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## CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

33 Talbot Street South, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1A8

p: 519.776.7336 f: 519.776.8811 | [essex.ca](http://essex.ca)

June 24, 2024



**RECEIVED**  
2024/06/26  
(YYYY/MM/DD)  
Ontario Heritage Trust

RE: **Property at 103 King Street West in Harrow**

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Dear Town of Essex Property Owner.

At their regular meeting on Monday June 17, the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Essex issued a Notice of Intention to Designate your property at 103 King Street West under section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act.

### **Why was my property selected?**

Your property has been selected because it displays cultural heritage value and interest.

Attached is a Statement explaining the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and a description of the heritage attributes of the property.

### **Notice of objection**

A Notice of Objection to the Notice of Intention to Designate may be served on the Clerk of the Town of Essex by **July 27, 2024**. The Notice of Objection must set out the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts.

Your cooperation with the preservation of our past is greatly appreciated.

Yours truly,

**Rita Jabbour, RPP**

Manager, Planning Services

[rjabbour@essex.ca](mailto:rjabbour@essex.ca)

519.776.7336 ext. 1112

*Where you belong*



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**c.c.** Joseph A. Malandruccolo, Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk

[jmalandruccolo@essex.ca](mailto:jmalandruccolo@essex.ca)

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### **APPENDIX A**

#### **Municipal Address**

103 King Street West - John McIntyre's Harness Shop

#### **Legal Description**

RCP 1645 LOT 12

#### **General Description of Property**

103 King Street West is located in the commercial district of the former Township of Harrow, now Town of Essex, on the south side of King Street, on the corner of King Street West and Victoria Street South.

#### **Description of Property that has Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

The area of the property that demonstrates cultural heritage value or interest is the area that includes the two-storey, red brick commercial building built in 1896.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

##### ***Historical/Associative***

*The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.*

103 King Street West retains significant historical and associative value because it is directly associated with John McIntyre. McIntyre was a local businessman and harness maker who helped with the development of Harrow's commercial district in the late 19th century and into the early 20th century.

McIntyre was a renowned harness maker during the late 1890s into the 1920s. He won multiple awards for his craftsmanship at both the Harrow and Leamington Fairs. Harness making was an important business during that time, as horses were both the main source of power on a farm and transportation.



John McIntyre arrived in Harrow in the early 1890s, moving to the area from Leamington. He bought his first shop from Mr. Charles (Chas.) Webster soon after arriving in the former Rumball block of Harrow and quickly built a successful business with a reputation for high quality harnesses. In 1895/1896 he purchased the property at the corner of Victoria and King Street, and in 1896 he would build a new commercial building to house a hardware store. The building would also briefly serve as the community's public library from 1899 until 1904. In 1906, McIntyre would fully move his harness shop from his store in the former Rumball block of Harrow and it would remain open until the early 1920s. John McIntyre would pass away on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1923, after living and working in Harrow for 30 years.

### **Contextual**

*The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.*

103 King Street

103 King Street West retains significant contextual value as a late 19th century commercial building due to the building's overall architectural style being reflective of Harrow's downtown core. Built in 1896 by John McIntyre, the building stands as an important feature in maintaining and supporting the character of Harrow's downtown core through the architectural style and the material used in the building.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

The key heritage attributes that contribute to the historical/associative value that has direct associations with John McIntyre includes:

- The buildings location in the commercial district of Harrow along King Street.

The Key heritage attributes that contribute to the contextual value of 103 King Street West, include:

- The location of the building in the commercial district of Harrow,
- The mass, form, and style the commercial building,
- The red brick cladding in common brick bond on all building elevations,



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- All existing window and door openings topped with rowlock and header brick voussoirs.