

1. C.N. Station (9 Water Street)

Constructed: 1906 Architect: Ralph Pratt

An example of the Chateausque style, popular from the 1880s to the 1930s. This building is constructed of brick on a symmetrical plan, with Tyndall limestone used in the foundation and decorative elements. The extremely high pitched roofs, multiple dormer windows, and crenellated turrets, are all common features of what has been termed the "Railroad Gothic" style of architecture. The station was constructed for the Canadian Northern Railway, which became the Canadian National after World War I. It served actively as a train stop until it was purchased by the City in 1977.



2. The Pagoda

(Corner of Water Street and Red River Road)

Constructed: 1909 Architect: H. Russell Halton

Built specifically to capture the attention of visitors to Port Arthur, the Pagoda does so with an eclectic mixture of Roman, Greek, Indian and Scandinavian architecture. Serving as an information booth since its creation, the octagonal brick building has an Indian style mushroom roof that was popular in England in the nineteenth century. The cupola on top of the roof was originally designed so bands could play to welcome visitors. Above the entrance is a large carved stone panel, depicting a beaver and maple leaves. The panel, carved by a Mr. B. Jones, has been on the Pagoda since the first year of its construction. As a publicity stunt in 1961, the Thunder Bay Jaycees painted red, yellow, pink and blue polka dots all over the copper roof of the Pagoda. The Pagoda is the oldest continuously operating tourist information booth in the country.



3. Prince Arthur Hotel (17 Cumberland Street North)

Constructed: 1911 Architects: Whitney Warren & C. Tanguay

This six-story building uses stone for the construction of the first two floors, and brick for the remainder. Stone is also used for a row of dentils under the cornice, as decorative trim around windows, and between the fifth and sixth floors as a stringcourse. The original estimate for the construction of this building was \$250,000, far short of its actual cost of \$850,000. The architects responsible for this building were famous for designing New York's Grand Central Station. The hotel was built by the Canadian Northern Railway, now the Canadian National Railway, and served as Port Arthur's premier hotel.



4. Lyceum Theatre

(12-22 Cumberland Street North)

Constructed: 1909 Architects: Russell Halton & Thomas Hanley

The original purpose of the Lyceum Theatre was to provide the community of Port Arthur with a space to accommodate traveling shows. There are various architectural features of the building. Some of which include keystones with bearded faces, segmented semi-circular windows, and a large stone panel in the center of the façade with the name



LYCEUM incised in large letters. The building is steel framed with brick facing and stone trim. The building has gone through various renovations. When it was no longer used for stage productions, it was converted into a motion picture theatre. Currently, the Lyceum Theatre is no longer used as a theatre but has been replaced with several offices and stores.

5. Whalen Building (34 Cumberland Street North)

Constructed: 1913 Architects: Brown & Vallance

This eight-storey structure, sometimes known as the Public Utilities Building, was the first "Skyscraper" to be built in Port Arthur. It utilizes reinforced concrete in its construction, which was a novel building method at the time. Perhaps the most striking feature of this building is the numerous carved ornaments in the terra cotta panels covering the exterior. These feature carved human heads, animals, and floral ornamentation. Some alterations have taken place, the most extensive of which took place on the ground floor and involved the replacement of the original windows and doors with more modern ones. The building now serves as the location of the offices of Thunder Bay Hydro and Community Economic Development Commission.



6. Thunder Bay District Court House (277 Camelot Street)

Constructed: 1924 Architect: Frank R. Heakes

This building was constructed in the Classical Revival style, which was popular from the 1880s to the 1930s, primarily for public and commercial structures. The most prominent example of Greek and Roman influence on this building can be seen in the classical pediment above the main entrance, which is supported by four Corinthian columns. The building is on a symmetrical plan, and is constructed of structural steel, with brick walls.



7. Court Street Fire Hall/Multicultural Centre (17 Court Street North)

Constructed: 1906 Architect: Thomas Hanley

The fire hall was constructed in the Italianate style, which was popular for commercial and residential buildings from the 1840s into the 1870s. The structure retains most of its original brickwork, on its tower, and on the Cooke Street façade. There have been some alterations to the building, as the front façade has been entirely re-bricked. The fire hall is presently serving as the home of the Thunder Bay Multicultural Association, which undertook a major renovation of the structure in the 1980s.



