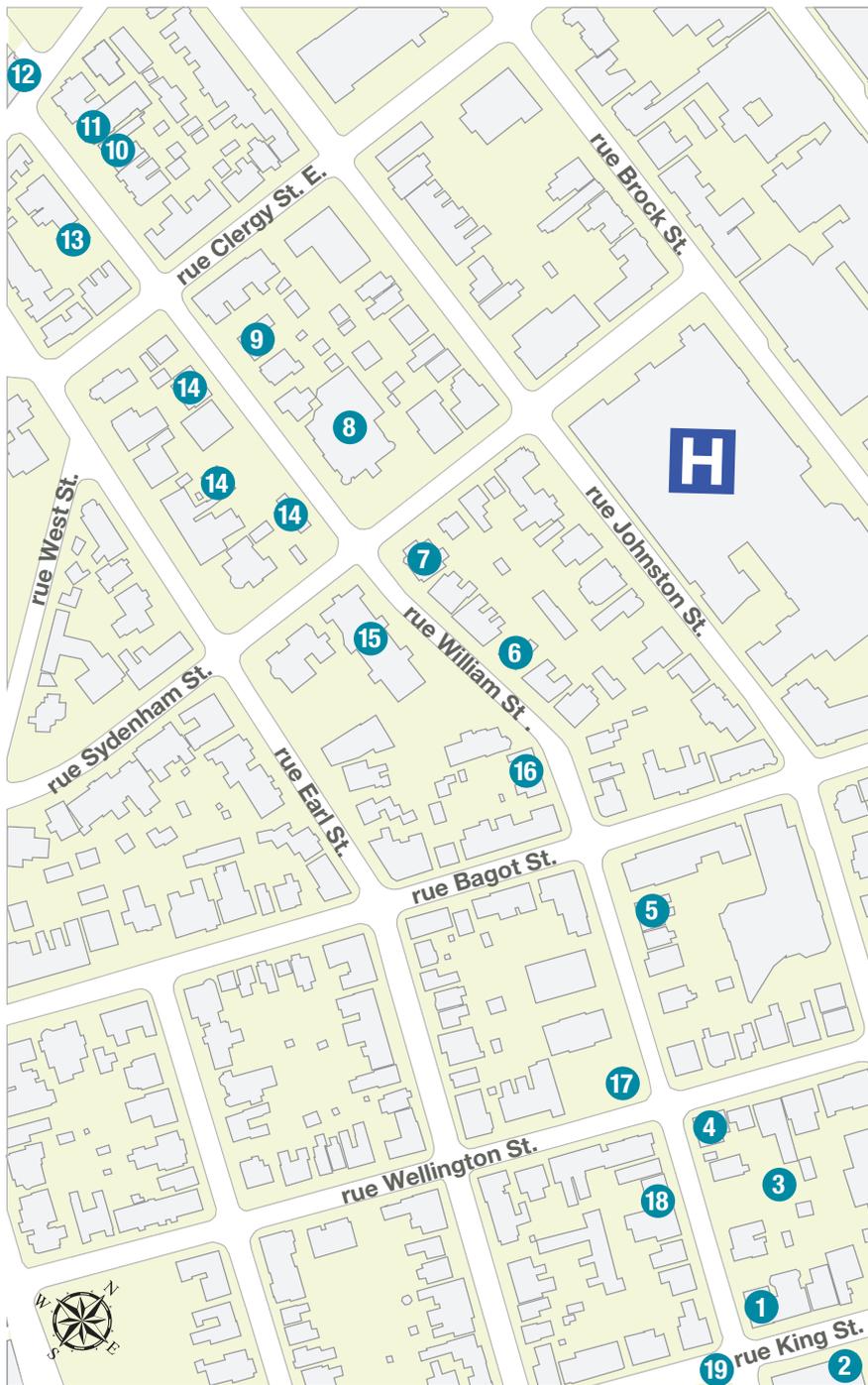


52

WILLIAM STREET WALKING TOUR

William Street was developed in the early 19th century on the west edge of commercial Kingston. Early Queen's University buildings are on William Street, as well as examples of the changing designs of apartment buildings.

APPROXIMATELY 45 MINUTES *Please be respectful of private property.*



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rue Clergy St. E.

rue Brock St.

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H

rue West St.

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rue Johnston St.

rue Sydenham St.

rue William St.

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16

rue Bagot St.

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17

rue Wellington St.

4

3

18

1



19

rue King St.

2

William Street

Leave the Visitor Information Centre and turn left. Walk south along Ontario St. You will cross Clarence and then Johnson and come to William St. Johnson & William are the only streets in the 1790 Kingston street plan that still have their original names. Cross William St. to the left (or south) side of the street, and walk uphill. The properties that you will be viewing on this tour will always be on the opposite side of the street from whichever one you are on. Look across King St.

1 244 KING ST. E. AND 41 WILLIAM ST. are on the right corner. This is an 1890 brick building of two-and-a-half stories. Notice the large windows, the octagonal dormer (a window projecting from a sloping roof) and the tall chimneys. It also has an unusual double gabled roof — one gable over the two-storey bay windows, and a larger one over the windows and entranceway.

Cross King St. and look back to

2 243 KING ST. E., now Empire Life Insurance, was built in 1853 for the Commercial Bank. The three-storey high main entrance was on King St., and projects out. Access to the Manager's apartment was from William St. through a similarly grand but only one-storey entrance. The style is baroque revival, the material is smooth ashlar stone, but there are different treatments to the stone to give it variety and grandeur.

Continue up William St.

