

A woman wearing a bright yellow hooded raincoat and glasses is holding a red balloon. In the background, a person dressed as Pennywise the clown from the movie 'IT' is visible, wearing a white face with red makeup and a dark ruffled collar. The scene appears to be outdoors in a park-like setting.

PORT
HOPE

Tourism

WALKING TOUR OF

IT FILMING
LOCATIONS

IT AND IT CHAPTER 2

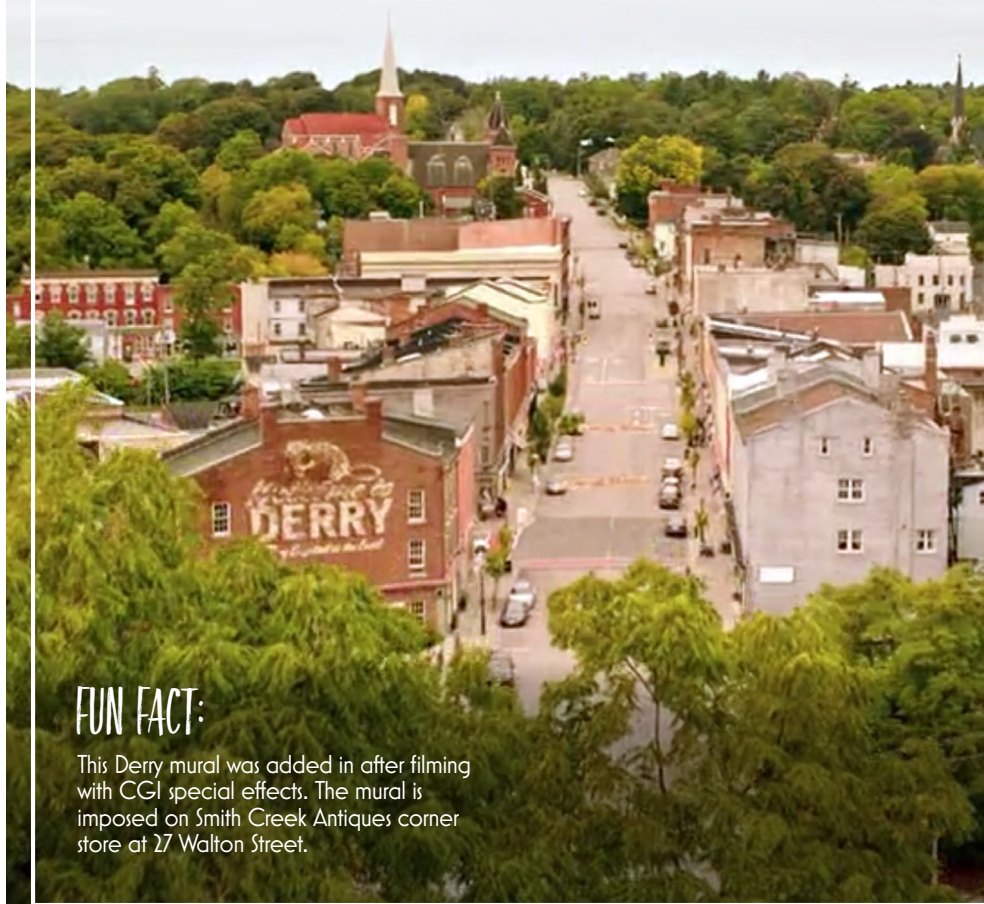
In 1986 Stephen King, the master of horror, wrote what some consider to be the scariest of all his stories. At 1138 pages, the supernatural horror story takes the reader on a journey deep into the town of Derry, Maine. A quaint and idyllic town terrorized by a dark force sets the scene for a psychological thriller that has instilled a deep fear of clowns for at least a generation.

In 1990 a mini-series was produced, starring Tim Curry as Pennywise, the dancing clown. Thanks to improvements in CGI and a hunger for a retelling of the classic tale, Warner Brothers took on the immense project of *It*. After 7 years in development, a life-long dream

to see this project come to fruition was realized for Andy and Barbara Muschietti who directed and produced a remake of epic proportions.

