The City of Thunder Bay
Heritage Advisory Committee presents
doors open 2005 Sept. 10

doors open thunder bay

All sites open 10 am – 4 pm unless otherwise noted. Admission is free.

Dr. Powell Home
281 Ray Court Year Built: 1906

This 5,000-square-foot house, which faces McVicar Creek, incorporates both the English Cottage and Grand architectural styles. It is clad predominately with cedar shakes and stone quarried from Verde Isle on Lake Superior. The interior once housed a trophy room and a mezzanine designed to accommodate a small orchestra.

Katie McKellar Home
410 Vickers Street South Year Built: 1912

Designed by architects William Hood and Harry Scott in 1912, this limestone and shingles residence is a combination of Romanesque Revival and Shingle styles. Note the stone quoins and rounded corners on the hipped dormer. Interior features include oak floors, beveled glass pocket doors and stained-glass windows.

C. N. Station
9 Water Street South Year Built: 1905-06

Originally built for the Canadian Northern Railway, the station is constructed of Milwaukee brick and Tyndall limestone in the Railway Gothic style, characterized by crenellated, corbelled turrets, loophole windows and steep roofs. The corner turrets feature triangular stone reliefs of the CNR initials, intertwined with a sheaf of wheat and the date 1905.

Drew Street School
515 North Syndicate Avenue Year Built: 1910 Renovated: 1914

The four-classroom Drew Street School, built in 1910, is one of Thunder Bay's most elaborate and intact examples of the Queen Anne style. The style was maintained and enhanced in a 1914 renovation. The exterior features red brick and white stone trim, along with curving Flemish gables.

Magnus Theatre
10 South Algoma Street Year Built: 1884

Magnus Theatre, originally Central School, is located in the Waverley Park Heritage District. The two-storey brick building has a symmetrical façade featuring a projecting square tower capped with a pyramidal roof. A variety of window styles, including a fan light and a wheel window in the tower, add interest.

National Defence / Canadian Forces Armoury
Thunder Bay Military Museum
317 Park Avenue Year Built: 1913

The façade of this two-storey building is bordered with crenellated parapets, and rounded battlements extend from each corner. In the early 1900s, crenellations and battlements were typical architectural features of government buildings designated for military purposes. The Armoury houses the Thunder Bay Military Museum, which began in 1992 as a historical collection, and received accreditation a year later. It features displays on the First and Second World Wars, post-war training and operations, weapons, and unit, branch and service historical events. The Georg Hoegel Art Collection, consisting of 315 watercolours, is a primary attraction.

R. A. Ruttan Building
4 A South Court Street Year Built: 1909

This two-storey commercial block was erected in 1909 for R.A. Ruttan. In 1912, the building was expanded south along Court Street to provide additional commercial and office space. Notable features of the design include cut stone decorations, a classical main entrance, strong horizontal details and a decorated parapet.

Roy Building
410 East Victoria Avenue Year Built: 1908

The Roy Building was designed in 1908 by architects Stinson & Hood for local businessman Jean-Baptiste Roy. The exterior has elements of Edwardian Classicism often seen on banks and public buildings of the era. Original interior features that remain include a tin ceiling, oak floors and the staircase.

Saint Andrew’s Roman Catholic Church
292 Red River Road Year Built: 1924

The original St. Andrew’s was constructed in 1874, and burned to the ground in 1881. The second church was replaced in 1924 with the third, present St. Andrew’s church. The Romanesque exterior, unaltered over the years, features round arched windows, high vaulted ceilings, stepped buttresses and 31 stained-glass windows.

Plymouth Cordage Co.

600 Montreal Street Year Built: 1919

This warehouse was designed to store binder twine and rope. The brick exterior has long horizontal ribbon windows to light and ventilate a concrete columned interior space. The building edges over the river and there are large loading doors on all levels.

Plus, as an encore special site, the recently designated…

Whalen Building

34 Cumberland Street North Year Built: 1913

The first Chicago-style skyscraper in Port Arthur is an eight-storey, reinforced-concrete structure with glazed terracotta exterior cladding adorned with human faces, papooses, carved lions, shields and floral ornaments.