The Civic Centre Neighbourhood Heritage Conservation District is an important residential area located within the City of Kitchener, comprising buildings from several key periods in the development of Kitchener, and architecturally to unique interpretations of the Victorian and early 20th century architectural styles. The first four properties are not in the District, but have contributed to its development:

1. **85 Queen St N (1861)** Designed by architect Carl Heider, this building replaced the Carnegie library located at the SE corner of Queen and Weber streets. Check out the large fresco in the Reading Room by local artist Jack Bechtel, unveiled in 1962. Called “Enlightenment,” it illustrates man’s never-ending search for knowledge.

2. **77 Queen St N (1852)** The County of Waterloo was formed in 1852, with the judicial seat in Berlin (Kitchener). Construction of a courthouse and gaol (jail) was a prerequisite of county-hood. The land was donated by tavernkeeper Frederick Gaul, after whom both Frederick and Gaul streets are named. Three hangings took place here, in the last 1860s. The second floor of the original stone courthouse building still standing, and the oldest government building in Kitchener.

3. **73 Queen St N (1878)** When ornamental designs required the gaol to be expanded, plans for a Governor’s (Warden’s) house were added. This High-Victorian brick residence in the Italian Villa style has a four-storey Mansard-roofed tower. Variants of the style may be found throughout the district. During more than 20 years, it was the gaol and was restored as a Millennium Project.

4. **20 Weber St E (1964)** A notable example of modern architecture on the site of the original c. 1852 courthouse, this building now houses the Regional Library Archives. Original details include the Conestoga wagon-inspired entrance. Interpretative plaques, each in English, French and German, describe the first courthouse, gaol and governor’s house; they are set between low walls constructed of brick salvaged from the original courthouses.

5. **56 Queen St N (1860-67)** Organized in 1855, the St. Andrew’s congregation built its first church on this site in 1857. The present structure was constructed in the Romanesque Revival style. Note artist Tim Schmaiz’s sculpture ‘Jesus the homeless’.

6. **Roy St #20 (1938) #28 (1937) #26 (1937)**

7. **Maplecroft, 35 Roy St. (1915)** Built for Onward Manufacturing proprietor T.A. Wits, the large gable facing the street with a two-storey bay represents an early expression of Tudor Revival.

8. **132 Young St (1886)** This Italianate Style house was built for button manufacturer Jacob Mohr. Woeffle Shoe Company founder Wellington E. Woeffle purchased it in 1904, and it is still owned by the family.

9. **67-69 Ahrens St W (1905)** This Berlin Vernacular style double house was built for insurance salesman George Balzer. W. E. Woeffle (see #9) purchased the property soon after and it is still owned by the family. In the years before WWII, former Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King was a regular summer tenant.

10. **Hibben Park (1894)** At one time Young St had a kink in it. This tiny triangular park is what remained after straightening in 1894. First called Hibner Place, it is named after Daniel Hibner, a prominent furniture factory owner and former mayor. Hibner provided funds for the first and existing fountains. Listed at the top of the octagonal metal arbour are names of the original subscribers to the fund that purchased the park, many of whom lived nearby.

11. **25 Maynard Ave (c. 1872)** Tannery owner and former mayor Louis Breithaupt constructed a number of houses in the District. This Classical Revival style house was built for chief constable John Klippert, who also served as county bailiff.

12. **55 Margaret Ave (1881)** Breithaupt also built this house for county court judge Anthony Lalouise, who began his career as a junior judge in 1873. Once part of a larger estate, the Italianate structure was owned by button manufacturer Dilmun Shantz from 1897 to 1913. The windows in the semi-circular two-storey bays contain curved glass, rare in the city.

13. **54 Margaret Ave (c. 1890)** County Clerk Herbert J. Bowman lived here from 1898 to 1918. It was then purchased by furniture manufacturer Charles J. Baetz and his wife Dorothy and stayed in their family until 1970. It is an excellent example of Queen Anne Revival, with several gables and a tower decorated with half-timbering.

14. **21 Margaret Ave (1881)** Built by Louis Rau, this Italian Villa style house was first occupied in 1882 by Dr. Rudolph Mylius. He deeded it to his daughter Augusta and his husband David Forsyth in 1903. Forsyth, affectionately known as the ‘Daddy’ of soccer, was principal of KW Collegiate for 20 years.

15. **25 Margaret Ave (1923)** Louis J. Breithaupt’s widowed sister Caroline Augustine built this house. Her son Albert, who had married Edna Kaufman, lived across the street at 22 Margaret, now demolished.

16. **Sonneck, 108 Queen St N (1874)** Originally built for judge Anthony Lalouise by Louis Breithaupt, this Italianate style house was acquired by his son, Louis Jacob Breithaupt, in 1883. L.J. had taken over the family tannery following his father’s death in 1880. A very influential citizen, he served as mayor (as did his father, brother and son) and Waterloo North M.P.P. Sonneck means ‘sunny corner’ in German.

17. **116 Queen St N (1935)** Once wholehouse grocer William Roos’ estate ‘Braisdon’ (1876), this site still includes his ornate 1888 wrought-iron fence, one of the last of its kind in the city, and a coach house. The local Swedishborgian congregation first met in 1833. This cut stone church is the fourth they have built in the downtown.

18. **128 Queen St N (c. 1857)** The first reeve of Waterloo and the first warden of Waterloo County, Dr. C. John Scott built the original one-storey Regency cottage with Zeiger’s coral bricks (see #11). Douglas and first local telephone agent John S. Hoffman added the second storey in 1875 with Italianate details like bracketed eaves and cornice. Group of Seven artist A.Y. Jackson visited his aunt Geneva Jackson here.

19. **132 Queen St N (1876)** When brick maker Nicholas Zeiger (see #21) died in 1858, John Daubering purchased the house and brickyard. As business prospered, he built this house, a fine example of Neo-Classical elements in domestic architecture.

20. **139 Queen St N (1852)** Brick maker Nicholas Zeiger built the oldest house in the district, this Georgian cottage. Originally clad in wood, it was later faced in brick. Zeiger puddled by hand his coral-coloured bricks in the shop behind the house. By 1861, this brickyard was an important part of the community producing 100,000 bricks annually.

21. **183 Queen St N (1926)** Built for tailor executive August Lang, this residence resembles an elegant 18th century European townhouse. Composed of several Neo-Classical elements including a Palladian-shaped entry with wooden lintel over the door, parapet walls at both sides of the building, and intricately patterned railings in the dormer windows.

22. **198 Queen St N (1908)** Built for town engineer William Davis and occupied successively by Caroline (Breithaupt) Augustine, Jerome and Joseph Lang; and the Wintermeyer family, whose son, John, led the Ontario Liberal Party. The house has three massive field stone chimneys, a distinctive Tudor door, and a steep roof with three large dormers.

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Please respect the rights of the private properties listed in this tour and remain on the public right-of-way to view the houses.

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All of the properties located within the Civic Centre Neighbourhood Heritage Conservation District are designated under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act. Some are also individually designated under Part IV and can be recognized by bronze ‘Heritage Landmark’ plaques.