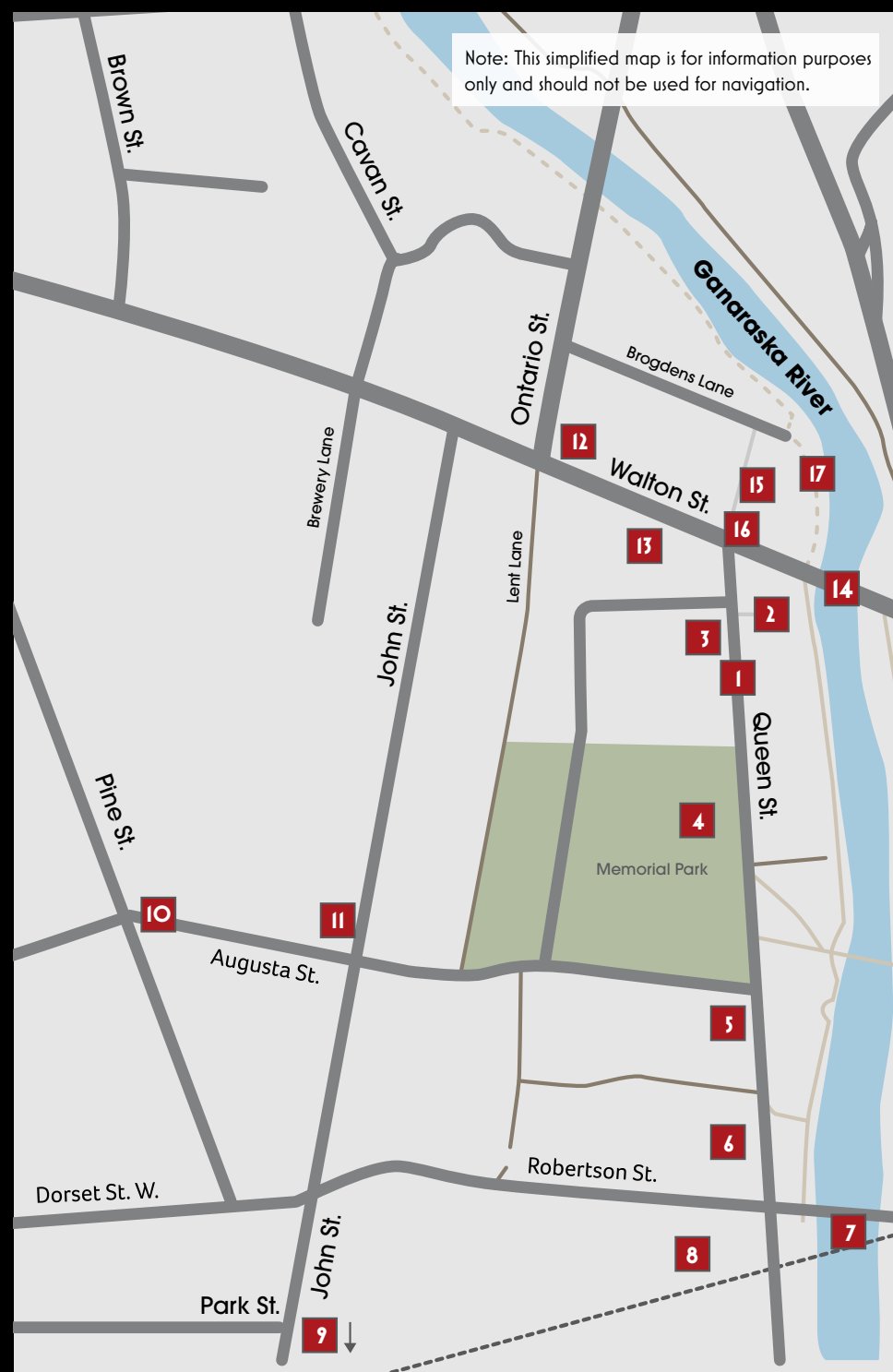
Looking for a picturesque town to film in, Port Hope was chosen to set the stage for Derry. Over the summers of 2016 and 2018 locals were amazed as Port Hope was transformed into 1989 Derry for the making of *It* and *It Chapter 2*. The opening drone shots of the town cemented Port Hope as the infamous Derry, Maine.

Stay tuned for the *It* Prequel Series, currently called "Welcome to Derry," launching on HBO in 2025.



FUN FACT:

This Derry mural was added in after filming with CGI special effects. The mural is imposed on Smith Creek Antiques corner store at 27 Walton Street.





