

5.5 John Street, east side59 John Street

- Gothic Revival, buff-brick, Baptist Church with prominent corner tower and spire, and sandstone trim (1867). Church is **Designated** under the Ontario Heritage Act, Part IV.
- West Front – Tall, gabled, buff-brick church, built off squared-rubble limestone foundation, has imposing tower anchoring it to adjacent street intersection. Principal entry is reached via two sandstone steps leading to pair of plain, painted, vertically lined doors within small gabled, buff-brick porch having multiple, bevelled-brick jambs and voussoirs. Porch has small, stone-capped buttresses either side, with decorative corbelling above supporting modest brick parapet, now copper-flashed. Face of gable is decorated with undulating band of script, “Baptist Church,” with date 1867. Simple, copper cross is set at gable peak. Masonry is buff-brick laid in common bond, built off squared limestone foundation with lower courses stepping in at bevelled-brick course, and with sandstone at canted window sills, hood mouldings and buttress copings. Elevation is composed of two tall, pointed-arch windows either side of porch, and large central rosette window above. Pointed-arch apertures contain double-lancet windows having lozenge-shaped glazing in coloured glass, with additional, small divided lights above. Leaded glass is protected below by three-pane wooden storms flanking central mullion, and two curved, two-pane storms above. Window jambs are built of bevelled-edge brick, and stone, roll-type, hood mouldings have additional band of header-voussoirs beyond. Hood mouldings are built off fine carved faces reminiscent of sculptures of mediaeval English kings. Rose window, and triangular louvred vent above, have similar framing elements. Rose window is composed of six leaves around central oculus, with lively geometrical glazing patterns in each compartment, including at triangular spandrels. Northeast corner has double buttresses, with projections reduced in two steps, to disappear below complex corbelling towards eaves. Parapet is decorated with series of blind, pointed arches with sloping, projecting sills; all set above sloping band-course crowning wall below. Flashing is in pre-painted aluminum, presumably over stone copings.
- Tower, South and East Elevations and Comments - see next page.

5.5 John Street, east side**59 John Street** (continued)

- **Tower** – Tower at SW corner is built of similar materials and in manner similar to adjacent façade, with prominent corner buttresses stepping in incrementally, to disappear near top of walls. Tower is divided into three levels by sandstone stringcourses. **Lower levels** have single, two-lancet windows with lozenge-shaped, leaded-glass panes, with additional glazing at peaks, above bifurcation of mullions. Canted stone sills, chamfered brick jambs, profiled hood moulding, and inner and outer brick voussoirs are as at west front. Hood mouldings again end at fine sculptural heads. Sandstone stringcourse between buttresses marks end of this level. At **intermediate level**, single-lancet, leaded-light windows have sill, jambs and hood mouldings etc. as described. At **third level**, tower belfry is above pitched roof of adjacent church, at which point stone stringcourse extends across masonry and continues also around buttresses, just below canted copings of same. This level has pairs of louvered vents, separated by narrow brick pier, within each face, with brick and stone trim as elsewhere. Towards top of masonry, buttresses disappear into wall, now existing only as slightly projecting corner pilasters. **Wall-head** has corbelled, pointed-arch machicolations below bevelled-brick course at top.
- **Spire** – Copper-clad superstructure rises from four sloping sides, with hipped corners at junction with octagonal spire above. At each side, an elongated dormer, with steeply pitched gable above, contains single, pointed-arch aperture, each apparently blocked with plywood. Cladding material is copper sheet throughout, laid in small panels in octagonal portion. A large, copper-clad cross, set over copper disk, crowns spire.
- **South Elevation** – South wall is built off tall, squared limestone base and is divided into four bays by stepped brick buttresses with canted sandstone copings. Each bay has two-lancet, wooden window with lunette above, and is set over canted stone sill, within bevelled-brick jambs and pointed arches having multiple header-voussoirs. Wall-head has series of wide, brick corbels supporting wooden soffits, with pitched roof clad in battened sheet-metal. Small, gabled, brick south porch has typical elements and small round-headed 1/1 windows.
- **Comments** – A most impressive, Gothic-Revival church, especially for fine carved heads below hood mouldings. Building is in good repair and should remain so, although loss of imposing chimneys at east gable is unfortunate, and reinstatement is much encouraged.