

11. The Fairfax Store
394 Main Street

The Fairfax Store, circa 1818, was one of the many double-verandah buildings that line Main Street before the 1942 fire. It is Bath's oldest commercial structure. It appears in an 1830 water colour of Main Street.



For many years up to the 1920s it served as the Bath Post Office. In recent times it has been a general store, an outlet for local artists and most recently a dollar store.

12. E. D. Priest Store
428 Main Street

Constructed in 1820, this is typical of the commercial architecture of Old Bath and is the only double verandah building in the Village.

In its heyday Main Street was lined with such structures. Originally this building was clapboard with a central door and a verandah on each floor. The verandah and its lattice work reflect the influence of the Regency style of the first half of the 19th Century. Today this building is the Masonic Hall.



13. Hiram Hillard House
432 Main Street

Constructed in 1859 by Mr. Hillard, it was later owned by Ernest Sheppard, harness-maker, dry goods merchant and Clerk of the Division Court, Bath. This house is another example of an 'Ontario Cottage'.



14. Bath Old Town Hall
434 Main Street

Construction of Bath's most classical building was completed in 1861 on the instigation of a Division Court Judge who objected to the noise of the school children when he held court in the Academy. He refused to return until a permanent Court House was built.



Its Tuscan Portico is patterned after Roman buildings with civic or judicial functions. It was the Bath Town Hall until circa 1970. Most recently it has become a business office. In the intervening period it was used for a wide variety of community activities

15. The Reeves Brothers House
452 Main Street

The Reeves Brothers served the Village as Presbyterian ministers and as shoemakers and their shop was located in the structure. The building, circa 1850, originally one storey, is now two stories high. The alterations enlarging it are believed to have occurred during the early 1900s. The east wing was added in 1948 as a waiting room when the house was owned by Dr. Burleigh, a physician and local historian.



16. W. H. Davy Store
169 Main Street

One of only two limestone buildings in Bath, it was built in circa 1817 as a residence and store. It later became the Royal Bank building and was the site of a daring \$300,000 robbery in 1945. It was executed by the notorious Ulysses Lauzon and his accomplices and at the time, it was the largest robbery in Canada.



Of special interest is the main entrance with its side lights and elliptical transom, very similar to the Peter Davy House (#6). This building is now residential.

17. Davy Street Old Mill and Wharf

An 1859 Walling Map shows a steam-operated Grist Mill at the east side of the Davy Street waterfront. At the west side of the Davy Street waterfront there is a beautiful point of land jutting into the lake. In the 1800s, this was one of several wharves that existed in the busy lake port Village. Some pieces of the original Davy wharf cribbing still can be seen today.

18. The Ham House
353 Main Street

Built by Peter Ham in 1825; it is a large classical structure with its facade divided into three units by four pilasters running the length of the building. These terminate at an elaborate cornice, ornamented by a series of fan-like motifs, separated by brackets supporting the eaves.



DO YOU WISH TO WALK FURTHER?

Walking further West on Main Street

Jephtha Hawley House (1785): 531 Main Street. Constructed by Jephtha Hawley, a Loyalist from Arlington, Vermont, it is the oldest structure in Bath and the only original settlers' cottage in Bath and the district.

Old Purdy House (1841): 638 Bath Road. Built, in the Regency style, by the operator of the Kingston -Bath Stage Coach Line. It is one of only two limestone buildings in Bath.

Finkle's Shore Park: The "Frontenac", first steamship on the Great Lakes, was built and launched in 1815 at Finkle's shipyard that was located here.

Finkle's Tavern (1786): Now demolished, the tavern is commemorated in Finkle's Shore Park. Once the only inn on the post-road from Kingston to York (Toronto). In 1787 it became the scene of the first execution by hanging in Canada when a court, held in the tavern, sentenced a man to hang for the theft of a watch. Later evidence proved the man's innocence.

Mormon Memorial: A stone by the W.K. Hineman Pavilion records the first activity of Mormon missionaries in Canada - 1832.

Walking further East on Main Street

Centennial Park: On both sides of Main Street. A sign indicates that the park is dedicated to the memory of Kathy Storms, a member of both the Bath Village and later the Loyalist Township Council.