3 53 AND 55 WILLIAM ST., located across the street, are a pair of unusual cottages, set far back from the street. When 53 was built in 1830, it was more usual for residences to be on the street property line so that there was room for a private space behind them. Its door is protected by a gable-roofed vestibule. 55 was added in about 1843. It has a simple classical surround to its doorway. Notice the dry stacked (without mortar) stone wall located at the front.

4 63 WILLIAM ST. is an 1841 limestone double house that once had tall brick chimneys and entrances on both William and Wellington Streets. The dormer windows on the roof are later additions.





The door is recessed and the reveal (the side walls of the entrance) is paneled.

Cross Wellington St.

5 93 WILLIAM ST. was built by architect John Power and Son (see also Power Walking Tour, p.47) in 1880. It was originally a double house, but the left hand entrance has been converted to a window. The front retains its symmetry but the two very tall chimneys which added elegance to the building have been demolished.



Continue up William St. and cross Bagot St.

6 129 WILLIAM ST. is an 1870 limestone cottage with decorative bargeboards (boards that hide the ends of the roof timbers) that run along the roof line and a finial (ornament) in the centre of the peak of the gable. The entranceway is very detailed with its roof and columns.



7 73 SYDENHAM ST. is at the corner of Sydenham St. This two-storey brick house was built in 1888 for John McKay who had a leather and fur business. There is interesting terra cotta (hard, kiln-fired clay) decoration at the second floor level and bargeboards on the west dormer.

8 Sydenham Street United Church is also at this corner. Built for the Wesleyan Methodists in 1851, it is made out of stone in a gothic style. The central tower (added in 1854) is buttressed and rises to a spire topped by a finial. The arched doors and windows have many intricate details.

Cross Sydenham St.



9 185 WILLIAM ST. is an unusual 1855 house with a recessed two-storey umbrage (porch) in the centre of its front. Notice the decorated chimneys and iron cresting on the roof. Lighter bricks are used for the quoins (on the corners) and the string course (the row of bricks that separates the two storeys). It was designed by James Stewart for himself.

Cross Clergy St.



10 203 AND 205 WILLIAM ST. is a simple two-storey stone building with a mansard roof (flat, or almost flat, with sloping sides) and dormers. Originally a

single dwelling, it was built in 1841 by architect George Browne who also designed some of the City's prominent buildings, including Kingston City Hall and the Smith Robinson building located at the corner of Princess and Ontario Streets. Browne's payment for designing that building was the lot for this house. It was both his dwelling and his office until 1844. Queen's College then bought it for classes and a preparatory school. It became two dwellings in 1862.



11 207 WILLIAM ST. is a hammer dressed stone double house built in 1846 for Thomas Morton who owned a distillery. The house was rented to Queen's College between 1847 and 1854. Queen's banned whiskey from the house! The foundation is not visible. Notice the central three-storey porch serving both sides of the house, with its turned wooden columns. The roof has unusual dormers and the eaves are supported by decorative brackets. (photo on previous page)



Look across Barrie St.

12 244 BARRIE ST., the Villa St. Clare, faces down William St. It is one of Kingston's early apartment buildings, built in 1917. The façade you see has recessed balconies, and an angled projecting bay at each corner. The high foundation gives additional living area. This building is now a condominium.



Cross William St. and walk back down the north side towards Ontario St. Look across William St.

13 200 AND 202 WILLIAM ST. was built in 1850. It has a stone front and brick sides unlike most houses of the time, where usually the sides were cheaper stone and the front was expensive brick. It is simple but attractive, in great contrast to 185, also designed by James Stewart.



14 186, 170 AND 150 WILLIAM ST. are unusual in that they were all stables and converted to private houses at some time during the 20th century. All three were built from rubble stone in contrast to the brick or dressed limestone used on most of the street. They have hip roofs. 186 William St. is two stories and close to the street; it was the stable for 169 Earl. 170 William St. is one-and-a-half stories and set back; it was the stable for 155 Earl. 150 William St. is one-and-a-half stories and was the stable for 46 Sydenham St., around the corner. The left and right





single-storey sections are recent additions. The brick semicircles show where the original windows were.

Look across Sydenham St. as you come to it.

15 *The Annandale Condominiums* are ahead of you and to your right, fronting on Sydenham St. Started in 1927, with modernistic influences, they replaced the stone carriage house of the 1841 Carruthers Villa. The villa, on the corner of Earl and Sydenham Streets, survives as part of the condominium complex but has had an extra storey added.



Cross Sydenham St.

16 **112 WILLIAM ST.** is an 1857 house with unusual decoration. Light brick was set against the red brick of the house in Greek cross and lozenge patterns to separate windows and stories. The arched carriage-way led through to the stables that most houses would have had at the back.



Cross Bagot St.

17 **70 WILLIAM ST. AND 96 WELLINGTON ST.** are in an unusual three-storey building from 1841. It is mostly built of limestone, with stone window sills, and quoins on the corner. The Wellington St. entrance is protected by a porch. The William St. entrance is recessed.

Cross Wellington St.



18 **56, 58 AND 60 WILLIAM ST.** are a brick terrace built in 1854 as rental properties. The doorways are cut through the foundation and have recessed paneled doors, semi-circular transom windows and paneled reveals.

19 **225 KING ST. E.** can be seen diagonally ahead. Built in 1845-46 as the Bank of Montreal in classical revival style, it is as dignified as the Commercial Bank across the street. The entrance to the Bank of Montreal was on King St. The door of the manager's apartment was accessed from William St. The windows are symmetrical and quite elaborate. Note that the two sides of the building away from the streets are not as elaborate as the street sides.

Cross King St. and walk downhill towards Ontario St., turn left to arrive back at the Visitor Information Centre.

