

Architectural Style and Form: **Italianate (1840-1885)**

The Italianate style was among the dominant residential styles between the 1850s and 1880s, emerging in the 1830s as part of the picturesque movement, which drew inspiration from the romantic, informal and rambling Italian farmhouses and villas. In New York, the Italianate style proliferated throughout cities, towns and rural areas from the 1850s until the turn of the century. Sometimes referred to as the Bracketed style, perhaps the key distinguishing feature of the Italianate style is its decoratively cut often scrolled brackets, which were typically used in abundance to support door and window hoods and to embellish the prominent cornice. Other characteristics of the style include the use of tall narrow windows often segmentally or round arched bay windows and porches with elaborate detailing. While not as common among the surveyed properties in Williamsville, the Italianate style is present.



5409 Main Street

Built in 1877 by Phillip J. Snyder, this is a good example of an Italianate style house on Main Street. Notice the round headed windows which are characteristic of the style.



5757 Main Street

Built in 1851, this modest front-gable example features the round-arched windows that are typical of the style. It may have also once had bracketed eaves.

While not as common among the surveyed properties in Williamsville, the Italianate style is present. While there were no high-style Italianate examples surveyed for this project, there are a few examples of modest and vernacular Italianate style examples that were once residential buildings, and now commercial offices.

Local Landmark Designations-Italianate

- 5428 Main Street
- 5409 Main Street
- 5541 Main Street
- 5757 Main Street

Address: 5409 Main Street
Architectural Style and Form: Italianate



Description of Significance: 5409 Main Street is significant as a largely intact example of an Italianate style residential building in the Main Street commercial corridor, retaining many of its characteristic features despite its commercial conversion. The house was built in 1877 for Phillip J. Snyder and his family. The family had originally resided above their grocery store, which was located just to the west of the present house, and it was at the request of Mrs. Snyder, the larger brick residence was constructed. The house was later converted to residential functions in the 1960s; at this time the deteriorated front porch was altered, and the front entrance was modified with the removal of a glass fan window and sidelights to the present configuration. Presently the building houses a restaurant and architectural office. The current porch is said to have been rebuilt in 1996.

Description of Property: The building at 5409 Main Street is located on the south side of Main Street in the Village of Williamsville, at the south-east corner of Reist Street. 5409 Main Street is a 2-story 3-bay front-gable cruciform plan brick Italianate style former residential building with a stone water table, 1-story wrap-around porch and asphalt shingle roof. The modest Eastlake style porch retains a turned wood spindle balustrade and columns, wood newel posts, and a simple pediment above the entry stairs. Windows are generally round arched with stone sills, and have modern replacement glazing set above panels of wood clapboard infill. The attic window is an unusual basket-handle arch design. Rear elevation features contemporary storm door below original two-lite semi-circular transom, second story Dutch door with four-lit window with remnant of possible porch or balcony featuring two urns on projecting hood with scalloped shingling, and third story one-over-one double hung window with semi-circular upper sash, all set into semi-circular masonry openings on the centerline, with contemporary shed addition and exhaust duct alongside

**VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION**

**Designation of historical landmark
5409 Main Street, Williamsville, NY**

By Historic Preservation Commission Member: Catherine Waterman-Kulpa, seconded by Penny Armitage

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 5409 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:

- X Is associated with the lives of individuals or of people or of events significant in the national, state or local history.
- X 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.
- X 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