

ROUTE 1

This route takes you away from the mill and up the road to Anne Street along tree-lined residential streets.

★ For both Route 1 and Route 2 your starting point is Needler's Mill. The mill is Millbrook's most loved building which is situated at the heart of the village perched on a berm that contains the millpond. The first mill was built in 1820 by John and James Deyell.

For a longer walk, combine the two routes by starting with Route 1 and end at the Old School House. From the Old School House, you can take the path at the end of the road back down to Needler's Mill. Flip the page down to view a map of the village.

ROUTE 2

This route takes you away from the mill up to King St. East and up to the Old School House.



7 Anne St. In 1857, Walker Needler bought the mill and the surrounding lands for his son George where he built this house in 1864. Its style, Ontario Vernacular, has elements of Gothic Revival, Georgian, and Regency architecture.



13 Anne St. Samuel Richardson purchased this lot from the original grant owner, James Deyell. The house was built in 1880, and then sold in 1883 to George Needler whose family owned it until 1919. With its variety of size and shape of windows, this house is an example of late Victorian Gothic design.



8 Anne St. This lovely Second Empire home with its characteristic Mansard roof was built by the carriage maker, Alex Ferguson in 1861.

★ Turn left onto Prince Street



5 Prince St. (not shown) With a symmetrical design in the early Georgian style, combined with Gothic influences of a high-pitched front gable and woodwork, this vernacular home was built in 1866. Its sweeping staircase on the Prince Street is recent and not original.



6 Prince St. Built in 1865, this house was built for John A. Nattress, a dentist. Its verandah with its columns and railings combined with its gable with a semi-circular window with shutters is characteristic of a Victorian "farmhouse."



7 Prince St. This lovely homestead style home sits on land bought in 1877 by Margaret Wilgar. A brick under the window bears the initials WW and a date of 1886, which could be the completion date of the house. One pane of a window on the side of the home has the name Clarence Wilgar carved into it.

11 Prince St. Built by Alexander Gerguson in the 1870s this Gothic-Italianate, L-shaped house has Moorish influences. The brackets under the eaves and rounded windows show its Italianate roots.

★ Return to Anne Street and turn left.



19 Anne St. Built in 1870 by Alexander Ferguson, this house is a fine example of 19th century vernacular architecture.

21 Anne St. (not shown) Samuel Eakins has this home built around 1870, and it remained in the family until 1953. The decorative gables, large circular attic vents, and lintels over the windows present a variety of styles despite its basic Gothic L-shape. The central chimney is unusual for its decorative design.



★ Turn right at the first curve onto Cavan Street.

29 Cavan St. (not shown) A classic Italianate home with arched windows and brackets can be seen hidden behind the curve of the street. Head up Cavan Street towards the imposing stone church.

40 King St. W. This imposing Gothic church was built in 1882 on land donated by W.A. Fallis, M.P. P. Its 40 ft. walls are supported by heavy buttresses which support its cathedral gables and triplet window over the arched main entrance.

★ Turn right and head East on King Street toward the village centre.

36 King St. W. One of two identical, red brick houses built in 1864 by the banker Archibald Wood for his daughters. His house at 32 King St. E. was built in 1861; it separates the two homes built for his daughters. Mr. Wood was a prominent local figure, and his name lives on with the Wood Gundy Brokerage firm.



33 King St. W. (not shown) Locally known as Dr. Turner's House, this house with its long windows, full-length verandah, balcony, and a low-profile, roof line illustrate the nature-inspired Regency style. The original cottage built by Matthew Hunter is still part of the main floor. The second storey was added by W. H. Sowden in 1858 followed by a back addition in 1886. Dr. Turner purchased the home in 1893 and lived in it until his death.

24 King St. W. (not shown) Built in 1876 for T. B. Collins this building known as Fairweather was inspired by a castle in Ireland. Sir John A. MacDonald was a guest here.

14 King St. W. Built in 1880 for Wood and Kells Millbrook Banking Company this house still has the original vault. The design features a pedimented, projecting frontispiece which extends beyond the roof-line. The brackets are typical of the Italianate style.



10 King St. W. Built in 1876 for Richard Howden (the first Reeve of Millbrook). This Gothic Revival home boasts steep vertical lines and arched windows as well as a "prairie-style" window with rounded top and offset muntins which divide the glass into grids.