1 QUEEN STREET STREETSCAPE

Here you stand at a hot spot in the filming of both the *It* movies. Many scenes were filmed in and around the Capitol Theatre. Peek in the glass like our heroes of the Losers club did to come face to face with their child selves in *It Chapter 2*. The Derry Days Canal Festival parade floated through downtown over several days for during both films. Many locals can be seen in the crowd, which ended up In Memorial Park. Your server from lunch may be seen juggling in the bandshell! Had you visited during the filming you would have thought Port Hoppers had strange 1980's fashion sense, but those were hundreds of extras involved in filming.



FUN FACTS: In order to capture that perfect shot of the grown up Losers coming face to face with their younger selves a giant sunscreen had to be hoisted above Queen Street. It was quite an involved process, hoisted by crane and attached from the pillars of Antiques on Queen to behind Ganaraska Financial. Port Hope Tourism was also re-branded as the City of Derry's Tourism - Derry is calling!

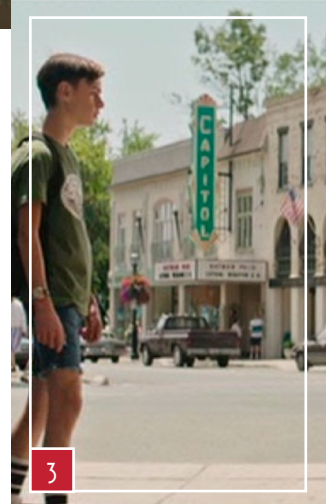
2 'DERRY SCOOP' & ALLEYWAY 7 & 9 Queen Street

Here you will find the home of the Derry ice cream shop, which was a redressed dance shop. Next door is home to the alley from where many shots were filmed, and the kids enjoy a cool treat during the parade.



3 CAPITOL THEATRE 20 Queen Street

You stand in front of the historic Capitol Theatre, one of Canada's last atmospheric theatres. Now a thriving art and culture hub, the lobby through those beautiful doors under the marquee was transformed into the arcade where Richie had a disturbing run in during *It Chapter 2* (below). The Capitol kept its name and branding for both films and is a landmark you can see in numerous scenes. In its feature roll, the theatre plays the part of a glorious movie theatre in the 80's as well as a closed down and abandoned location in *It Chapter 2*. The marquee you see in the film with the changeable lettering was added on top of the digital marquee to give it a vintage feel. The video games and photo booth were added as props, sorry no "Street Fighter" located here today.





4 MEMORIAL PARK 44 Queen Street

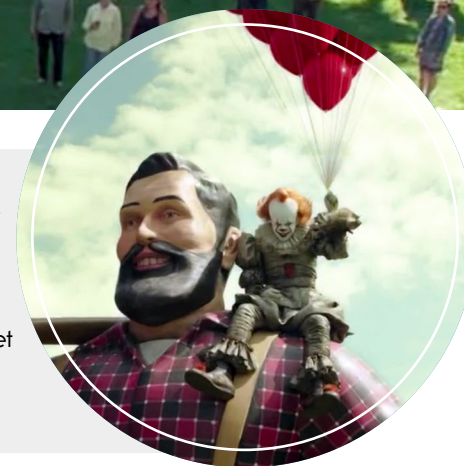
For both films, this park was a hub of activity. Home to the iconic Paul Bunyan statue, many scenes from both chapters were filmed right here! As you can see, the statue was only a prop brought in by the studio. It is a replica of the iconic statue which is a permanent fixture in Bangor, Maine.



BANDSHELL The backdrop to Derry's Canal Days Festival, Port Hope's historic bandshell is a thriving hub for the live music scene in town. As the Losers Club face their worst fears one by one, Richie has a traumatic run in right here with a demonic Paul Bunyan.



FUN FACT: Scenes with Pennywise were kept under a veil of secrecy. One of the first glimpses onlookers had of the iconic clown was atop the Paul Bunyan statue, a shot that took all day to get right. Filming started early in the morning to avoid a crowd and leaked photos.



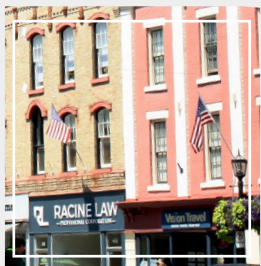
CENOTAPH Chill out at the cenotaph like Henry Bowers did. Notice anything funny? Even though Derry is in Maine, USA you'll notice in the film you can see the inscription on the side "In Honoured memory of the men of Port Hope and Hope township who died for king and country in the great war"



5 TOWN HALL/DERRY LIBRARY

56 Queen Street

The Derry Public library is known around here as Port Hope town hall. Interior shots were filmed elsewhere, but this iconic building was prominent throughout both films.



