

## Architectural Style and Form: Colonial Revival (1880-1955)

Growing interest in classical design and greater regard for more “correct” composition encouraged the development of the Colonial Revival style. Most Colonial Revival buildings have contained rectilinear massing, broken perhaps by bay windows; symmetrical facades with central entrances; front porches with columns and classical balustrades; relatively uniform roofs, sometimes elaborated on the façade by a cross gable or a row of dormers; and window shutters. Palladian windows, corner pilasters, and garland-and-sweg trim are common decorative elements. Often the entry door is accented with a decorative surround or entry porch, a feature far less common to original Colonial houses.



### 5725 Main Street

Sources indicate that this building was initially constructed in the 1850s, with later 1940s alterations. While this may be possible, the building's current appearance is more of a Colonial Revival style, utilizing a Greek Revival door surround with a Palladian window in the closed front-gable on the front façade.



### 5554 Main Street

The Key Bank building is a good example of the Georgian Revival subtype. Note its symmetrical appearance, slightly projecting central pavilion with quoins and a pediment, and its articulated entry door.

The models for the Colonial Revival style homes in America were originally constructed by English colonists arriving in the late-seventeenth century. These early colonists modeled their homes after the half-timbered houses of England, but adapted the style to the stormy New England climate. Over time a sturdy and practical, modest, one- to one-and-a-half-story, regularly planned and often symmetric house with wooden shutters emerged. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, a renewed interest in America's past inspired a variety of Colonial Revival styles. Colonial Revival Cape Cod houses became especially popular during the 1930s. These small, economical houses were mass-produced in suburban developments across the United States.

### Local Landmark Destinations-Colonial Revival

- 5893 Main Street
- 5725 Main Street
- 5554 Main Street
- 5570 Main Street

Address: 5725 Main Street  
Architectural Style and Form: Colonial Revival



**Description of Significance:** The building at 5725 Main Street is significant as an excellent example of a mid-nineteenth century Greek Revival house that has been updated and enlarged in the Colonial Revival style in the early 20th century. It is a good example of the type of commercial-converted former residential buildings that are located along Main Street in Williamsville. Said to have been originally constructed in 1854 by Alexander Gotwalt, a local dry goods and crockery dealer, the house remained in his family for almost a century. During this era, several enlargements were made to the property including a rear addition. Dr. Robert S. Pratt purchased the building in 1941 and constructed his office on the east side of the house in 1942. He also restored the front façade of the building to more closely resemble its original appearance. Former Village Mayor Marvin Mason and his family were the last residents of the house prior to its commercial conversion in 1978. Presently the building houses a salon.

**Description of Property:** 5725 Main Street is located on the south side of Main Street/Rt. 5 in the Village of Williamsville, at the south-west corner of South Ellicott Street. The building at 5725 Main Street is a 2 ½-story front gable frame Colonial Revival style former residential building with a stone foundation, vinyl clad exterior walls and an asphalt shingle roof. First floor features Greek Revival door surround with pilasters and transom; large closed front gable features Palladian window. Side elevation features cross gable with round-arched window with hood, projecting bays. Irregular fenestration, windows are multi-pane vinyl replacement and wood sash.

**VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION**

**Designation of historical landmark  
5757 Main Street, Williamsville, NY**

**By Historic Preservation Commission Member: Wes Stone, seconded by Catherine Waterman-Kulpa  
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 5757 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