8. Rutan Building (4 Court Street North)

Constructed: 1909 Architect: H. Russell Halton

This two-story commercial block, which once held the public library, has a ground floor made of stone, with fluted Ionic columns flanking the main entrance. The second floor is constructed primarily of brick with stone being used for decorative touches like the exaggerated keystones above the windows, and in the quoins on the corners of the building. There is also a row of stone



dentils running beneath the edge of the cornice. This corner was originally the civic centre of Port Arthur, with the post office and city hall occupying properties to either side.

9. Masonic Hall (262-270 Red River Road)

Constructed: 1910 Architect: Marshall B. Aylsworth

Known as Shuniah Lodge, this stone, brick and concrete building replaced the old Masonic temple that was destroyed by fire in 1909. The first floor is made of cut stone, and the entrance features carved marble pilasters and decorative panels. Originally there was a dome on the roof over the entrance, which has since been removed. The central portion of the building has a Mansard roof of French design. The building's windows are decorated with alternating round and triangular pediments above them. Commercial space occupies the ground floor, while the lodge is located above.



10. Connaught Park (Waverley Street and Red River Road)

This tiny park contains a stone monument that commemorates the building of the Dawson Road to the west, a vital overland transport route used to link Port Arthur and Fort William to the Prairie Provinces. Several picnic tables and a shelter are provided for park visitors. The park is named after Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught (1850-1942), Her Majesty Queen Victoria's favourite son, and one time Governor-General of Canada.



11. Trinity United Church (30 Algoma Street South)

Constructed: 1906 Architects: Langley and Langley

This building was formerly known as the Trinity Methodist Church, and became the Trinity United Church after the United Church of Canada was formed in 1925. Constructed of rough cut stone, this structure is an example of the Late Gothic Revival style that was popular from the 1890s to the 1940s. The unusual tower features very narrow windows, four buttresses, each capped with a pyramid shaped finial, and an extremely sharp hexagonal spire. The building also features very steeply pitched roofs, and arched windows in the Gothic style.



12. Central School/ Magnus Theatre (10 Algoma Street)

Constructed: 1884 Builder: Robert J. Edwards

This was the first permanent school established in the Lakehead. Its brick façade is dominated by a central tower which contains a large wheel window over a sill that protects the entrance doors. In 1901, eight more classrooms were added with an addition that blends into the original structure. The site for the school was deliberately selected on a hill so that it could be seen and appreciated by visitors arriving by boat at the docks lower down Arthur Street (now Red River Road). This site is now home to Magnus Theatre.



13. Saint Andrew's Roman Catholic Church (294 Red River Road)

Constructed: 1924 Architect: G. Emile Tanguay

A church based on the Romanesque style of architecture, common from the 1880s to the 1930s. The Roman influences can be seen in the round arched windows, stepped buttresses, and simple rectangular floor plan. A central tower with a pyramidal roof, rises 117 feet, and is topped with a cross. This is the third church named after St. Andrew to be constructed in the city. Renovations in 1940 and 1969 have altered the interior, but the exterior remains untouched.



14. First Baptist Church (308 Red River Road)

Constructed: 1908 Architect: R. Coffey

This church features detailing in the Late Gothic Revival style in use from the 1890's to the 1940's. The pointed-arched windows, steeply sloping gables, and the buttresses along the corners are all typical elements of the style. Simpson Island (Nipigon) stone is used for the foundation, and the caps for buttresses, with brick used for the remainder. There is a large arched window facing Algoma Street, composed of a rosette and five lancets. Some of the original windows have been bricked over.



15. Wilkie House/Virgil School of Music (337 Van Norman Street)

Constructed: 1906 Architect: Marshall B. Aylsworth

Originally the home of Martha Chinook Wells Wilkie, the house was formerly called "The Port Arthur Conservatory of Music." Miss Wilkie was a music teacher, principal and home owner. Built in the Tudor Revival style, common from the 1900s to the 1940s, the home has a stone first floor, and a second story built of stucco panels divided by beams. As a conservatory, it was affiliated with the Toronto Conservatory of Music.



