

5.5 John Street, east side



41 John Street

- Three-storey, red-brick Georgian commercial building with large addition at rear (c. 1860s).
- Description - Ground floor has large, 9-pane shopfront windows and recessed central entry, framed by plain plywood pilasters at outer piers, narrower wooden pilasters at centre, and deep, plain wooden fascia spanning full width of building under modest cornice. All elements appear to be recent, especially exposed concrete foundation below, which has three small wooden panels forming tiny stall-rise. Entry consists of pair of half-glazed, modern doors with two stamped panels below and nine panes set in vinyl muntins. Single-pane transom window spans full-width above. Second and Third Floors are built of red brick, laid entirely in common bond at second floor, and with headers every eighth course above. Upper floors each contain three replacement 6/6 windows with unusually wide muntins (framing individual thermopanels), set over thick wooden sills. Arches are virtually flat, built of single course of soldier voussoirs. Several circular iron plates indicate presence of metal ties and suggest previous problems of movement in the masonry. Wall-head is crowned by slightly projecting double-course with dog-toothed band above. Pitched roof, invisible from street, drains to conventional aluminum gutter. Tall, unflushed brick parapets at either side are built of brick laid to follow slope of roof, rising to modest, multiple-vent chimneys, with projecting double-course near chimney heads, which exist near roof ridge at both sides.
- South elevation (see photo on next page) consists of gabled brick wall built of red brick with header bands every several courses, has two recent, 6/6 windows at second floor (as described above), with soldier-course voussoirs forming flat arch at what appear to be later apertures.
- Additions and Comments – see next page.

5.5 John Street, east side**41 John Street** (continued)

- Additions – Premises are much enlarged by two-storey, pitched-roof, L-shaped board-and-batten-clad addition at rear and to south. Simple lean-to verandah provides access along south side of brick building and addition, returning along south projection of latter. Verandah is built with square-section posts and pickets and plain top and bottom rails. Eastern end of addition has unusual, tall, blank-walled tower with pitched roof, evocative of grain elevator and of unknown purpose. Large parking lot exists to south of brick structure and additions.
- North elevation of addition (at rear) has buff-brick wall sporting old Coca Cola sign (see Heritage Character Descriptions, Lent Lane), the latest of various signs to adorn this masonry.
- East (rear) elevation is two storey, also clad in board and batten, with small, square, single-pane windows. Extensive verandahs across rear have simple posts, newels, pickets and railings (as described above) and are an unobtrusive, semi-traditional presence on Lent Lane. Rear wall has assortment of signage while could benefit from some rationalization.
- Comments – An attractive building, though with a number of recent elements. Shopfront, doors and transom window are obviously modern and could be more to heritage norms (especially doors), but are generally attractive. Shopfront pilasters and fascia lack suitable ornament and detail. Thickness of muntins in new 6/6 windows is somewhat noticeable, and metal frames of individual thermopanes tend to catch the light. See the Guidelines for comments on replacement windows. Window arches are generally sagging and may require support by concealed angle-iron. At rear addition, tower (assumed to have former industrial purpose, as would be fitting adjacent former railway line) and old Coca Cola sign at north wall are valuable heritage elements and should be conserved. For any proposed development of the large parking lot to the south, see the Guidelines. Note that this three-storey Georgian building is the last of its kind as one heads south on John Street and so marks the ultimate point of transition between Original Commercial Sector and Transitional Residential Sector.