



Bricklayer Ted Van Kuik, left and sculptor Dennis Cocchio of Hanson Brick install brick sculpture at South Simcoe Police Service's South Division, on Melbourne Dr.

Old town of Bradford... Getting a new look

The old Edmanson Hotel, built in 1832 at the corner of Holland St. E. and Nelson St. and now a private residence, has had a facelift – the stucco and window sashes repaired and painted.

On John St. W., a crumbling Victorian house has been restuccoed and transformed with a neo-classical façade.

The landmark Village Inn, at the corner of Simcoe Rd. and Holland, is also being renovated – removing the cracked plaster and false half-timbering, installing energy-efficient windows, and refacing the exterior with stone.

There's even some work being done at the new South Division Police Station on Melbourne Dr. The original design included a bas-relief in sculpted brick at the front of the building, and on May 22, sculptor Dennis Cocchio

and bricklayer Ted Van Kuik installed the work.

The subject, Cocchio says, is "a child's trust in an officer," and depicts a young child with a bike, standing beside an officer who is holding a bike helmet. The aim is "to encourage safety guidance among young people."

It took Cocchio, who is employed full-time as a sculptor at Hanson Brick in Burlington, 3 to 4 weeks

to carve the relief in clay – the same clay used to make the bricks used at the new police station. Once the sculpture was completed, it was cut into over-sized solid bricks, and kiln-fired. Van Kuik installed the pieces, with help from Cocchio and Councillor Ron Simpson, who chaired the building committee – and who hopes that the Town will commission similar works, at the planned Civic Centre.



Extensive facelift underway at Bradford's Village Inn.