

Goderich Recovery

The following are examples of some of the more obvious restorations or replacements of the Goderich building stock damaged in the Aug 21, 2011 tornado.

Beyond these are literally hundreds of sometimes hidden, more subtle, but equally significant, changes to our town. In many cases the owners had no choice but to forge ahead with repairs, facing unknown and uncertain futures. Frequently, others chose to seize this opportunity to invest in their buildings and their community.

12-14 Courthouse Square

When removing the paint from the façade proved impossible due to brick disintegration, the owners replicated the brickwork and stone accents.

Before

After



16 Courthouse Square

The neighboring façade improvements encouraged this owner to match the work

Before



After



56-58 Courthouse Square:

This iconic Second Empire gem required demolition but the owner chose to rebuild and replicate the building. The reincarnation includes a full third storey where before it was mostly attic space. Eight new apartments and an elevator increase the economic viability of the property.

Before



After



104-108 Courthouse Square

Complete re-bricking of both street facades replicated the existing brick patterns of this corner building.

Before



After



122 Courthouse Square

Extensive structural work was needed to save this building. The façade was redesigned to match the pre-tornado renovations done by the neighboring owners.

Before



After



138 Courthouse Square

The damage to the previous 1980s structure dictated demolition. The new building rose from the remaining foundation with an Italianate design somewhat reflective of an even older building.

Before



After



140-142 Courthouse Square

Tornado damage necessitated the removal of the upper façade. Brickwork and window styles were replicated.

Before



After



36-38 West Street

Beyond repairing the tornado damage, the owner decided to invest in replacement windows designed specifically with the historic windows in mind.

Before



After



37-41 West Street

Reconstruction included the replacement of the third floor façade using many of the original bricks; replication of the destroyed date stone, stone parapet ornaments and stone string course; rebuilding the roof; and replacing the windows to original configurations.

Before



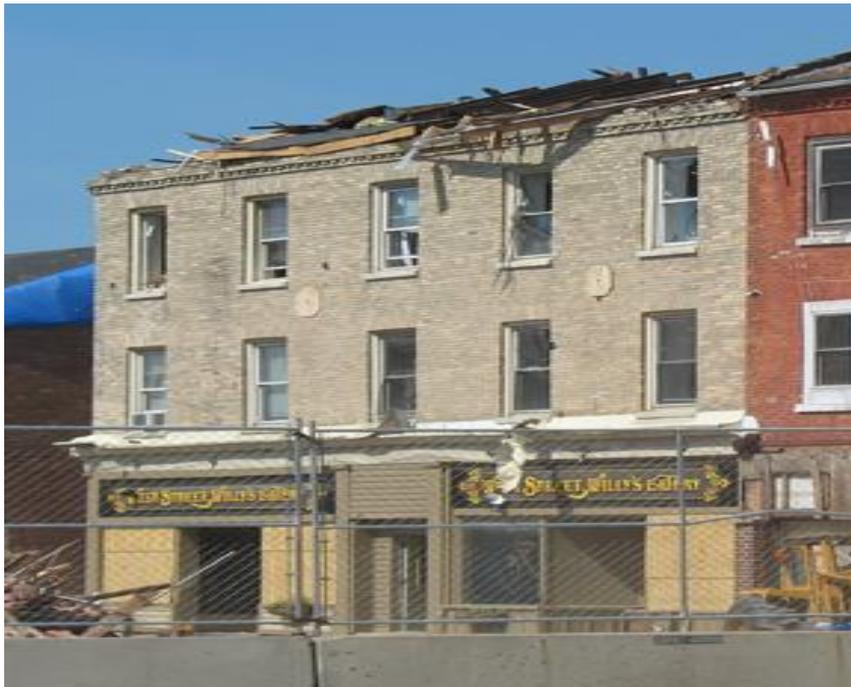
After



40-42 West Street

Initial damage to the roof and third floor became more extensive after rain in the week following the tornado. This necessitated the complete re-furbishing of all units on all three floors.

Before



After



46 West Street

Initially the most obvious damage was to the roof and east wall where the parapet and chimneys were down. Later water damage resulted in the need for a complete interior refurbishing and restoration of this previously-restored, historically-accurate, Georgian building.

Before



After



50 West Street

Top to bottom restoration was required in this previously-restored Second Empire building.

Before



After



54 West Street

This former Laundromat had been successfully renovated into small offices. The owners have decided to go beyond repair and create a second storey in an historically appropriate design. This will complete the two-storey streetscape in this part of the district.

Before



After



56-60 West Street

The former one-storey, newly renovated architect's office lost its roof and most walls. Rebuilding met the planning requirement calling for two-storey replacement buildings in heritage districts. This Georgian-inspired building and its neighbour now give a substantial presence to this end of the block, totally in keeping with the historic buildings

Before

farther along the street.

After



68 West Street

The one-storey corner building was totally destroyed and has been replaced with this Italianate, two-storey structure. Along with its neighbour, this welcome addition helps to anchor the west end of the heritage block.

Before



After



The top photos show the before and after pictures of an entire block hit by the August 2011 tornado.

With some businesses still standing much of the block was destroyed forcing owners to relocate and start from scratch.

The bottom picture shows several properties form a large block of empty land at the corner of Courthouse Square and Kingston Street awaiting recovery from the 2011 tornado.

128-112 Courthouse Square
before August 2011



29-37 Kingston Street.
August, 2011