Forward Cottages (1850s): 293 & 297 Main Street. Two similar cottages - one used as a residence, the other as the Forward Foundry. Now both are residences.

St. Linus Catholic Church: 217 Main Street The first church, a frame construction, was built in 1869. Today's church, built in the late 1940s, is an expanded version of the original. During the period of construction of the new church, Mass was offered in the churchyard in the open air.

We hope that you enjoyed your walk and will tell your friends about our great village. This Walking Tour was produced with thanks to the Fairfield-Gutzzeit Society, Loyalist Township and the Bath Revitalization Committee. June 2007

HISTORIC VILLAGE OF BATH



SELF-GUIDED WALKING TOUR

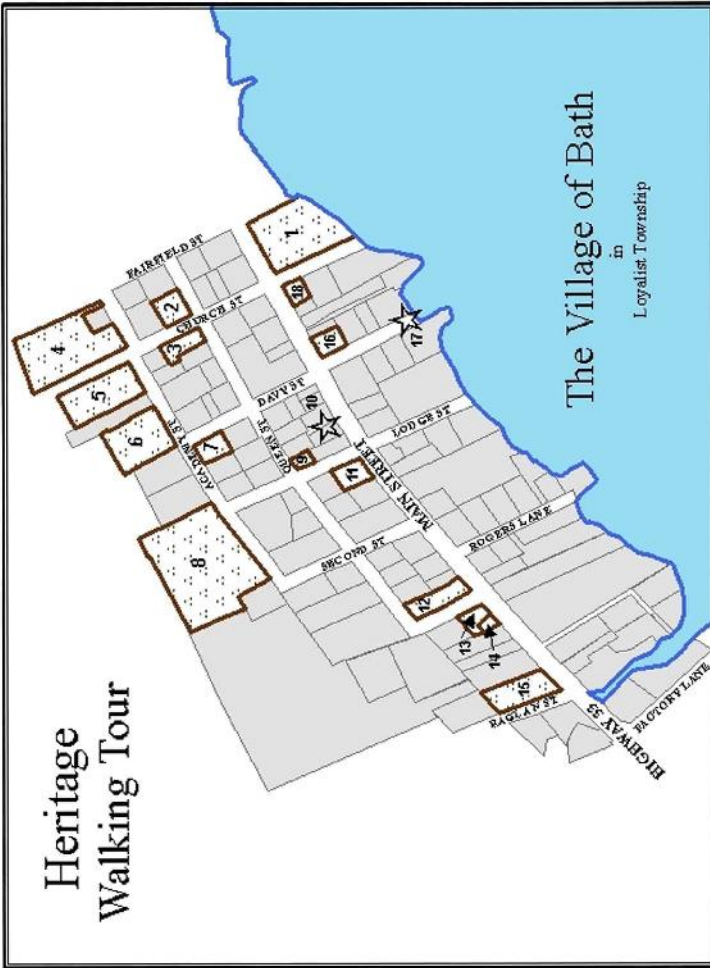
The Settlement of the village dates back to the American Revolution and owes its existence to a group of United Empire Loyalists.

In 1783, the Township of Kingston and Ernestown were laid out and during the summer of 1784 members of the Jessup Loyal Rangers drew lots for their land along the Bay of Quinte around what is now Bath.

John Davy laid out the town's first streets and in 1804 the town, as a whole, had been laid out and surveyed. An early 1800s Census found that the Village had a population of 830 families, 46 shops and 5 inns and taverns. By-passed by the Kingston-York road in 1832 and the Grand Trunk Railway in the 1850s, Bath lost its important commercial role.

The village, which had been known as Ernestown, was renamed Bath in 1817 and incorporated as the Village of Bath in 1859. It remained a separate municipality until 1998 when, it was amalgamated with the two rural townships of Ernestown and Amherst Island to form Loyalist Township.

