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Edwin

RECEIVED  
01-06-2005



# TOWN OF AYLMER

46 Talbot Street, West, Aylmer, Ontario N5H 1J7  
Office: (519) 773-3164 Fax: (519) 765-1446

Administration: M. Heather Adams - Administrator • Phyllis Ketchabaw - Clerk

May 25, 2005.  
~~April 28, 2005.~~

██████████  
62 Talbot Street East,  
AYLMER, ON N5H 1H4

Re: Heritage Designation, 62 Talbot St. East, Aylmer, ON

Please find enclosed a signed copy of By-Law No. 21-05, the heritage designation by-law for the Central Hotel property, 62 Talbot Street East, in the Town of Aylmer. A copy is also being provided to the Ontario Heritage Foundation.

We will now be forwarding copies of the By-Law to our Solicitor for registration purposes as required.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours truly,

Clerk Phyllis Ketchabaw

Encl.

✓ c.c. The Ontario Heritage Foundation, 10 Adelaide St. East, Suite 302,  
TORONTO, ON M5C 1J3

6/30/05  
RR

entered in Database  
7/26/05 RR

BY-LAW NO. 21-05

OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AYLMER

Being a By-Law to designate the property known  
Municipally as 62 Talbot Street East, in the  
Town of Aylmer, as being of architectural and  
Historical value or interest

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WHEREAS, Section 29 of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18, authorizes the council of a municipality to enact a By-Law to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of historic or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS, The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Aylmer has caused to be served on the owner of the property at 62 Talbot Street East, and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Notice of Intention to designate the said property under Subsection (1) of Section 29, and has caused such Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS, No Notice of Objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the municipality;

NOW THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AYLMER HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

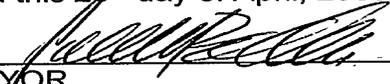
1. There is designated as being of historical and architectural value or interest, the property at 62 Talbot Street East, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming a part of this By-Law.
2. The reasons for the heritage designation of the said property are described in Schedule "B" attached hereto, and forming a part of this By-Law.
3. The Municipal Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-Law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the Land Registry Office for the County of Elgin.
4. The Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-Law to be served on the owner of the property at 62 Talbot Street East, and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this By-Law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town of Aylmer.

READ A First and Second time this 11<sup>TH</sup> day of April, 2005.

  
MAYOR

  
CLERK

READ A Third time and finally passed this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2005.

  
MAYOR

  
CLERK

SCHEDULE "A" to By-Law No. 21-05

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Aylmer, in the County of Elgin, and Province of Ontario, and being composed of and containing by admeasurement 0.25 of an acre, more or less, being composed of Block 1, Part of Lot 5, Plan 74, of the said Town of Aylmer.

SCHEDULE "B" to By-Law No. 21-05

**REPORT ON**

**HERITAGE DESIGNATION**

**FOR**

**62 TALBOT STREET EAST**

**AYLMER, ONTARIO**

**PREPARED BY: AYLMER LACAC**

**JANUARY, 2005**

## DESIGNATION OF 62 TALBOT STREET EAST

### Aylmer Central Hotel, formerly Kennedy Central Hotel

Aldrich's Pocket Directory of the Town of Aylmer as completed and published in April, 1888 by Aylmer resident M. L. Aldrich. In it, he lists the presence of 7 hotels: Brown House and Mansion House on the southeast and southwest corners of Talbot and Gravel respectfully; the Airline Hotel and Electric Hall, both on Gravel Road North; Ocean House on Sydenham Street; Mero House at 79 Talbot East; and the Kennedy Central at 35 Talbot East (now known municipally as 62 Talbot St. East). T. T. Kennedy is listed as the proprietor of the Kennedy Central, a building that housed not only a hotel "second to none" but also the Shaving Parlor of J. North.

Aldrich's reference to the Kennedy Central is confirmed by records at the Land Registry Office of Elgin County and in Kirk Barons' "The History of Aylmer to 1900". It is noted in registry records that on 28 May, 1883, Thomas Kennedy purchased the property on which the hotel now stands from William Farthings. This lot has been the site of a hotel since 1844, when Henry Martin had had Martin's Hotel built. The name of that establishment was changed in the early 1860's to Laing's Hotel. Laing's was razed by a fire in January, 1862 but was rebuilt and subsequently sold in 1872 to Adolphus Williams and Peregrine Mann, who, in their time, renamed it the British American Hotel. As noted, Thomas Kennedy bought the property in 1883 and, as evidence by the chiseled sandstone above the main entrance - CENTRAL HOTEL - 1883 -, MUST HAVE HAD THE British American torn down and had what we now refer to as the Central Hotel built in that year.

The Central Hotel was and is an imposing structure, solid and of some mass, the cornerstone on the eastern end of a block of 2 and 3 storey brick buildings. It is a lofty 3 storeys and is crowned by an ornate brick cornice. Tall windows, placed one above the other three floors up, all with Romanesque top sashes and raised architraves add to its height and presence.

