

A. Former St. Joseph's Hospital

(20 Ste. Anne Rd.)

B. Former Site of Foyer D'Youville

(28 Xavier St.)

This diversion from the main route takes you past two important historical sites. Site A is the third hospital in Sudbury, St. Joseph's. Built in 1898 to accommodate more patients, the hospital was in operation until 1975. The building now serves as a retirement residence. Site B is the former location of the Foyer D'Youville. The building was originally constructed as the Brown School in 1895, but was converted into a Catholic orphanage in 1929. Until recently only the foyer remained standing, but this too was demolished in 2005.

C. View from Above: Borgia

(Ste. Anne Rd.)



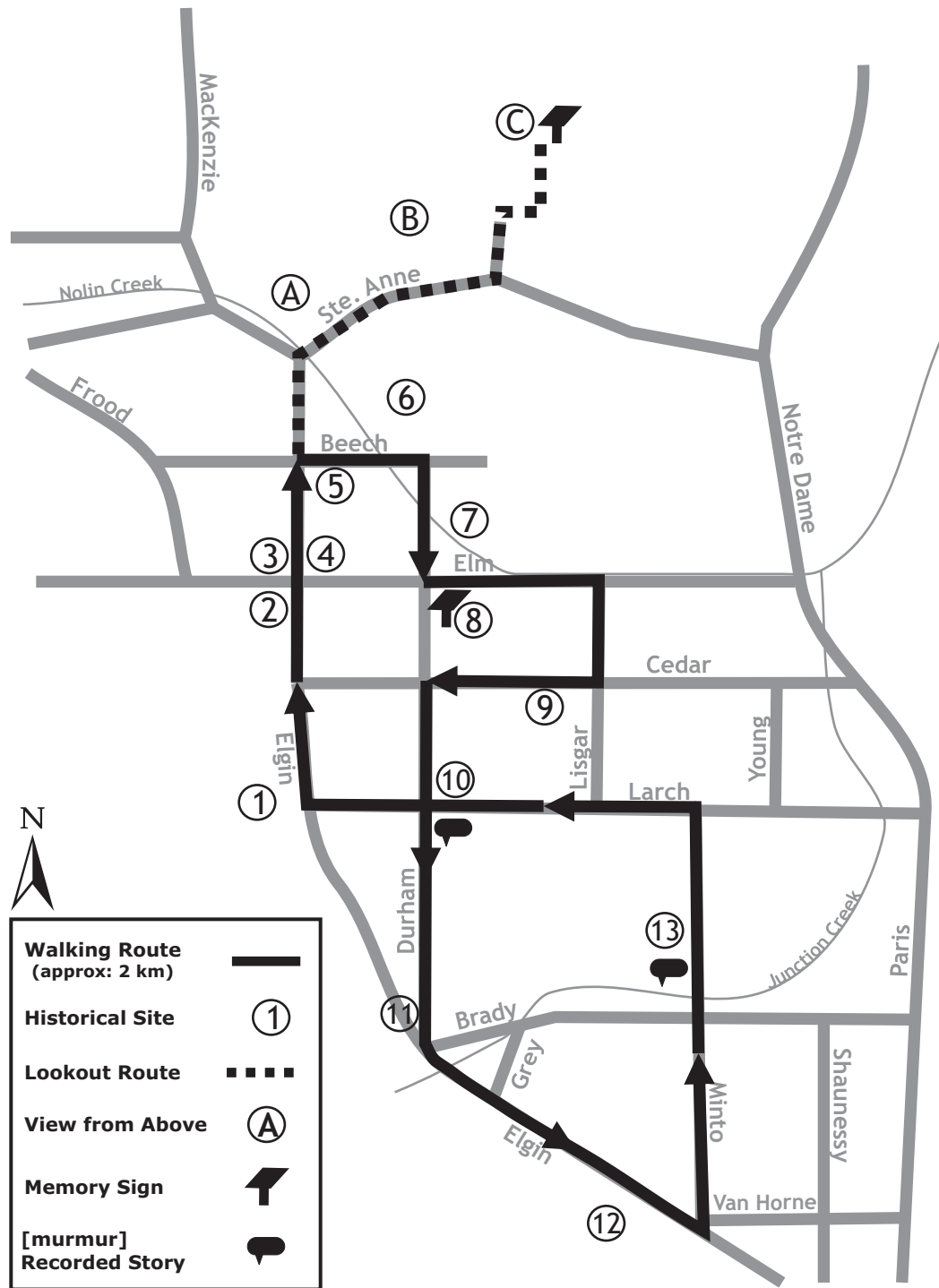
When you climb the green staircase you overlook much of downtown. Although a shopping mall and public housing now occupy the area to the south of the staircase, until the early 1970's the Borgia neighbourhood was located here. At that time there was a strong push for urban renewal in Canada and the Borgia's rundown residences qualified under the government's funding programs. Unfortunately, some of the area's historical businesses such as the Borgia Market, the New Queens Hotel and the Paris House Hotel were demolished along with the neighbourhood.

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- 1) History Hikes of McNaughton Subdivision, Flour Mill, Copper Cliff, Capreol
- 2) Descriptions of the historical photos
- 3) Acknowledgments & Bibliography

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HISTORY HIKES: DOWNTOWN



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1. Market Square (Elgin St.)
2. CPR Ticket and Telegraph Office (9 Elgin St.)

