

5.2 Queen Street, west side10 and 12 Queen Street

- Three-storey, painted-brick building with recessed façade at lower two floors (c.1860), and extensive addition at rear, of varying ages. Known in the nineteenth century as the British Hotel, building is **Designated** under the Ontario Heritage Act, Part IV.
- Description – Three-storey, three-bay brick building is much altered at lower two storeys, with recessed elements apparently changed long after original construction. Ground floor comprises three bays, with central piers built of (painted) metric-brick piers rising directly from grade. At front wall, within recessed bays, similar piers (note weepers) frame nine-pane shopfront windows with low wood panels below and plain wood lintels. Central bay has pair of wood doors with asymmetrical, six-pane windows in each and single large panel below. Signage consists of almost full-width wooden sign framed by simple moulding, and with raised, gilded letters. Sign is perhaps strategically placed to hide structural face of gallery floor above. Second floor has similar plain piers rising to round arches with projecting brick keystones, and again with recessed, inner front wall. Arches have deep brick voussoirs and appear, as at ground floor piers, to be later alterations. Gallery enclosure is low, profiled handrail with sturdy turned balusters, typical of circa 1900 work, suggesting possible date for upper alterations to façade. Windows within are tall, 6/6 units at either side, and recent, 9-pane vinyl door, with single lower panel, at central bay. Lintels throughout are again plain wooden beams. At third floor, painted brick masonry continues to frame three apparently old, 6/6 windows with masonry sills and plain wooden lintels. At wall-head and parapet, masonry corbels out four courses above lintels, and upper levels comprise double course of corbelled, stacked headers, two plain courses in common bond, then single, dog-toothed course and two additional courses in common bond to crown façade. Parapet is flashed with simple drip-cap flashing in painted galvanized metal.
- Side and Rear Elevation and Comments – see next page.

5.2 Queen Street, west side10 and 12 Queen Street (continued)

- Side Elevation – North elevation of this building is a wonderful lane structure, an imposing three stories of various periods of old, red-brick masonry, with headers every sixth course, and a number of tall apertures, some with 6/6 windows in surprisingly good repair, and some boarded over. A single door, with segmental-arch head, is boarded up just beyond covered passageway. Elsewhere at ground floor, window-heads are flat arches, built with multiple-brick voussoirs extending to uniform course line. At two upper levels, voussoirs are simple, soldier-course bricks only, again in flat-arch form. Sills are concrete throughout and parapet is capped with pre-painted metal flashing. More recent addition, buttressed at regular intervals and without windows, extends building deep into lane, and is part of Capitol Theatre, and so circa 1930, whereas volumes to east appear to date from late 19th century.
- Rear Elevation – West elevation, plainly visible from Lent Lane, is rear of Capitol Theatre, and is also built of red brick as at north side but is windowless, in keeping with theatre use. Plain, one-storey addition to rear is clad in vertical metal siding and topped with a exotic crenellations in rusted iron. Similar, set-back addition rises full-height at centre of building, also with crenellations. Beyond a horizontal, metal-flashed parapet to rear wall is another, similarly capped, gable wall.
- Comments – At front elevation, building is unique within Port Hope, with its recessed front wall and two-storey round arches. Unusual doors to shop should be replaced with more suitable period doors. At second floor, central voussoirs are failing and require attention. And at third floor, extensive spalling paint and bricks indicate water (whether rain or vapour problem), which should be investigated and remedied. At side elevation, diversity of building provides attractive back-lane presence, though revealing of windows – if these exist – would be an improvement, and these could be blacked-up with painted glass if necessary. At rear elevation, blank brick wall is not unattractive, and though metal-clad and rusty crenellations are odd they are in keeping with a theatrical building. This elevation, facing the parking lot and lane beyond, is sufficiently prominent that there might be something more for the public view – perhaps suitable advertising for events being staged at the theatre.