MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

# HERITAGE DESIGNATION

## Address: 98-106 Walton Street

**Known as**: Knowlson Block

**Architectural Style:** Walton Street Heritage District

**Date Built:** Circa 1854

**Date Designated:** April 11, 1988 to By-Law No. 39/88, SCHEDULE B-1

**Lot Description:** PLAN 14 PT LOT 1



## Architectural Description

This magnificent block at the intersection of Cavan Street is a pilastered design of great simplicity and strength, with an ornamental brick cornice to the parapet disguising the shed roof and the traditional rounded corner echoing the building opposite. The centre unit is three bays wide, all with original sash, cast iron lintels and sills in the upper storeys facing Walton Street. The Cavan Street side shows considerable alteration to enlarge windows. All shop fronts and entrances to upper floors have been altered although part of an old shop front cornice survives in the two easternmost units. The windows are double hung sash type with panes occurring in the six-over-six pattern. The roof top cornice is formed by a row of stretchers, a row of dogtoothing, several courses of stretchers and then a course of dentilling. The section of the wooden shop front cornice that remains is formed with dentil-like projections and 'birdhouses" marking the different shop front party walls.

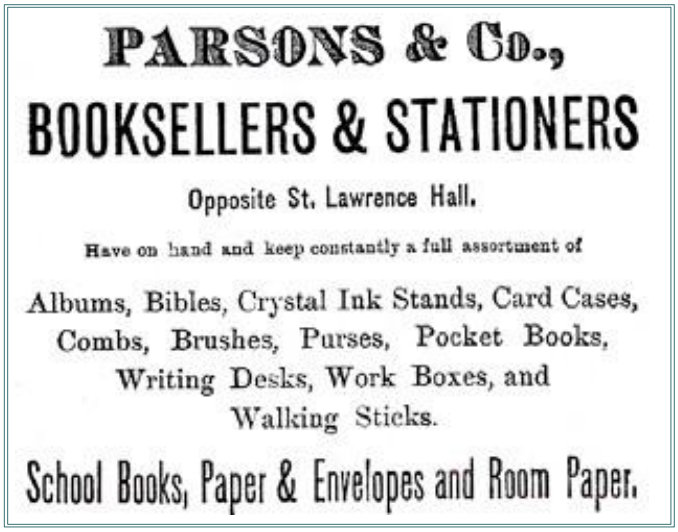
## Historical Abstract

Distillers Job and Erasmus Fowke sold this land to a team of investors; Dalrymple from London, England, Dalrymple from New York, and Hall, of Montreal, in 1853. Dalrymple, Dalrymple and Hall sold the property to John Knowlson in 1854. In 1850, there was a devastating fire that destroyed all of the buildings from the Brogdin Block east of Ontario Street to Cavan Street. John Knowlson built a new block circa 1854.

John Knowlson was born in England in 1803 and began his residency in Port Hope in 1844. He was a Captain in the local militia in 1847. In 1883, Knowlson left this block to his grandchildren. In 1911, Knowlson's grandchildren, Jane and John Maclagan, sold the entire block to George A. Outram, a hardware merchant. In October of that year, Outram sold the westernmost section to Charles Hutchings, a butcher; the easternmost section to Frederick Pedlar, a barber and retained the centre portion of the block for his hardware store, Outram's Hardware.

After his death, the shop was sold to Delbert Smith and then went through several different owners until in 1943 he sold his shop to Lowe, Culver, and LaBrash who continued business under the name of Durham Hardware and Electric. J. H. Thompson purchased the store in 1951 (residing at 53 King at this time). Robert Jeffery purchased the property in 1965, and ran a hardware shop under the name of Crest Hardware. Jeffery sold his section to a group of investors in 1972.

## Histroical Directory Ad






**Architectural Detail**

Similar to the Quinlan Building to the east, the block has broad recessed panels and pilaster design with an ornamental brick cornice to the parapet and rounded corner. The block has original sash, cast iron lintels and sills in the upper storeys. The Cavan Street side has been altered to enlarge windows.