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September 21, 2011

Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
TORONTO ON M5C 1J3

**Re: Notice of Intent to Designate
6-8 King Street West, Community of Chatham
Municipality of Chatham-Kent**

At the Council Meeting held September 12, 2011, Chatham-Kent Council approved the Municipal Heritage Committee's recommendation for the Intent to Designate the property, located at 6-8 King Street West, in the Community of Chatham, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value and interest.

The Notice of Intent to Designate was advertised in Chatham-Kent Matters on Wednesday, September 21, 2011, with the last day for filing a Notice of Objection being Thursday, October 20, 2011, (copy attached).

If no appeals have been received, a By-law to designate the property will be prepared for Council's consideration.

Sincerely,



Ryan Jacques
Acting Development Planner

c Municipal Heritage Committee

Attachment(s)

Canadian Register of Historic Places Nomination
6-8 King Street West, Municipality of Chatham-Kent

*any field that appears in grey is mandatory

Identification

Historic Place Name	6-8 King Street West		
Other Names	#	Type:	Name:
	1	Other	Wiersma Building
	2	Other	Retro Suites

Recognition

Authority:	Local Government (ON)
Recognition Type:	Municipal Heritage Designation Part IV
Recognition Date:	yyyy-mm-dd (To be added after council approval)

Location

Location

Building Number:	6-8
Street Name:	King Street West
Postal Code:	N7M 1C6
Locality:	Chatham
Community:	Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Upper Tier:	n/a

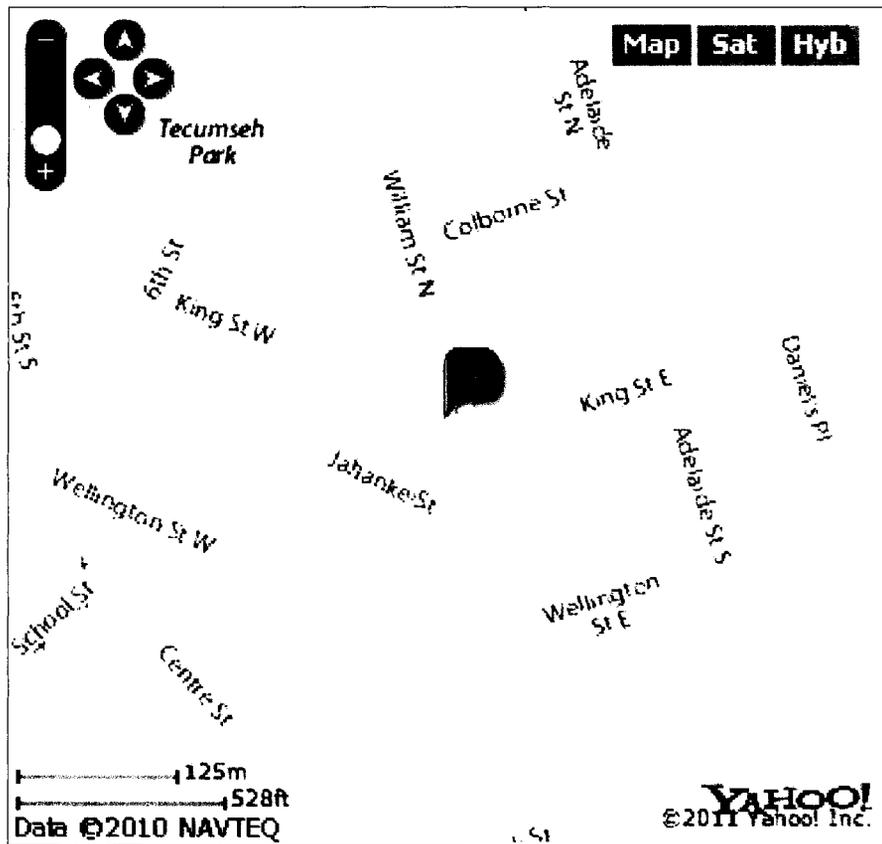
Coordinates

UTM		Latitude/Longitude	
Determination:	n/a	Determination:	Geocoding
Datum:	n/a	Datum:	NAD83
Zone:	n/a	Latitude:	42.404755
Northing:	n/a	Longitude:	-82.181517
Easting:	n/a		
Borden #:	n/a	Borden #:	n/a