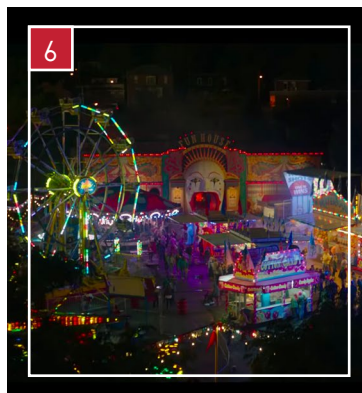
FUN FACTS: If you arrive in Port Hope in the summer, you will notice our streets are heavily decorated with Canadian flags - including the bandshell and the top of Town Hall. The film crew replaced these flags with American flags for the duration of the shoot - which spanned weeks. Needless to say, tourists who came to town unaware of filming were rather confused about the flag nationality.

6 FAIRGROUND LOT

74 Queen Street

This empty parking lot beside Town Hall is the location of the opening scene of the second *It* film. This parking lot was transformed into a terror filled fairground.

FUN FACTS: The shooting of these scenes coincided with the annual Port Hope Fair. Some patrons were confused, thinking the macabre clown inspired set was the actual location of the Port Hope Fair.



7 BALLOON BRIDGE Robertson Street Bridge

This scene was used heavily in the promotion of the second film. The shoot occurred between the hours of 6 p.m. and 7 a.m. and required a crane to capture the scene. The balloons were added in during editing as CGI special effects. The time of year of this shoot was also significant, as it occurred during the salmon migration in September. This natural phenomenon sees thousands of fish migrate up the river and for most, this is the end of their life cycle. Coupled with an unseasonably warm September, the river was ripe with the smell of rotting fish. This meant the actors and crew had to endure less than favorable set conditions - talk about dedication!



8 INDOOR SET

10 Robertson Street

This building now known as EPIC Gymnastics and Dance was converted into an indoor filming location for the second *It* film. Home to the sets including the clubhouse and some interior shots of the fun house from the fair.



9 CP RAILROAD

Off John St. between Hayward St. and Alexander St. - looking east.

This elevated CP railroad track stars in both films - with both the adult and children Losers, which is where you'll find the overgrown field through which the newly-named Losers Club trek on their way to The Barrens.



10 BIKES ON PINE/AUGUSTA

Walk one block west to the corner of Augusta and Pine streets, where fan favourite shot of the Losers Club on their bikes was filmed. Looking East from Augusta you will notice the iconic view of Town Hall (know as the Derry Library) in the background.



FUN FACTS: Prior to filming, a casting call was made not only for extras, but also for cars! In scenes where distinctly older cars can be seen, many of these vehicles were sourced locally from classic car owners in the surrounding area. The vehicles were even dressed with license plates that said Maine and parking metres were paid for, for the entire day of shooting!



11 HOTEL CARLYLE & RESTAURANT/ THE DERRY TOWN HOUSE

86 John Street

Built in 1857 as a branch of The Bank of Upper Canada, 86 John Street is home to Hotel Carlyle & Restaurant. The exterior was home to The Derry Town House, where the Losers Club stay in the second film, note that interior shots were filmed elsewhere. A beautifully restored hotel, you can stay and eat. Take a look at the west side of the building to see the window up top where grownup Richie escaped a late night scare.



FUN FACTS: For the second film, the studio used a code name to disguise the movies' true identity. The code name for the film was LARGO, which was used in the newspaper to indicate road closures, casting calls and on signage around town.



12 KEENE'S PHARMACY

68 Walton Street

Welcome to the home of Keene's Pharmacy where Beverly helps the others after Ben is attacked. For the first film, 68 Walton Street was Watson's Pharmacy that had been open since 1883. However, after the filming, it had been sold and the filmmakers had to entirely recreate the pharmacy for Chapter 2. The crew had to recreate every detail from light fixtures to rebuilding the counter and stocking the shelves. Director Andy Muschetti has a cameo as a customer at the pharmacy in the second film.

13 SECONDHAND ROSE

45 Walton Street (Second Helpings)

Second Helpings - which has been in business for over 40 years - plays the role of Secondhand Rose. Stephen King appears in this scene as the cranky shopkeeper while Bill is reunited with his childhood bicycle.