In 1883, the land that comprised "Sudbury Junction" was owned by the Canadian Pacific Railway Company (CPR). The original town plan, drafted in 1886, was designed with the railway at the centre. Sites 1 and 2 are evidence of the early influence of the CPR on the shaping of Sudbury. Market Square was originally built as a CPR freight shed in 1905, but has been converted into an indoor farmers' market. The CPR Ticket and Telegraph Office was once one of the larger CPR offices in Canada. In the 1930's it housed the Sudbury Public Library on the 2nd floor.

3. Former Sterling Standard Bank (NW Elm St. at Elgin St.)

The Sterling Standard Bank was built in 1918. Although it is difficult to imagine now, the building was previously adjacent to one of Sudbury's finest hotels - the Nickel Range. Preceded by the White House Hotel, the Nickel Range was a six-storey building with a ballroom on the 2nd floor. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth stayed here on their visit in 1939, which also gave rise to the naming of Queen's Athletic Field.

4. Former Site of the Balmoral Hotel (NE Elm St. at Elgin St.)



Built in 1887 to replace a boarding house, the Balmoral Hotel was one of Sudbury's earliest landmarks. It was torn down in the 1950's along with many other landmarks, including Central Public School (replaced by the Sudbury Arena), the Kingsway and Copper Cliff welcome arches and the stone post office. This reshaping of the city can be seen as a precursor to the broader urban renewal that occurred in the late 1960's and early 1970's.

5. The Grand Theatre (28 Elgin St.)

The Grand Theatre building occupies a site where an important event in Sudbury's development took place. Before the theatre was built in 1909, this location was home to McCormick's Hall. In 1892, approximately 100 citizens signed a petition at the hall asking the provincial government to incorporate Sudbury as an independent town. The Grand Theatre building itself, named the Grand Opera House when it opened, was a very large venue for a town the size of Sudbury and the

success it enjoyed furthered Sudbury's early reputation as a show town.

6. Ste-Anne-des-Pins Rectory and Church (14 Beech St.)



Originally built as a two-storey log presbytery in 1883, the Ste-Anne-des-Pins rectory is Sudbury's oldest building. The town's first chapel was housed here as well as the first school classes. The above photo depicts the rectory sitting unharmed beside the original fire-stricken Ste-Anne-des-Pins church which stood from 1887 to 1894.

7. Nolin and Junction Creeks

Although they are no longer visible at street level in the downtown core, Nolin Creek and Junction Creek have played a major role in the shaping of Sudbury. Both creeks helped early residents with the transportation of goods, however, when the spring flood occurred the creeks posed considerable health risks. Early sewers dumped raw effluent into the creeks which would then flow into basements and along streets when the creeks overflowed their banks. The map illustrates where the creeks now flow under the downtown through one and a half kilometres of box culvert.

8. Former Site of the Stone Post Office (SE Elm St. at Durham St.)



Sudbury's stone post office was completed in 1915 after six years of planning. With beautiful architectural design and a clock tower that faced the four directions of the compass, the post office stood as the centrepiece of Sudbury's downtown until it was demolished in the 1950's. Many residents continue to mourn the passing of this building, but its bricks can still be found in the walls of at least two Sudbury churches and possibly many backyard patios.

9. Old City Hall (83 Cedar St.)

Old City Hall was originally built in 1913 by the Bell Telephone Company. It was later purchased by the City of Sudbury and converted into the municipal office and public library. The building is also tied to the birth of the city as it stands on the site of Sudbury's first hotel, a log building aptly

named the Sudbury Hotel. It was at this hotel that Sudbury's first physician, Dr. William Howey, and his wife Florence, enjoyed their first local meal.

10. Coulson Hotel (NE Larch St. at Durham St.)

Before urban renewal, Sudbury had a more elemental form of redevelopment - fire. Early fires were mainly caused by cinders flying from locomotives and sparks and flames from chimneys, stovepipes and lamps, and often destroyed important downtown landmarks. One such example is the Coulson Hotel, constructed in 1938 to replace the New American Hotel that had major fires in 1919, 1927 and 1937. On the bright side, the threat of fire led to the creation of municipal waterworks and electrical services.

11. Moses Block (143 Durham St.)



Built in 1915, the Moses block was the first flat-iron-shaped building in Sudbury. It is named after Hascal Moses who ran a bookstore from this location for fifty years before handing the business over to his son Wolfe. The block had an additional story added after a major fire in 1945. Durham St. itself deserves some mention as it was once the premiere business district in Sudbury. It was often referred to as "Main St." even though Elm St. is Sudbury's official main street.

12. VIARail Station (233 Elgin St.)

Now a tourist information office and VIARail ticket station, the former CPR station was built in 1907 after locals and the city's first newspaper, the Sudbury Journal, demanded a replacement for the first station, a dilapidated log structure.

13. Memorial Park (NW Brady St. at Minto St.)

Although it now contains beautiful trees and colourful benches, many would be surprised to learn that Memorial Park was the site of the first town dump. In fact, a bylaw was enacted in 1912 which authorized a cash reward for the elimination of the rats that infested the area. When the Sudbury Municipal Parks Board was established in 1917, its first act was to purchase this four acre parcel of land and begin converting it into a central greenspace. The park was named "Memorial Park" in 1928 when the cenotaph was unveiled.