

sylvan retreats, no happier name could have been selected. The grounds are separated from the streets of the city by massive walls of bluish-gray cut limestone intermingled with vari-colored sandstones. Surmounting these walls are handsome iron railings, and at regular intervals there rise Ohio freestone posts of huge size and appropriate design.

The architectural style of all the Parliament buildings is a modified twelfth century Gothic. The principal material used for their construction is a hard cream-colored sandstone. The dressings, stairs, gables and pinnacles are of Ohio freestone, while a pleasing variety is given to the whole by the relieving arches of red Potsdam sandstone over the window and door openings. The roofs are covered with slate of a dark color with bands of brighter hue. The foundations and inner portions of the walls are of limestone quarried in the vicinity. The marble was obtained from Arnprior and other localities in the Ottawa valley. The numerous towers, high pitched variegated slate roofs pierced by dormers and surmounted by ornamental wrought iron and terminals, together with the quaintness of the carved figures combine to produce an imposing effect. The southern or main facade of Parliament House presents a front of 472 feet. The building itself is three stories high, and from the most commanding positions there rise eight towers with truncated roofs surmounted with ornamental wrought iron work. The great centre tower has an altitude of 220 feet and a superficial area of 30 feet square. It is divided into five stories or spaces, all of which are adorned by skilful architectural work. Resting upon the top of the fifth or highest story is an exceedingly handsome wrought iron railing, from the top of which at regular intervals project elaborately finished wrought iron ribs, representing the Imperial Crown; and tending to a common centre they meet at and form a support to the flagstaff which appropriately crowns the summit of the tower. On either side of this tower the main structure extends 100 feet, where it connects with the wings, which are each 121 feet long and have a tower carried up at each of the four angles shown on the southern face. On both sides of the great tower and near the angles formed by the junction of the main portion with the wings are double flights of outside stone stairs with moulded cut stone railings and carved balusters, the eastern leading to the private entrance for the Senators, and the western to that for the members; while in the centre of each wing is also a flight of outside stone stairs, leading to what are known as the clerks' entrances.