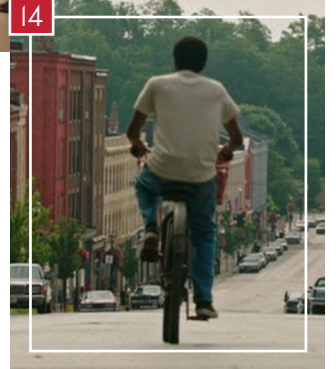
FUN FACTS: Port Hope was equally ecstatic to welcome Stephen King to town! Then Mayor Bob Sanderson is seen here. Go enjoy a Coke with a cherry in it as Stephen King reportedly did!



14 WALTON STREET & BRIDGE

Walton Street in Port Hope is easily recognizable as downtown Derry. Many of the shops and restaurants were dressed to be Derry businesses, but you may still recognize many from the films.

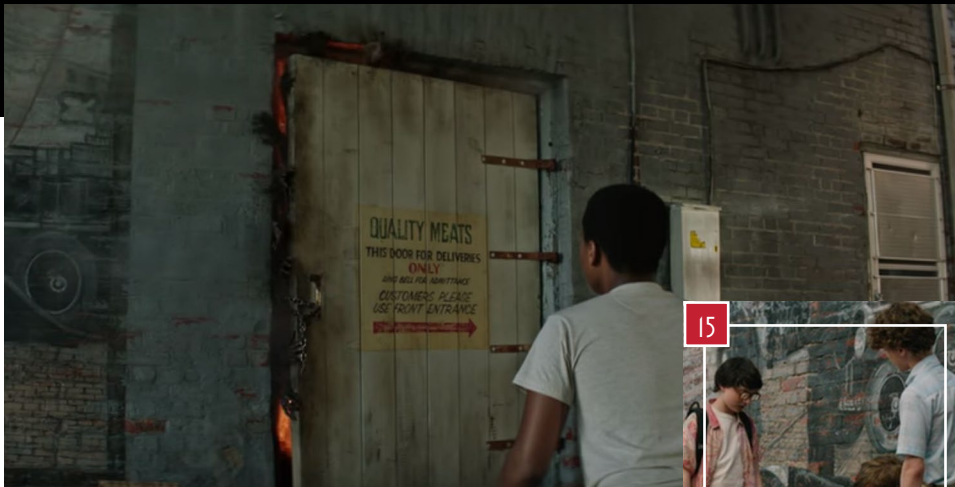
The bridge over The Ganaraska River was where a great shot of the grown up Losers Club marching down the road was shot.



The set designers dressed the town to look like small town USA. The production designer honoured for his work on *The Shape of Water* with an Oscar, and his meticulous attention to detail was impressive to say the least! Street signs were dressed to reflect the names of streets in Derry and the cars parked along the roads were all vintage. The cars even had their own casting call!

FUN FACTS: The town was dressed so well, folks kept trying to buy newspapers from the Derry newspapers stands and mailing letters in the Derry post boxes!





15 ALLEYWAY/DELIVERY DOOR

In between Fringe Salon and Esthetics and Shuuz

This is the doorway where Mike has a terrifying vision and where Ben is patched up by his friends after a nasty run in and the very spot where the Losers Club all meet up for the first time. The mural is of a crime that happened during a previous return of Pennywise, indicating that when *It* was present, the evil affected everyone.



16 QUALITY MEATS

26 Walton/16 Walton

26 Walton is home to Schuuz, better known to you as Quality Meats, the butcher shop where young Mike worked. Next door at 16 Walton St you'll see Queenies Bakeshop, home to the apartment that Beverly shared with her father. These are private residences, and the interior shots were not filmed here.

FUN FACTS: Both the mural and the quality meats sign were a component of set dressing. The mural took artists one week to complete! Within the first film they painted the mural, shot a scene, then painted Pennywise in, then shot another scene and then took him out. Dizzy yet? Within the second movie Pennywise was not in the mural. Once filming wrapped, the owners of this private property decided to keep the artwork intact.



17 BEVERLY'S APARTMENT

Rear of Queenies

Head around the corner past Queenies towards the river. There you will find the iconic fire escape leading to Beverly's apartment, noting that interior shots were filmed elsewhere. Please remember these are private residences and ask you to respect their privacy and stay off the stairs.

