge cook fireplace and beehive oven in the full basement. Because this house has a ten-foot ceiling height in the basement, in the mid 1800s, a Dr. Keeler had his office and saw patients here, until he built the stone house across the corner from this one. Two Irish brothers, John and James Rosamond come to Prescott in 1832 and purchased this lot from the Jessup family. James, being the stone mason, built the house for John, a river pilot who guided the boats over the rapids for the captains. To have a house close to the water was an advantage. James helped build other stone homes in Prescott and later moved to Almonte where he built a Victorian home and The Rosamond Mills. John and his wife lived here until their deaths and the property was passed on to their nephew, James's son-in-law, Mr. Richardson, as John did not have any children. The house remained in the Rosamond family for seven generations until 1995 when it was sold.</p>
<p>590 George Street</p>	<p>The house is 1 1/2-storeys high and has the gable facing the front. The doorway with sidelights and rectangular transom is set between two broad flat pilasters and surmounted by a plain entablature. The building is constructed of rubble limestone and has ashlar quoins at the corners. The cornice is decorated with small diamond shaped points noted on other houses in Prescott. The windows have 12 paned sashes and the rear wing is finished in the same manner as the main house. The Labatt house is privately owned and used as a residence. Robert Lindsay purchased this lot in 1850 and the house was built before 1855 when the property was sold to John Ferguson. In 1868 the house was sold to Robert P. Labatt who owned Labatt's Breweries in Prescott. In 1875 Labatt advertised his house for sale which at that time included a large wood shed, stable, smoke house and an outside kitchen. There was a large garden on the property as well as a croquet game on the ground. Labatt sold the house to his bookkeeper, Mr. Wallace. Robert Labatt died two years later.</p>
<p>691 Water Street West</p>	<p>The exterior of the house has three distinct sections: the main section, the maid's quarters built from rubble stone and the carriage house covered with stucco. The windows around the front door and in the back door of the main house are the original bottle glass panes. Above the outside windows there are cut stone jack arches and cut stone sills. The interior of the house has ceilings that are ten feet high. The doors, door and window frames and baseboards are all original. Four fireplaces once heated the house with vents in ceilings to hear the upper rooms. The grand staircase has the original rails and spindles. Across the street and to the east was a ship-building yard and launching site. Knapp's Roller Boat was also built in Prescott as well as other ships. The land for this property was originally granted to United Empire Loyalist Corporal Nicholas Mosher. This beautiful 2 1/2-storey Victorian house was built by Dr. Hamilton Dibble Jessup around 1835. It is believed that Dr. Jessup lived in the house at the time he led the Prescott Militia at the Battle of the Windmill in 1837. Thomas Crichtor, founder of one of Prescott's first breweries, bought the house in 1846. Other notable owners were Robert Labatt and J.P. Wiser. Over the years the house was used as a doctor's office, a boarding house, a bed and breakfast, a restaurant and always as a family home.</p>

692 King Street West	<p>This Victorian, 2-1/2-storey, brick house was built in 1873. In 1894, in <i>The Telegraph</i>, a local newspaper, there was an article written describing Mr. French's elaborate additions to this new home: " Mr. F.J. French, who recently purchased the house built by Mr. Tinkess last summer, is having it fitted up in grand style and is putting up a large kitchen and woodshed in the rear of the brick kitchen. It is a very handsome building and commands a good view of the river. When the ground is properly leveled and laid out into walks, as it no doubt will be, it will be second to none in the Town either in looks or situation". F.J. French, a lawyer and Queen's Counsel, was born at Burritt's Rapids in 1847, the son of a merchant. He studied law in Ottawa and practiced as a barrister in Merrickville for two years before moving to Prescott. F.J. French, became the first president of The Grenville Pioneer and Historical Society in 1891. The qualification then for membership was "a descendant of an ancestor resident in Canada in 1972".</p>
693 King Street West	<p>This 1 1/2-storey house is built in the Ontario Cottage style in straight coursed stone. An interesting feature is the semicircular fan transom above the centered loyalist style door, with a matching semicircular window in the upper storey, the medium pitched roof has a boxed cornice under the eaves and two stone chimneys on the gable ends, which may be original. On September 15, 1836 the Bank of Upper Canada sold Lot 38 for 37.10 pounds to Chauncey Peck, who sold on December 30, 1836 the same lot for the same money to Freeman Woodcock. On September 2, 1840 Freeman Woodcock sold the lot for 35 pounds to John Holden. John Holden lived in the house with his wife Lois and their daughters Elizabeth, Esther, and Martha. Freeman Woodcock probably built the house, referred to as the Woodcock House in the <i>Report on Historic Buildings in Prescott, between 1837 and 1838</i> . Woodcock is not listed in any of the censuses of Prescott, but is listed as living in Augusta Township in 1824. John Holden is listed in the 1842, 1848, 1851, and 1861 censuses of Prescott, and living in a 1 1/2-storey stone house in the 1851 and 1861 censuses of Prescott. John Holden was the town clerk in 1848, and in 1857-1858 he was the agent for the St. Lawrence County Mutual Insurance Company.</p>