Boundaries

Boundary Description:	Part of Lot 81, Old Survey, Municipality of Chatham-Kent.
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Map



Description

Statement of Significance

Description of Historic Place: i.e. Description of Property	6-8 King Street West is located on the south side of King Street, west of William Street in the City of Chatham, Municipality of Chatham-Kent. The property consists of a three-storey red-brick commercial building that was constructed in 1895.
Heritage Value: i.e. Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest	<p><i>Historic or Associative Value:</i></p> <p>The Wiersma Building is associated with local businessman Kenneth Urquhart who commissioned the building's erection in 1895 at a cost of \$6,000. Messrs Mallory & Son were the architects, and it is believed that prominent architect John Wesley Mallory worked on the building. He was trained in architecture in Chatham by his father William H. Mallory. John went on to open a business in Vancouver in 1898, but left the City in 1901 when the economy did not perform as anticipated during the Klondike Boom. He is known to have designed the Bodega Hotel, which is still standing at 225 Carrall Street in Vancouver.</p> <p>6-8 King Street West is associated with the commercial success of Chatham's downtown core and the community of Chatham as a whole. When it opened in 1895 the first floor was designed to house two stores, while the third storey was designed specifically to house the Chatham Lodge of Foresters. The Order of the Foresters originated in England and was established in Canada in 1876 in London, Ontario. The purpose of the organization was to act as a health and life insurance company for its members, while also serving as a social organization. Chatham was one of the first places to establish a branch, known as Court No. 6, and it became part of the Canadian Order of Foresters in the 1880s. Later in the 20th century, 6-8 King Street West was purchased by the Wiersma family and operated as a bakery for two generations.</p> <p><i>Design or Physical Value:</i></p> <p>6-8 King Street West is a good example of commercial architecture constructed in the 1890s. It has a symmetrical façade with large shop windows on the ground floor and a pilaster that divides the second and third storeys into two bays. Each bay features three pointed windows that are highlighted by concrete pointed labels. The third storey also features corbelled brickwork and blind arches. The façade is capped by a cornice with dentils and a flat roof.</p> <p><i>Contextual Value:</i></p> <p>King Street is the historic main street of Chatham and the south side has historically been the busier side of the street, housing some of the oldest brick buildings in the City. This area has come to represent the centre of business and the home to many of the area's hostelrys. Throughout the 1850s and 60s, the corner of King and William Streets housed the first Baptist Church and from there along the south side of King to the Market Square was a series of wood frame shops, such as William Northwood's grocery store, the Dublin House and R.O. Smith's furniture store. The corner's historic prominence was enhanced by the nearby industry across McGregor's Creek, including the T.H. Taylor Woollen Mill at 14 William Street North, built in 1869, and the Beaver Flour Mill, built in 1872, but which burnt down in the 1980s.</p> <p>It was not until the 1880s that these buildings at King and William Streets were replaced with the brick structures that exist today and have come to house many of the City's most successful businesses. The structures from the Bates Building at 28-34 William Street South and around the corner to 16 King Street</p>

	<p>West form a continuous commercial front. Most of these buildings are two or three storeys, therefore maximizing their frontage on the main street. The basements of all the structures on this prominent corner were connected and it was believed that they were used in rum running during the era of prohibition.</p> <p><i>Sources:</i> <i>Building the West</i>, Donald Laxton, 2003. Chatham Directory, 1876-1877, 1915, 1919. <i>Chatham Planet</i>, 1895. <i>Community on Thames</i>, 1987. <i>Historic King Street, Chatham, Ontario</i>, K. Stoney and C. Naismith, 1978. <i>History of the Independent Order of the Foresters</i>, Oronhyatekha, 1894. Municipality of Chatham-Kent Land Registry Records <i>There Was a Time</i>, Jim & Lisa Gilbert. <i>Windfall</i>, 1979.</p>
Character-Defining Elements: i.e. Description of Heritage Attributes	<p>Key exterior elements of 6-8 King Street West that contribute to its value as a good example of commercial architecture of the 1890s include its:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - three-storey red-brick construction - large first storey shop windows - symmetrical façade with pilaster separating two bays - three windows in each bay on both the second and third storeys - concrete pointed labels over the pointed windows on the second and third storeys - corbelled brickwork and blind arches on the third storey - cornice with dentils - flat roof <p>Key elements of 6-8 King Street West that support its contextual value include its:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - location near the corner of King and William Streets - proximity to McGregor Creek and commercial businesses in downtown Chatham - forms part of continuous commercial store fronts that stretch from 28-34 William Street South to 16 King Street West

