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# *The Corporation Of The Town Of Kingsville*

41 Division Street South  
Kingsville, Ontario, N9Y 1P4

519-733-2315

Fax: 733-5588

6 February 1995

Ontario Heritage Foundation,  
Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Recreation,  
77 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2R9

Dear Sir:

Re: By-Law to Designate property known municipally as the Kingsville  
Railway Station, 169 Lansdowne Avenue, Kingsville, as being of  
Architectural and Historical Value and Interest

Please be advised that the Town of Kingsville, designated the above property as property  
being of architectural and historical value and interest pursuant to the Ontario Heritage  
Act, R.S.O. 1990, C. 0.18 on June 20, 1994. A certified copy of this by-law is enclosed  
for your records.

Yours truly,

Vickie Sim  
Clerk-Administrator

/enclosure

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FEB 16 1995

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**CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF KINGSVILLE**

**BY-LAW NO. 31-1994**

**FEB 16 1995**

**A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY KNOWN  
MUNICIPALLY AS THE KINGSVILLE RAILWAY  
STATION, 169 LANSDOWNE AVENUE, KINGSVILLE AS  
BEING OF ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL VALUE  
AND INTEREST**

**WHEREAS** Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990 C. 0.18 authorized the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historic value or interest; and

**WHEREAS** the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kingsville has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as the Kingsville Railway Station at 169 Lansdowne Avenue, Kingsville and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks; and

**WHEREAS** the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" hereto; and

**THEREFORE** subject to submission and approval by Council of a site plan showing the exact dimensions of the property and the location of all structures and satisfactory proof of ownership the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Kingsville enacts as follows:

1. **THERE** is designated as being of architectural and historic value and interest the real property known as the Kingsville Railway Station at 169 Lansdowne Avenue, Kingsville, more particularly described as Part Lot 1, Concession 1, Eastern Division, Town of Kingsville, County of Essex.
2. **THE** clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the aforesaid property in the proper land registry office.
3. **THE** clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.

**READ A FIRST TIME THIS 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 1994.**

**READ A SECOND TIME THIS 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 1994.**

**READ A THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE 1994.**

**TOWN OF KINGSVILLE  
I CERTIFY THIS TO BE  
A TRUE COPY  
VICTORIA SIM  
CLERK**

**DATE** Feb 10, 1995  
**SIGNATURE** [Signature]

Corporation of the Town of Kingsville

[Signature]  
Jim Gaffan, Mayor

[Signature]  
James G. Timlin, Clerk

**SCHEDULE "A"**

**TO BY-LAW NO. 31-1994**

**STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE PROPOSED  
DESIGNATION**

The Kingsville Railway Station, 169 Lansdowne Avenue, Assessment Roll #  
170-08901-0000

The Kingsville Railway Station is recommended for designation for architectural  
and historical reasons.

In 1857, Hiram Walker came to Canada and bought land on the site of  
present day Walkerville in Windsor. By 1888, he had built a railway  
extending into Essex County to facilitate the movement of raw materials and  
by-products.

At the request of a prominent socialite (who was never to be known), he  
purchased 84 acres near Kingsville to build the Mettawas Hotel, the largest,  
most up-to-date hotel west of Montreal. The Mettawas was marketed to  
compete directly with the Grand Hotel of Mackinaw Island. As a gateway to  
this venture, he commissioned Mason and Rice to design the train station in  
1888 (Job # 438).

For the next 10 years Kingsville experienced an unprecedented growth  
which remains today in its signature image known throughout the county as  
the Victorian (Story Book) Town of Essex County. During this period the  
station became the first image for all who came to Kingsville since rail was  
the main means of transport. This set the stage for the quality of homes we  
still see today.

Mason and Rice designs utilized the most up-to-date trends of the time. The  
influence of G. G. Richardson and his Romanesque designs are evident with  
elements of the rounded shingle-style roofing. Stones from the local farm  
lands were donated to contribute to the construction of the station.

At the time of the commission, Albert Kahn was working as draughtsman  
for Mason and Rice and had designed many residential buildings of  
Richardsonian influence. Albert Kahn later became the architect for most  
Hiram Walker commissions.

The building is constructed of field stone and large wood timber. A large  
sand stone horizontal band wraps the building to for the window sills and  
has capped the rounded stone fence on the west side of the building. The  
proportions are a-symmetrical beaux-art elegance and the passenger rooms  
are generous in size. The roof had a thin slate shingle not found today and  
the design included a stone bench integrated into the south wall of the  
building.

Railway stations are an endangered archetype, never to be envisioned at this  
level again.