

5.4 Ontario Street, west side24 Ontario Street

- Two-storey brick building with original, upper 2/2 windows and ornate brick cornice (c.1875). Building is **Designated** under the Ontario Heritage Act, Part IV.
- East Elevation – Imposing, commercial Main Street building is similar to no. 20. to either side, stuccoed brick piers with box-like capitals, frame recent shopfront. Recessed entry at RH side had boarded deck over concrete over limestone blocks, which latter extend across base of building. Door is replacement, ¾ glazed, wooden door with small lower panel. Ceiling above is finished with beaded boards, with two cast-iron vents presumably venting former internal gas lamps. To RH side is large window over vertical, v-jointed boards, in recent frame. Adjacent wall of recess is clad in vertical, v-jointed boards. Transom windows throughout are in same plane as shopfront, and over boarded ceiling. Main shopfront has tall, vertically boarded stall-riser with recent frames, with large pane above and recent, varied fenestration with opening units. Signage is restricted to modern letters in lower shopfront windows, and lettering at RH side of retractable awning. Shallow fascia above has modest upper mouldings only. Second floor is built of (painted) common-bond brick masonry and contains two original, tall 2/2 windows with curved rails at top sashes. Sills are hidden by window-boxes stone, while voussoirs are 1½ bricks high. Cornice is built entirely of brick, divided into four bays by paired corbels similar to wooden brackets, set above stringcourse. Between corbels are band of headers with alternate bricks recessed, dog-toothed band, and additional corbelled course above. Cornice ends with several courses of projecting brickwork built off continuous course of headers. Wall-head is capped with modest, curved metal elements with deep flashing above.
- Comments – Building is generally in good repair, with recent shopfront having older, altered elements at stall-risers, and old cast iron vents at ceiling above. Settlement in masonry at upper floor voussoirs probably results from sagging of main beam, which should be monitored. Paint in this instance is not spalling, but should be carefully removed from old brickwork. Old, sash and case windows seem in good repair, and benefit from recent paint.