Contributing Resources		Type:	Count:	
		Building	1	
Area (m²)	447			
Dates of Significance	#	Type:	From:	To:
	1	Construction	1895	1895
BA	#	Type:	Name:	
	1	Architect	Messrs Mallory & Son	
	2	Builder	n/a	

Function Category and Type

Category and Type	#	Function:	Category:	Type:
	1	Historic	Commerce	Shop or Wholesale Establishment
	2	Current	Commerce	Hotel, Motel or Inn

Theme

Theme Category Type	#	Category:	Type:
	1	Developing Economies	Trade and Commerce

Images

	Image 1:	Image 2:	Image 3:
File Path:	n/a	n/a	n/a
Image Type:	Contemporary Photograph	Contemporary Photograph	Contemporary Photograph
Caption:	Façade of 6-8 King Street West	Detailed View of the Windows of 6-8 King West	Contextual View of 6-8 King West
Description:	Featured is the three-storey red-brick construction with large first storey shop windows, 2011.	Featured is the concrete pointed labels over the windows on the second and third storeys, 2011.	Northwest view of the row of commercial structures that line King Street West, 2011.
Copyright:	Lindsay Benjamin, 2011.	Lindsay Benjamin, 2011.	Lindsay Benjamin, 2011.
Miscellaneous Info:	n/a	n/a	n/a

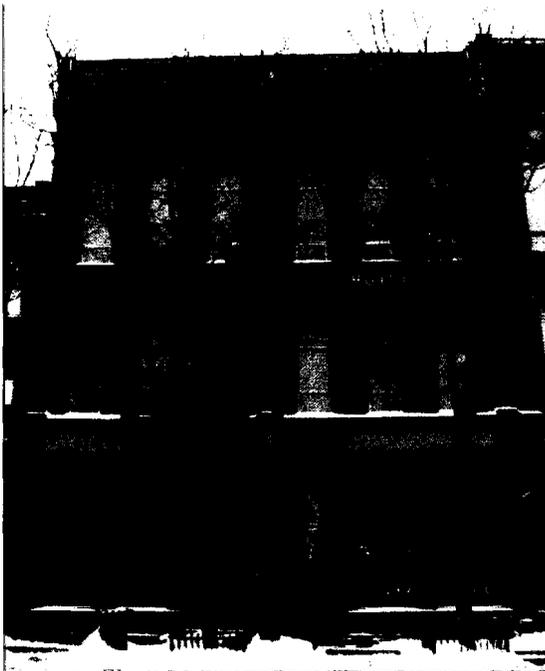


Image 1

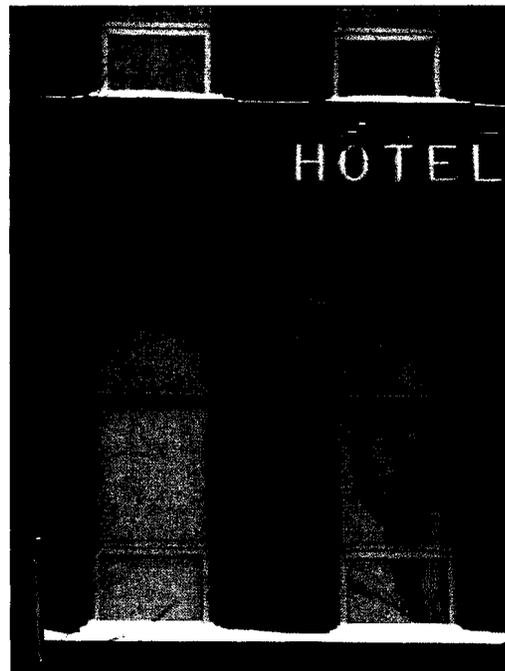


Image 2



Image 3

Resources

Location of Documents:	Chatham Cultural Centre 75 William Street North Chatham Ontario N7M 4L4		
Collections:	n/a		
Related Link	URL:	Type:	Description:
	http://www.chatham-kent.ca	Local Government Website	Municipality of Chatham-Kent Website
	http://retrosuites.com	Other	Retro Suites Website

Management

Ownership Type:	Private (Taxable Corporation)
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