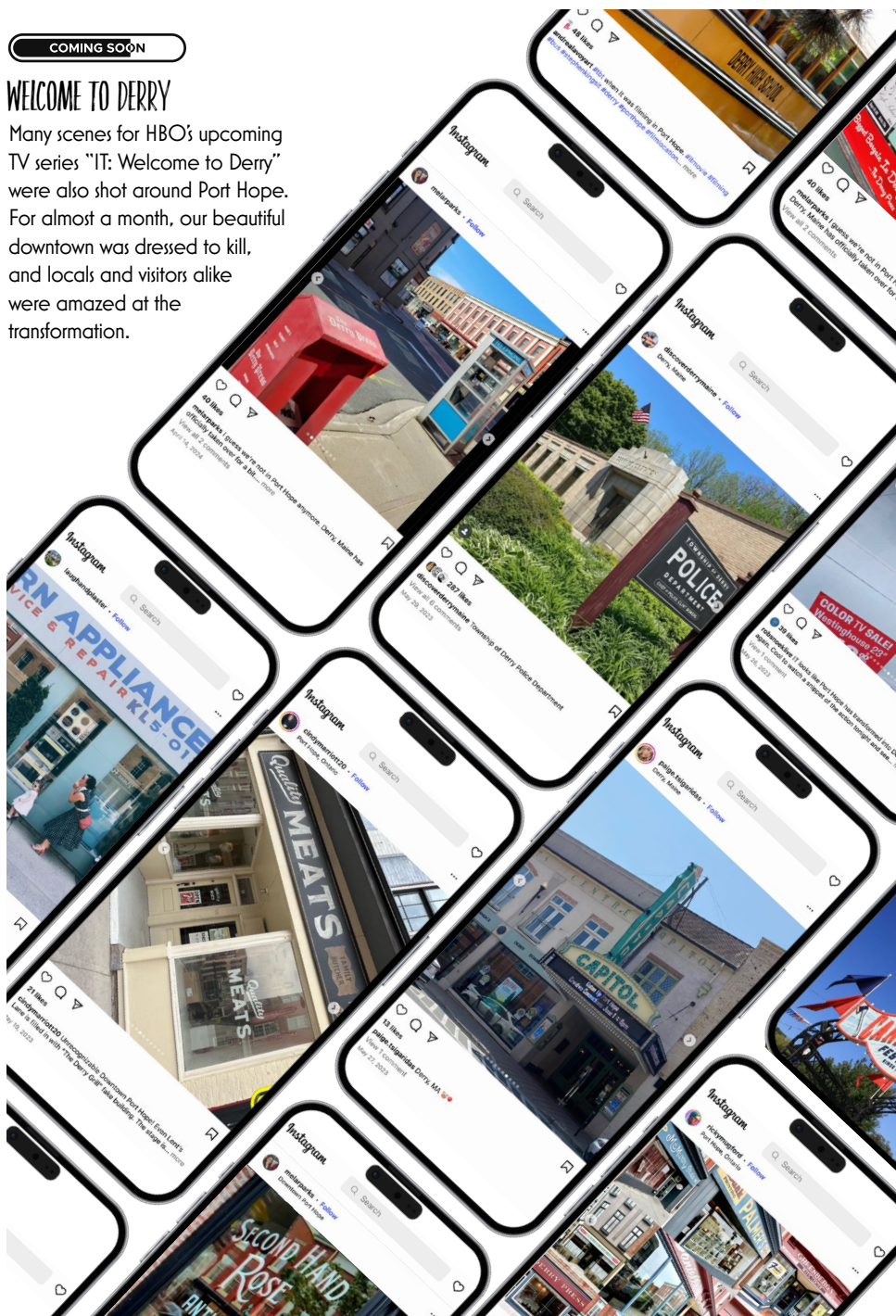


FUN FACTS: Queenies Bake Shop played an important role behind the scenes as a cast room and the dressing room for Pennywise himself! The owner of Queenies fondly remembers playing piano and singing 80s and 90s hits with the likes of Jessica Chastain and Andy Muschietti.

COMING SOON

WELCOME TO DERRY

Many scenes for HBO's upcoming TV series "IT: Welcome to Derry" were also shot around Port Hope. For almost a month, our beautiful downtown was dressed to kill, and locals and visitors alike were amazed at the transformation.



Current as of June 2025
www.visitporthope.ca



PORT HOPE