8 King St. W. This beautiful house was built in the 1880s in the Queen Anne Revival style. Its angled frontispiece, asymmetrical design, front-facing gable, overhanging eaves, and rounded tower illustrate the exuberance of the style.

6 King St. W. (not shown) Built by John Gillott, a cabinet maker and funeral director in 1878, this large white-brick-three-storey gem has a lively mix of decorative French windows. In 1914, it was a boarding house called the Waverly Inn. In 1916, it was home to Sayles' Bakery and Ice Cream Parlour.

2 King St. W. The Millbrook Post Office was built in 1939 and is the only example of Art Deco style in the village. The Art Deco style is highlighted by the industrial style clock.

★ This ends Route 1 You are now at the crossroads of King and Hay Streets. If you would like to start Route 2, the Old Fire Hall is on the East side of Hay Street. Or if you need a break, continue along King Street and visit the shops and restaurants of the village. To return to Needler's Mill, turn right on Hay Street and take your first left to reach the parking lot behind the Mill.



The Old Fire Hall was built in 1881 in the Italianate style. Its Tuscan tower was used for drying hoses. Used until 1968 as a fire hall, it now is the home of the Firefighters' Association and museum.

1 King St. E. Built in 1875, this imposing, red brick beauty with its crowning bell tower originally served as council offices for both Millbrook village and Cavan Township.

It also served as the local courthouse. The design by C. J. Soule includes two-storey pilasters on all four facades, paired eave brackets, decorative brickwork, and a portico with an upper balcony on the north side.

Amazingly, the foundation for this large building was dug out in just two months by three men using only picks, shovels, and wheelbarrows.

5 King St. E. (not shown) Originally the Victoria Hotel—one of the five hotels that existing in the late 1800s in Millbrook. After the hotel closed, it became the home of Dr. H. A. Turner's telephone system, which later became Durham Telephones, and now home to Nexicom (which is also an independent telecommunications company).



17 to 21 King St. E. Constructed after "The Great Fire of 1875" this magnificent set of buildings were designed by C. J. Soule at the direction of local bankers and merchants Archibald Wood and Thomas Kells. The block of buildings originally extended west, but two buildings were lost to subsequent fire in 1960. As fine examples of Second Empire design, these buildings are influenced by French classical elements with the pronounced parapet with a mansard roof, decorative brackets, and ornate brick under the eaves. The oval and highly decorated dormers add charm.

42 King St. E. (not shown) The facade of this three-storey, commercial building is Italianate. The windows of the second and third floor are original, circa 1876. Compare these windows with others on the block which have been squared off.

★ Continue East over the Baxter Creek Bridge.

37 King St. E. This yellow beauty in the Queen Anne Revival style is the Robert Deyell House, which was built in 1870 by the son of John Deyell. It once included a tennis court and summer house (fronting on Dufferin Street at the rear of the property).



★ Look across the street.

60 King St. E. (not shown) Thomas Kells bought this centre-hall house in 1827. The original wood house burned down, along with most of the downtown area, in the fire of 1875.

74 King St. E. (not shown) Built in the 1880s, this lovely house shows off its picturesque Queen Anne styling with its shingled gables and railing atop the bay window.

★ Turn right onto Gravel Road.

6 Gravel Road. This solid brick, 1 and 3/4 storey house is the only Regency Cottage in the village. The small front gable with its rounded window suggests this house was built in the 1850s or 1860s.



★ Turn right onto Dufferin Street.

8 Dufferin St. This handsome Italianate, red-brick home was built by Alexander Thomas Armstrong in 1880. Its decorative style with contrasting coloured brick on the corners, and ornate brackets, combined with its wrap-around veranda make this a particularly grand house. The board and batten addition was built in 1988.



1 Dufferin St. The Old School House. Four rooms on the north side of this school were built in 1889 on land purchased from Thomas Medd. In 1923, four more rooms were added. In 1934, the school was approved to teach high school. Prior to that, students had to travel to Port Hope for secondary education. In 1982 the school closed, but it is now a focal point of the community housing the library and family centre. At the side of the building, take a walk through the lovely Millbrook Community Garden and labyrinth. The garden is run by volunteers and not only beautifies the grounds, but is used to grow organic produce for the local food share program.



★ This ends Route 2. To return to Needler's Mill, go to the end of Dufferin Street and head down the pathway. As you pass, look to your left and check out the Deyell Monument.