

## Architectural Style and Form: **Renaissance Revival (1890-1920)**

The Renaissance Revival was a style popular during several periods of the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Drawing inspiration from the palazzos of Italy built in the 1400s through 1600s, the Renaissance Revival style was characterized by low-pitched hipped roofs often covered with ceramic tiles and broadly overhanging eaves often supported by decorative brackets. Often with symmetrical facades, the elevations commonly feature distinct horizontal divisions, often marked by beltcourses. Each floor was treated differently, frequently with a more articulated lower level that often featured rusticated stone work with simplified, smaller-scaled detailing to upper floors, and upper-story windows that were smaller and less elaborate than windows below. Arcades and arched openings frequently are present in Renaissance Revival style buildings.



**5527 Main Street**

A simplified, modern example of the Renaissance Revival, this bank building likely was built in the late 1920s or early 1930s

While not a common style, one building of the Renaissance Revival style was identified in the Williamsville survey. The Bank of America building at 5527 Main Street is a simplified, modern version of the Renaissance Revival. Its large, symmetrical arcaded windows with their prominent voissior details suggest the Renaissance Revival style.

### Local Landmark Designation-Renaissance Revival

- 5527 Main Street

Address: 5527 Main Street  
Architectural Form and Style: Renaissance Revival



Description of Significance: 5527 Main Street is significant as an excellent and largely intact example of an early 20th century bank building. The building was the Williamsville Post Office from 1935 to 1948 and a Liberty Bank branch office in the mid-20th century. Today it is a Bank of America location.

Description of Property: 5527 Main Street is located on the south side of Main Street/Rt. 5 at the south-west corner of Main and South Cayuga Road in the Village of Williamsville. The building is a 1-story brick clad, flat roof Renaissance Revival bank building. The primary Main Street façade features 3 prominent round-arched windows with detailed, multi-lite mullions, surrounded by cast stone pilasters and voissiors that form a slight pointed arch, set on a high water table. The entry door is located in the central bay. The secondary Cayuga elevation features 2 of these arched window units. The building is surmounted by a simple cast stone entablature.

**VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION**

**Designation of historical landmark  
5527 Main Street, Williamsville, NY**

**By Historic Preservation Commission Member: Penny Armitage, seconded by Steven Dyson**

**Dated May 22, 2014:**

**WHEREAS**, the Historic Preservation Commission (the "HPC") commissioned Clinton Brown Company Architecture, PC to perform an intensive level historic resources survey of properties along and near Main Street in the Village of Williamsville (the "Project"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Project identified several properties that would be considered eligible for designation as a historical landmark pursuant to Section 47-4(a) of the Village of Williamsville Code including the property located at 5527 Main Street ("Subject Property"); and

**WHEREAS**, the HPC may nominate an individual property as a landmark if it meets any the following criteria:

1. Is associated with the lives of individuals or of people or of events significant in the national, state or local history.
2. Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, a period or a method of construction.
3. Represents the work of a master architect or designer or possesses high artistic values.
4. Represents a significant or distinguished entity whose components may lack individual or special distinction.
5. Because of a unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon the intensive level survey and the HPC's review of other information related to the Subject Property, the HPC recommended the Subject Property for designation as a local historic landmark on February 24, 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the HPC held a public hearing on April 8, 2014 in which the Subject Property owner and any interested parties had the opportunity to present testimony or documentary evidence at the hearing regarding the historic, architectural or cultural importance of the proposed landmark.

**WHEREAS**, upon a review of the aforesaid materials, and after due deliberation concerning each of the statutory criteria set forth above the HPC proposes to nominate the Subject Property for local landmark status;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the HPC hereby nominates the Subject Property for local landmark status based on its finding that it satisfies the following criteria set forth in Section 47-4(a) of the Village of Williamsville Code:

- Is associated with the lives of individuals or of people or of events significant in the national, state or local history.
- Embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, a period or a method of construction.
- Represents the work of a master architect or designer or possesses high artistic values.
- Represents a significant or distinguished entity whose components may lack individual or special distinction.
- Because of a unique location or singular physical characteristic, represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution to approve the nomination of the Subject Property for local landmark status was duly put to a vote on roll call which resulted as follows:

Chairman Stone	YES
Ms. Armitage	YES
Mr. Bannon	ABSENT
Mr. Duval	YES
Dr. Dyson	YES
Ms. Fulwiler	YES
Ms. Waterman-Kulpa	YES