

## Architectural Style and Form: **Religious Buildings**

The Williamsville survey area contains two good examples of religious buildings constructed between the 1900 and the mid-twentieth century. These churches were specifically targeted for inclusion in this survey for their architectural and historical significance to the Village of Williamsville, and the Village contains many other examples of church buildings from earlier and contemporary eras. In general, churches tend to reflect high-style design, and were frequently the most elaborate and expensive buildings constructed in a community. They are frequently seen as a source of pride amongst area residents.



### **68 Eagle Street**

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, built in 1900, is a good example of a vernacular Gothic Revival wood-frame church building.



The earlier of the two buildings, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church at 68 Eagle Street is a good example of a simple, vernacular Gothic Revival church building. Constructed in 1900, it features a high rock foundation with the frame church above. A prominent tower marks the primary south façade, serving as the entranceway and bell tower. Pointed arches and decorative bargeboards reflect the simple Gothic styling of the building.

Constructed roughly half a century later, Calvary Episcopal Church at 20 Milton Street reflects a simplified Tudor Revival style that was widely popular for church buildings of the early and mid-1900s. Designed by Buffalo architect Robert North, the building was opened in 1952. Its smooth stonework, recessed pointed-arched windows, tall carillon tower and half-timbered portions all demonstrate a simplified, modern interpretation of traditional Tudor Revival and English Gothic church architecture.

### Local Landmark Designations-Religious Buildings

- 68 Eagle Street
- 20 Milton Street

Address: 20 Milton Street  
Architectural Style and From: Religious Buildings



Description of Significance: Calvary Episcopal Church is significant as an excellent example of mid-20th century church design. It is the work of notable Buffalo architect Robert North. The congregation dates to at least 1819. In 1912, when services were held in the Thorner house on Miller/now Oakgrove Street. In 1918, land was donated at the corner of Los Robles and Milton Streets for a parish hall, and a new church building was complete by 1924. In 1951, parishioner Daniel Neiderlander donated a plot of land at the present site for construction of a permanent parish church. The cornerstone for the new building was laid on September 16, 1951, and the building opened for services on March 30, 1952.

Description of Property: Calvary Episcopal Church at 20 Milton Street is located on the south side of Milton Street at the south-west corner of South Cayuga Road, to the south of Main Street/Rt. 5 in the Village of Williamsville. The Tudor Revival-style church complex consists of a 1-story stone clad rectilinear gabled church with an intersecting gabled faux half-timbered wing towards the east, with a 2- story faux half-timbered portion to the west. The building features a tall, square tower with paired arched openings for the bell and is surmounted by a simple parapet. A pale stone beltcourse wraps the worship space, and features small round-arched windows set in recessed stone window surrounds. A low stone wall surrounds the Milton and Cayuga Street frontage.

**VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION RESOLUTION**

**Designation of historical landmark and historic site  
20 Milton Street, Williamsville, NY**

**By Historic Preservation Commission Member: Steven Dyson, 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 20 Milton 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