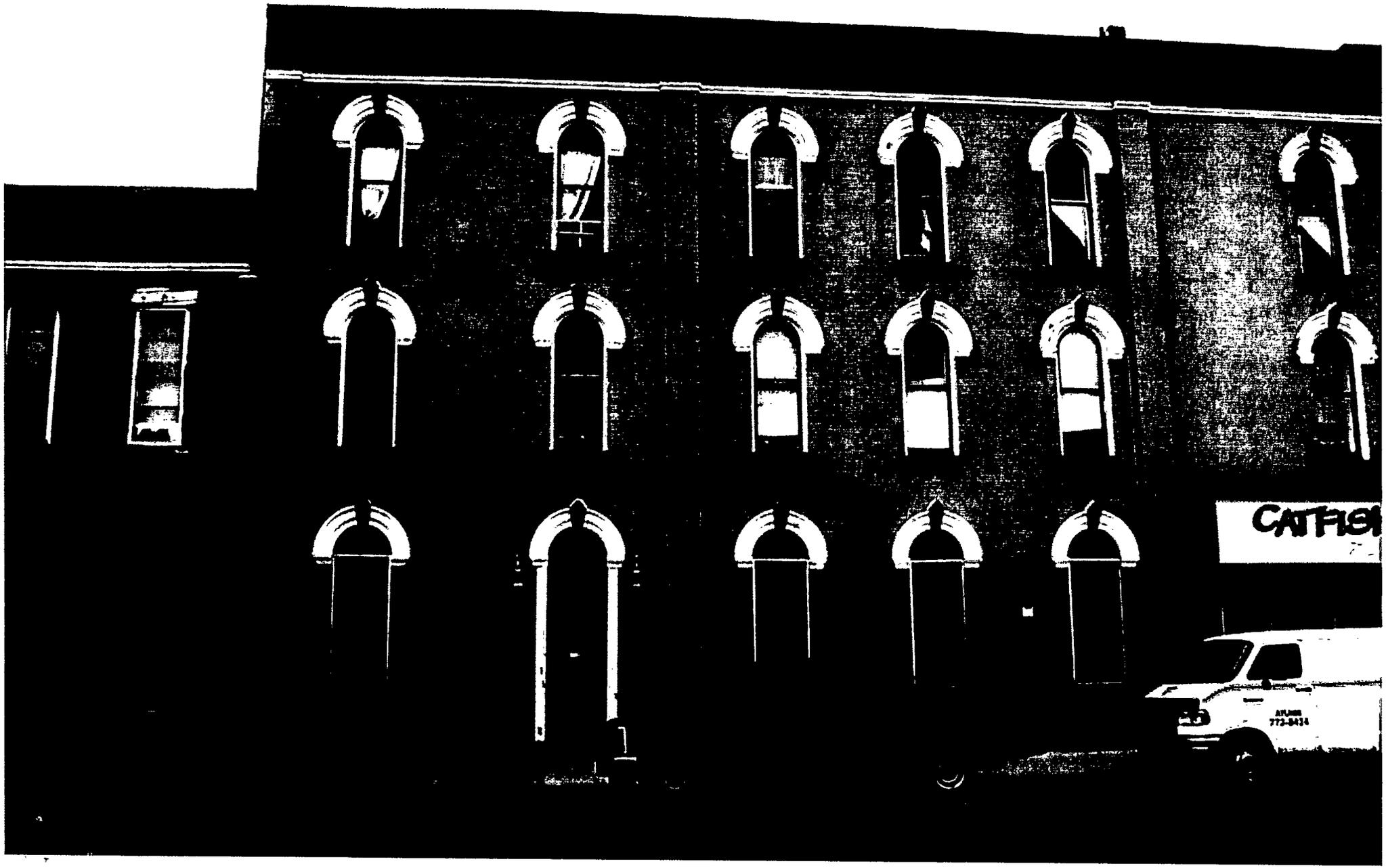
The architectural style of Kennedy's Hotel is similar to other commercial buildings built on Talbot Street at this time. Thomas Wooster, an Aylmer contractor with a talent for design and many buildings to his credit, and a Mr. M. L. Buffy, Architect, are both listed in Aldrich's Directory. Whether either had a hand in the design of the Central or other Talbot blocks, I cannot say. But whoever the designer, there is a similarity in style, perhaps best described as a local, commercial Italianate or Italianate vernacular.

As in the classic Italianate mode, the design of the Central utilized Romanesque windows and stylishly-carved, stone architraves and sills. The bricks of the facades are set flat and in and out, giving texture and relief to the walls and window wells and an ornateness to the cornice. The windows are set 3 high, one above the other in 12 vertical rows, all with eye to symmetrical order.

Internally, the whole is organized in a centre hall plan causing the main entrance to be set front and centre on the north façade. The east wall is distinctive with 21 identical, symmetrically-set windows, a pattern broken only by a sympathetic door opening.

The fabric is solid brick, no doubt 3 bricks thick.

Given its place in the history of Aylmer, its location on the corner of Talbot and King St., the eastern anchor of a long-standing commercial block, the quality of the styling and materials used, and the obvious skills of the tradesmen involved, the Central Hotel is a property of cultural value that should be preserved. The brick walls, the stonework and the windows on both the north and east facades should be designated, reminders of the many innkeepers and numerous travelers, the rooms, meals, and personal services available in Aylmer in the 1880's.



CATFISH

AVANCE  
772-8414



**CATTISH CREEK**  
*Cottages*

ATLAGE  
773-8424



**CATFISH CREEK**  
*Tap and Grill*

**AHERTON'S**  
*Cafe*

*Mister* **NATURAL**

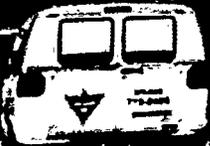
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**CATTISH CREEK**  
*Food & Drink*

**ATHERTON'S**

*M... & NATURAL*





CATFISH CREEK

CATFISH CREEK

ATHERTON'S

MILK TEAL

BELL'S



CATFISH CREEK

CATFISH CREEK

ATHERTON'S

MULTI-TAL

CLUB

DOLLAR STORE