16. Waverley Park

(Between Red River Road and Waverley Street)

Dating back to 1871, this oval shape lot located between Arthur (presently Red River Road) and Waverley Streets was designated as park land and was first used for sporting events such as cricket, baseball and football. In 1874, Central School was built on the east side of the park followed by the building of Port Arthur Collegiate Institute in 1888. Interest eventually grew to beautify the park. In June of 1911, a lookout was erected in the southwest corner on the hill beside the high school overlooking the harbour. In September of 1925, a cenotaph was unveiled in memory of the soldiers who died in the First World War. Further beautification of the park was carried out in 1941 with the addition of walking paths and flowerbeds. In June of 1965, the Hogarth Memorial Fountain was unveiled and provided a further enhancement of the park's beauty.



17. Port Arthur Collegiate Institute

(401 Red River Road)

Constructed: 1909 Architect: Henry Simpson

This building, constructed of Simpson Island stone, is an example of the Queen Anne style that was in common use from the 1880s to the 1910s. When the school board made the initial plan for the building, it was decided that it should be “erected for posterity, and not be of the ‘shack’ order,” so they chose the stately Queen Anne style. Alterations in 1925 resulted in the addition of four more classrooms. Renovations in 1953 and 1962 created even more classrooms. These alterations used stone in an attempt to blend into the original building, but a gymnasium planned in 1964 and completed in 1974, provoked controversy as its design was incompatible with the rest of the school. Due to decreasing enrollment, the Public School Board closed P.A.C.I. in 2007 and the building has since been purchased by Lakehead University.



18. Saint Paul's United Church (349 Waverley Street)

Constructed: 1914 Architect: Hebert E. Matthews

This church is an elegant example of mixed styles, combining Georgian (1780s-1860s) and Late Gothic Revival (1890s-1940s). The stone window surrounds are typical of the Georgian style, while the double towers, buttresses, and the geometrical tracery are all elements of the Gothic style. The building is constructed of local red brick, with Bedford limestone being used for the trim. It was here in 1923, after two days of debate that the Presbyterians voted to unite with the Methodists and Congregationalists to form the United Church of Canada, which was founded in 1925.



19. McNulty House (329 Waverley Street)

Constructed: 1906

The most striking feature of this brick house is its complicated roofline, composed of multiple dormer windows and gables. There is also a decorative metal ridgepole that extends over each gable, which is further enhanced by the presence of a carved finial at each end. The portico at the entrance has a combination of wooden columns and pilasters supporting a second floor porch.



20. Armoury (317 Park Avenue)

Constructed: 1913 Architect: Herbert E. Matthews

The crenellations and battlements on this building are symbolic of a medieval fortress, and were typical of government buildings at the time it was built, particularly those intended for military purposes. Perhaps the most striking features of the building are the continuous stone lintels and window wells which form a stark contrast with the red brick of the walls. The entrance is deeply recessed within a segmental arch which bears the name Armoury in relief. The overall effect of the building is one of strength and solidity, which suits its military purpose.



21. Ottawa House (38-40 Cumberland Street North)

Constructed: 1888

The first Ottawa House was built in 1884 entirely of wood and was lost in a fire shortly after construction. As a result, another Ottawa House was built in the same location, this time made of brick. The Ottawa House was used as a hotel until the mid 1920s where it began its use as a commercial building under various tenants including McFarlane's and Taylor's Men's Wear, the Devon Café, and the Army and Navy Store. Notable architectural features include the wooden cornice at the roofline, the decorative brick brackets between the windows and the splayed brick which forms an arch between the pairs of windows. Much restoration was done in the late 1980s in an effort to restore the building to its early 20th century appearance. Renovations included replacing the existing windows, cleaning the brickwork and repainting. The original balconies were also reconstructed.



