

SIR JAMES WHITNEY SCHOOL.

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279 William Street,
Belleville, Ont. K8N 3K5
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MAIN BUILDING:

1. The building as it stands now was built in the 1920's.
One should realize that the style of the building, as for all buildings from the 19th and the early part of the 20th century, are eclectic styles, made up from elements of contemporary and previous building styles. This is the same with the Main Building, which is built with 20th century building materials such as reinforced concrete and masonry work, but gives the appearance of a Medieval building according to 19th century design ideas.
2. The historical elements appear to be of the TUDOR architecture, named after the Royal House of Tudor, starting with Henry VII in 1485. This also happens to be the stylistic period at the end of GOTHIC and the beginning of the RENAISSANCE. The rather flat arch over the Main Entrance to the building is one indication of that style change, from the verticality of Gothic to the horizontality of the Renaissance.
3. The Tudor style is further emphasized by the cross-shaped Gothic windows, derived from the French Croisee windows. However the French Croisee windows have a strong vertical emphasis, lacking in the Tudor style.
4. The buttresses and the towers at the entrance retained their verticality to a certain extent.
5. Further details show a late Gothic style in the OGEE arches, which occur in the central part of the façade, in the parapet and in the end gables of the side wings.
6. The partly crenellated parapets give the building a medieval military touch.
7. The end gables provide nice examples of carefully detailed HOOD MOLDS over the windows. This is a Tudoresque feature emphasizing the horizontal of the Renaissance rather than the Gothic verticality.
8. In conclusion one can say that the intent of the architect was to give the building an appearance of the REVIVAL TUDOR style, in the setting of modern structural materials with smooth masonry door and window surrounds. However, due to the military character of the crenellated parapets, it could be called BARONIAL as well, a style around 1900, showing the eclectic use of styles.