MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

# HERITAGE DESIGNATION

## Address: 130-132 Walton Street

**Known as**: Perks Terrace

**Architectural Style:** Walton Street Heritage District - Classic Revival

**Date Built:** Circa 1854

**Date Designated:** October 6, 1997 to By-Law No. 44/97

**Lot Description:** PLAN STEWART PT LOT 56



## Architectural Description

This three storey, four bay commercial type block of the transitional type with plain pilasters and frieze outlining the two units is faced in a very smooth texture, sand-struck, orange-red brick of a type reported to have been imported from Oswego, New York, across Lake Ontario.

The ends are a common local brick, the rear neatly recovered in modern synthetic siding, possibly to mask a deteriorating rear wall. The building has a low-slope shed roof. Many of the front and rear windows have the original six-over-six sash. Lintels and sills are stone to the front, most likely Cleveland sandstone from the colour, and brought to Port Hope by lake transport.

Both entrances, however, have been changed; the east one blocked completely, the west one retaining a transom bar but with a modern door. The boxed front overhang to the roof, possibly an extension of the roof, itself may have replaced an earlier cornice or a continuation of the decorative brick frontal parapet.

The rear yard, now largely a parking area is entered from a narrow back lane. Brown Drive, off Brown Street and running parallel to Walton.

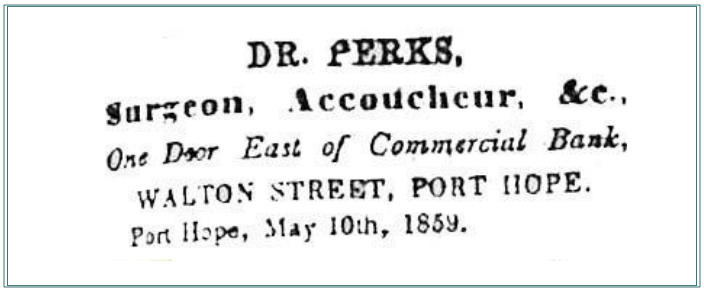
## Historical Abstract

In 1826, Allan Wood sold one-eighth of an acre of his parcel of land to Jonathan Sexton. The next financial transaction on this property was in 1848 when Hiram Cooper, Port Hope hatter, sold the eighth part of an acre to Kingston merchant, Mark Anthony Orme. The sum involved in the transaction at that date indicates that a building was most likely involved in the transfer, and on the Wall and Forrest map of Port Hope in 1853 a building belonging to Orme is clearly shown to the west of Furby's (128 Walton Street). It differs from the present building on the site for it is set further back from the street and is not connected to the Metcalfe Block (134-136 Walton Street). In 1854, Orme and his wife, Esther, sold the land and premises to George Perks, Port Hope medical doctor and surgeon.

George Perks erected this three-storey block sometime between 1854 and 1859, for in the latter year an advertisement in the August 27th Weekly Guide announces that the surgeon, Dr. Perks, has an office one door east of the Commercial Bank, which was in the Metcalfe Terrace (134-136 Walton Street). The building was used as a doctor's office by Dr. Perks, as well as Dr. Jack Clemesha, who had an office in the western half of the Perks block (Dr. Clemesha would later reside at Seaton Hall, 142 Walton Street).

Dr. Perks was born in England in 1820 and came to Port Hope in the early 1850's establishing a medical practice on Walton Street. Dr. Perks was considered a successful physician and skilful surgeon who tragically died in 1871 after falling from the loft in his stable and being injured by his horse. The building remained in the Perks family until 1921 when Dr. Perks' widow, Isabella J. Perks, sold the premises to Lawrence Lockhart.

## Historical Newspaper Ad



DR. PERKS,
Surgeon, Accoucheur, &c.,
One Door East of Commercial Bank,
WALTON STREET, PORT HOPE.
Port Hope, May 10th, 1859.

This advertisement that appeared in the paper in May 1859 informs the public that Dr. Perks office is located in the building one door east of the Commercial Bank which was located in Metcalfe Terrace during this period (134-136 Walton Street).




### Architectural Detail

Perks Terrace is a three storey, four bay commercial type block of the transitional type with plain pilasters and frieze outlining the two units.