

5.5 John Street, east side25 John Street

- Symmetrical, two-storey, flat-roof brick building with two-storey bay windows, **Designated** under Ontario Heritage Act Part IV: “good example of late Victorian Brick building.”(c.1880)
- Description – Broad painted-brick building now houses commercial occupancy. Dominant features are two-storey, central verandah and two-storey brick bay windows either side. At verandah, ground and upper levels are similarly constructed, with robust turned posts at outer corners only. Posts have square-section portions at base, rail height and top and are elsewhere turned, with various bands of small multiple rings. Low railings have profiled top and bottom rails, with sturdy balusters between. Boxed-in beams are shallow, with fine dentils having recessed smaller dentils between, and with cornice below plain, narrow soffits. Fascias have traditional ogee-type, painted galvanized gutters draining to corrugated downpipe at northeast corner. Ceilings are clad in narrow, v-jointed boards running, unusually, east-west. Access to lower verandah is from both sides, with entry having pair of half-glazed wooden doors with central quirk, and small cornices below windows and single raised panels below. Sidelights are set beyond robust, roll-edged mullions, and have strongly textured glass over raised wooden panels. Transom window contains three large panes, each also with textured glazing, and flat brick arch spans full-width above. Balcony has pair of fully glazed wooden doors under two-pane transom window, under hidden lintel. Broad, two-storey, bay windows either side comprise majority of façade, each face having 1/1 window (behind two-pane wooden storms), with thick wooden sills and tall flat-arches above. At level of second floor, shallow cornice is supported by pairs of small chunky brackets. Second-floor windows etc. are as described at ground floor. Wall-head has decorative brickwork of stringcourse, corbelled machicolations and projecting bandcourses with central dog-tooth. Parapet seems reduced is assumed to have existed, and roofing/flashings now project roughly above. Single-vent chimney exists at south elevation, rising above roofline.
- Comments – Dignified building is assumed to been restored. Brick colour gives rather lively presence on John Street. Current situation at parapet compromises appearance, and this aspect should be remedied, replicating period details as closely as possible. At rear, one-storey, painted brick structure adjacent to Lent Lane has various settlement cracks and needs attention. For possible development of parking lot to north, see the Guidelines.