22. Bank of Montreal/ Prospector Steak House (27 Cumberland Street South)

Constructed: 1913 Architect: Philip J. Turner

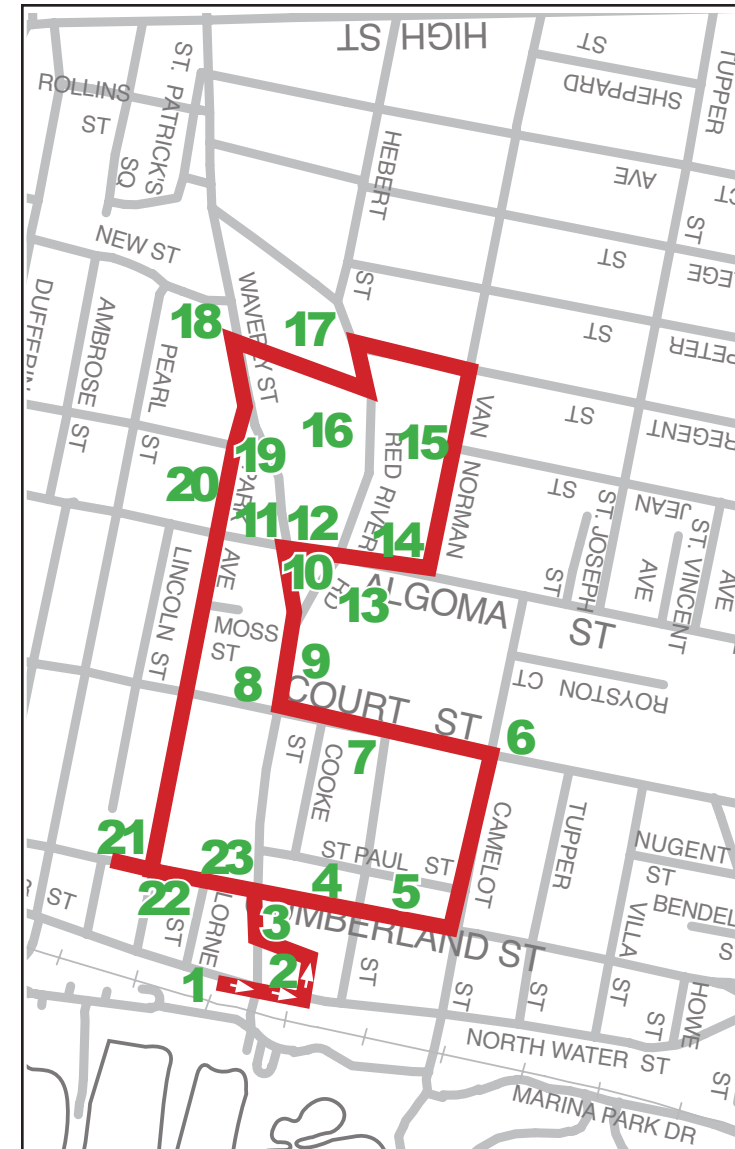
This building originally housed Molson's Bank which became the Bank of Montreal. The architecture is an excellent example of Edwardian Classicism. Prominent features of the building include the rusticated stone on the ground storey walls and large keystones. Doric columns surround the main entrance and there is heavy stringcourse between the first and second storey. The building is currently being used as a restaurant.



23. Atkinson's Jewelers (8 Cumberland Street South)

Construction: 1909-1910

Formerly home to Atkinson's Jewelers, this building was originally the Ray, Street and Company private bank. The facade of this building features the use of decorative columns and an ornate balustrade at the roofline, both of which are attributes of the Beaux Arts/Classical Revival style which was commonly used for banks and commercial buildings between 1880 and 1930.



Walking Tour

architectural tour of
Thunder Bay North
(formerly Port Arthur)

Please respect private property and view all homes from the sidewalk.

For more information on these buildings as well as the Heritage Advisory Committee please visit www.thunderbay.ca. Click on Living and in the drop down menu click on Culture and Heritage and then click on Heritage Properties.

Prepared by the Office of the City Clerk on behalf of the Heritage Advisory Committee, 2009.

Thunder Bay North Tour

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| 11. Trinity United Church | 23. Atkinson's Jewelers |
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