Address: 101 Shakespeare Street VIA Rail Station



Legal Description: Lots 74, 75, 76, 77 & 78, Plan 53

Designation By-law: 111-88

By-Law Designation Date: June 13, 1988

Date of Construction: 1913

Architectural Style: Prairie Style influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright

Architectural Description: large two storey brown brick with hip roof; front façade facing Shakespeare Street first floor; high grey stone foundation; pilasters between the windows; left side; two, two part one over one paned windows; an entrance door with side lights and a transom; next to that three larger two part, two over two paned windows with two part transom; main entrance is in a projecting section under a segmentally arched brick opening with the name VIA Rail Canada above the door; beyond this to the right are a number of similar windows; a sloped roof runs the length of the building between the first and second floor; the second floor matches the first quite closely, except over the door where there are three single windows set close together. The track side of the building is very similar to the side facing Shakespeare Street. There is a long platform covered by a roof between the station and the baggage building which has similar windows to that of the station.

The station was built by the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR) and was later acquired by Canadian National Railways (CNR), then leased by VIA Rail. Stratford was a division point in the railway system and had a very large locomotive repair machine shop that employed many people in Stratford.