Heritage Walking Tour



1. Fairfield-Gutzzeit House 341 Main Street

This house, built in 1796, is one of the earliest classical buildings in Ontario. The Fairfields came to Bath in 1793 when William, Jr. and Benjamin left their parents' home near Amherstview. The original structure has gone through many changes; in its original form the roof was plain, without gables, dormers or the south side porch. The symmetrical south façade with a side-lighted entrance is original.

The House contains many original 1800s paintings and furniture of the period. The Fairfield-Gutzzeit Society maintains the House and it is open to the public for tours in the summer months.



2. William Burley House 188 Church Street

William Burley, the Bath Bailiff and town hat maker, built this house in 1855. It is an excellent example of Ontario domestic architecture of the 1850s – an enlarged version of the 'Ontario Cottage' and more classical with a broad pediment-like gable above its entrance. The house was originally clapboard and each window had shutters.



3. Orion Hancock House 352 Queen Street

Orion Hancock, Justice of the Peace and money lender, built this house in 1832. A long room with high windows and bars was originally assumed to have been his money store-room but after the discovery of a strongbox secured under the rear outside staircase, the speculation is that the long room was built for his mentally unstable daughter.

Although many of the details of an 'Ontario Cottage' have been lost to construction changes, the fine cornice and eave ornament remain. Some of the interior hardware was sold to Upper Canada Village.



7. Layer Cake Hall - Continued

Finials enliven the peaks of each gable. Strangely out of keeping with the structure's overall Gothic quality is the recessed and classical east doorway.

The double door is flanked by round-headed side lights.

The Layer Cake Hall now houses the Bath Branch of the County Library on the ground floor and the Museum, open to the public in the summer, on the upper floor.



8. The Bath United Church 402 Academy Street

This structure was erected in 1849 as a Wesleyan Methodist Church; it became the United Church in 1925.

Classically inspired, its appearance follows the typical parish church in England developed by Christopher Wren and his followers. The Church tower was erected during the 1901 alterations.

An 1808 tombstone marks the grave of John Davy. The original Crown grantee of what is now the Village of Bath.



9. J. J. Johnson House 180 Lodge Street

Built in 1841, this is one of only two structures left in the block after the disastrous 1942 fire (See #11). After the fire it became a tea room and now it is a private residence.

Lodge Street was named for the original Masonic Lodge, circa 1809, which was located at the top of this street.

10. Fire of 1942

The worst fire in the Village of Bath occurred on December 26, 1942 (Boxing Day) when the block along the north side of Main Street, between Davy and Lodge, was devastated.

The fire damage was estimated in 1942 at \$100,000. Most of Main Street's distinctive style architecture - wooden framed buildings with their two-storey verandahs - was destroyed.

This and adjacent blocks of Main Street have been mixed commercial and residential since the early 1800s.



4. St. Johns Anglican Church 212 Church Street

This 1925 structure is the third church on this site; the second was destroyed by fire. The original church, built in 1793 under the guidance of the Rev. John Langhorn, was considered one of the five earliest churches in Upper Canada.



5. Bath Academy 352 Academy Street

The original structure, built in 1811 and paid for by local subscription, was the Province's first Grammar School and Public Library. It was twice destroyed by fire and rebuilt. This third building was constructed in 1910.

The school's first teacher, Barnabas Bidwell, was a radical political reformer and supporter of William Lyon Mackenzie. (It was used as a barracks in the War of 1812.) It remained the Village Public School until about 1970 when the new school was built on Church Street. This building then became the Town Hall, until amalgamation in 1998 when it became the Planning Office of Loyalist Township. It is now privately owned.



6. Peter Davy house 370 Academy Street

The Davy family was very prominent in the early history of Bath. This house, built in 1819, represents the 'Ontario Cottage' in its most ornate form. Here the usual rectangle block has been extended with short wings on either side, but the overall symmetry is retained, and the central door has ornate framing, two side lights and an elliptical fan light.



7. The Layer Cake Hall 193 Davy Street

Constructed in 1859, this structure received its name from both its elaborate ornamentation and the use of its interior. During the 1890s the Presbyterians occupied the lower storey, while the Anglicans used the upper storey.

Built by the village carpenter, Abraham Harris, it is Bath's only example of Gothic revival architecture with each gable containing strongly pointed windows. (Continued above)