

HERITAGE LOST

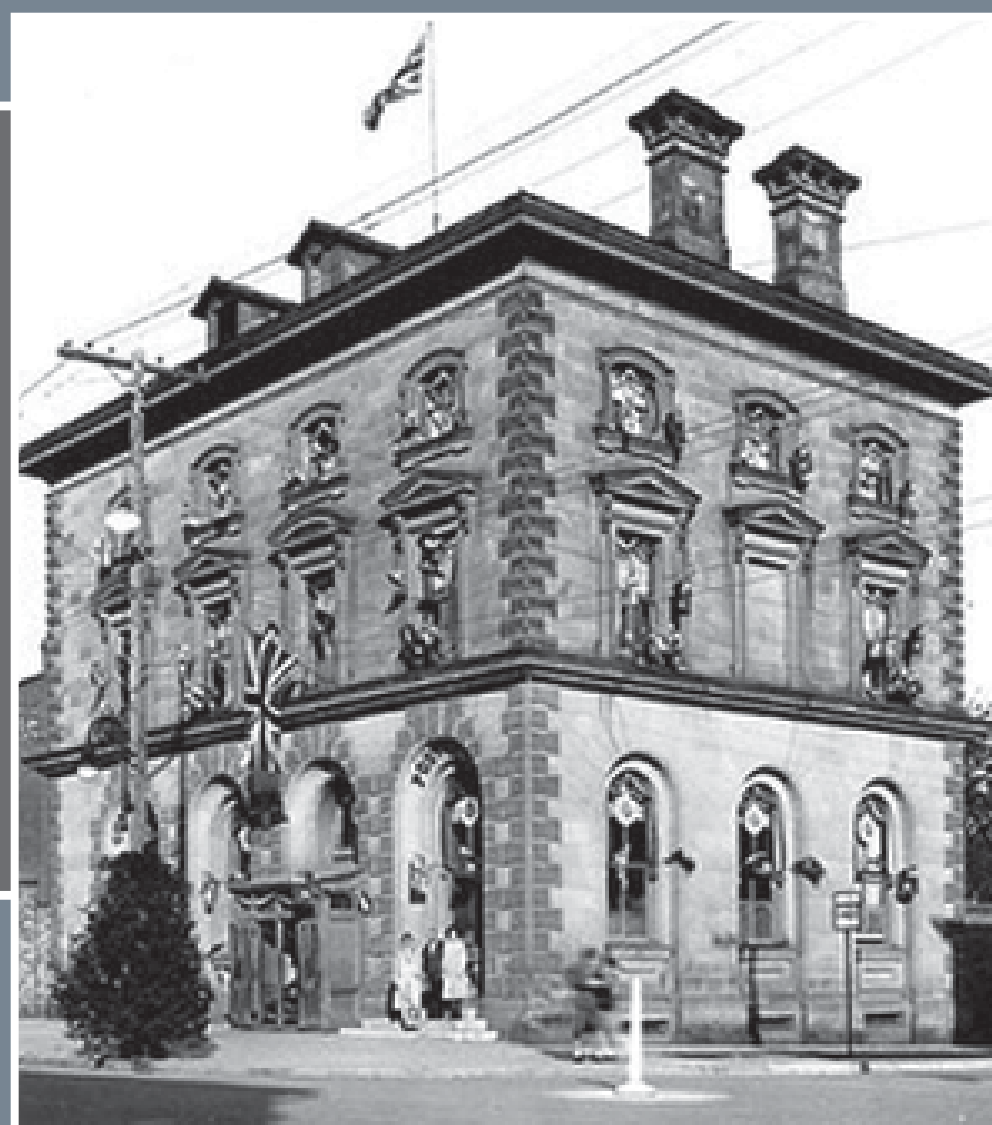


Much of our Built Heritage remains only in documents, photographs or memory. **Fire, economic reality, changes in taste, upgrades in technology, unsympathetic development and simple neglect** caused some of the loss.

Much, perhaps, we are happy to forget, but in other cases we mourn what has gone.

OLD POST OFFICE

Remembered chiefly as the “old post office” this building at King and Division Streets was originally **owned by the Bank of Montreal** which operated there from 1856. It was sold to the Crown in 1882 to become the **Cobourg Post Office** and later the Customs House as well.



When the decision was made to build a more modern post office, it was proposed that this building be the **new site for the library**. But retail space on such an important corner seemed more attractive, so in 1960 the building was demolished and replaced by a simple two-story structure which, for the next thirty years, housed **Woolworth's**.

“It was a handsome Classical Revival stone structure with fine dressed stone details. The large rounded windows on the ground floor were accented with stone radiating voussoirs while the second-floor windows were elaborately treated with stone surrounds and pediments. The corners were finished with rusticated quoins.”

Rob Mikel, *Cobourg; The Spirit of the Place*



It is currently owned by the TVM Group, the builders of the Harbour Breeze Condominiums next to the Heritage Centre.

In 2014 Architectural **students from Durham College**, as a class assignment, prepared and presented a concept design for the property, in keeping with the neighbouring heritage buildings.