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# CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KINGSVILLE

2021 Division Road North  
Kingsville, Ontario N9Y 2Y9

Phone: (519) 733-2305

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**BY REGISTERED MAIL**

May 31, 2010



Ontario Heritage Trust  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
10 Adelaide St. East  
TORONTO, ON M5C 1J3

Dear Sirs:

**RE: Ontario Heritage Act—Notice of Intention to Designate  
64 Park Street, Kingsville, Ontario**

Enclosed please find Notice of Intention to Designate, which is being served upon you pursuant to Section 29(3) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.O.18.

Yours truly,

  
Ruth Orton-Pert  
Clerk

ROP/sjk

Enclosure



# CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KINGSVILLE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, c. O. 18, AS AMENDED, AND  
IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS PART  
OF LOT 1, CONCESSION 1,  
IN THE TOWN OF KINGSVILLE, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX  
AND PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

## NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

**TAKE NOTICE THAT** the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Kingsville intends to designate, under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, the property legally described as Part of Lot 1, Concession 1, known municipally as 64 Park Street, in the Town of Kingsville, in the Province of Ontario.

**Description of Property:** The Mettawas Cottage, 64 Park Street

Constructed in 1891, The Mettawas Cottage is a two-storey structure in the National Style located on the northwest corner of Park Street and Lansdowne Avenue in the original Town of Kingsville

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

The building's cultural value lies in its association with Hiram Walker, his Mettawas Hotel, and Lake Erie, Essex & Detroit River Railway Company.

Perhaps no one person had more impact on the early economic and social development of Kingsville than Hiram Walker. Famous for his distillery in Windsor and the whiskey that still bears his name, Walker and his sons were influential in developing such commercial ventures in Kingsville as gas exploration, land subdivision, housing developments, and a water system. He built a railway, which was not only instrumental in shaping Kingsville as a popular tourist destination, it was a boon to local farmers and manufacturers, giving them access to markets in Windsor, Detroit and beyond.

Walker's most famous development in the Town was the opulent Mettawas Hotel. Built in 1889 on the shore of Lake Erie, the Mettawas, with its dance hall, bowling alley, bath house, cricket field, lawn tennis courts, croquet plats and manicured grounds, established Kingsville as a fashionable summer resort town. It was serviced by his private railway, the Lake Erie, Essex & Detroit River Railway, with a livery service shuttling wealthy patrons to and from the Romanesque-style train station he built off Lansdowne Avenue.

After the construction of the hotel, Walker built a summer home facing the Mettawas, intended for his son, James Harrington Walker. The construction of the family retreat led to what has been described as a "cottage movement" in Kingsville, with other wealthy businessmen similarly building summer homes in the village.

**\*Description of Heritage Attributes:**

Key attributes that embody the heritage value of this house include:

- Gabled roof, louvered shutters and inside end chimney, representative of the National style;
- Stained-glass bow window on east side main floor;
- Funeral door on east side main floor;
- Wrap-around porch;
- Bell on second floor, believed to have once been connected to the Mettawas Hotel allowing residents to ring for services.

Any person may, within thirty days of the publication of this notice, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Town of Kingsville notice of his or her objection to the proposed designation together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts.

**DATED** at Kingsville, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010.

Ruth Orton-Pert, Clerk  
The Corporation of the Town of Kingsville  
2021 Division Road North  
Kingsville, Ontario N9Y 2Y9