MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE

# HERITAGE DESIGNATION

## Address: 81 Walton Street

**Known as**: Queen's Hotel

**Architectural Style:** Walton Street Heritage District

**Date Built:** Circa 1870

**Date Designated:** November 3, 1980 to By-Law No. 41/80, SCHEDULE B-1

**Lot Description:** PT 54 TO 55



## Architectural Description

The Walton Hotel formerly known as the Queen's Hotel was built in 1870. A storey was added in 1876 and in 1907, a storey was also added on the south end of the building. As it stands today, the Walton Hotel is a three storey brick building on the southeast corner of the intersection of John and Walton Streets. The Walton Street facade is divided in three sections by brick pilasters that carry through the ornamental brick cornice. The narrower central panel contains parted round-headed windows on the third floor surmounted by an ornamental name panel. Below is a round-headed window. Both side panels are identical on the second and third floors contain paired windows with segmental heads and two-tier brick labels. The upper windows have individual sills whereas the second-floor ones share a continuous sill.

At the ground floor level, the facade has been altered over the years. The east section now contains two large plate glass windows. The larger west section consists of a recessed alcove with four arches supported by five rounded posts resting on square pedestals. On the John St. side, the top two floors contain 12 windows each with segmental heads and brick labels of the same type found on the Walton Street facade. The windows on the ground floor have round arched heads with brick keystones. The fourth one from Walton Street is a smaller size. A large rectangular glass block window has replaced a former window at the John Street corner. The first door from Walton Street has a bracketed hood. All upper floor windows on the Walton Street and John Street facades are two-over-two double hung. An intricate brick cornice extends along the Walton Street facade as well as along John Street. The Walton Street corner of the building is rounded. A turn of the century photograph shows the building unpainted with all window heads of lighter coloured brick. Those window heads are presently enhanced by dark paint contrasting with the lighter colour chosen for the walls

## Historical Abstract

Before the Queen's Hotel was erected circa 1870, many other hospitality establishments occupied this site. In the early 1800's, Jacob Choate ran an inn at this location. With the advent of the stagecoach, coaches made a stop at the inn. After incorporation of the Town in 1834, the Exchange Coffee House, later known as Thomson's Hotel, was the Board of Police's chosen site to meet. Durham House run by John Hetherington in the late 1850's, formerly known as Rowland's Hotel, withstood the 1849-50 fires that burned many of the buildings on Port Hope's main street, but was finally destroyed by fire in March 7, 1859.

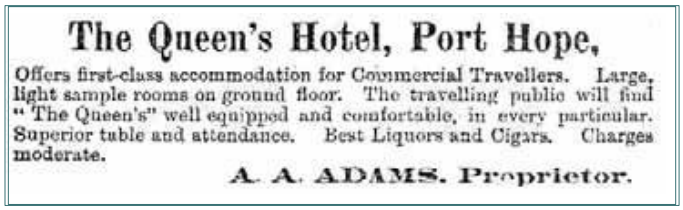
A series of property transactions led to James Cochrane purchasing the property in 1870. James Cochrane (1815-1900) was born in County Down, Ireland in 1815. He came to Canada in 1841, and settled in Port Hope. In the 1860's, he was a saloon and hotelkeeper. Additionally, it is thought that in the later 1870's, James Cochrane also moved the building now located at 27 John Street from a lot on Augusta Street south of John Street within close proximity of the railroad tracks to a site on the southwest corner of Augusta Street.

In 1870, James Cochrane built the Queen's Hotel initially only two storeys in height. Five years later in 1876, the third storey was added. James Cochrane took out a mortgage on the

block in 1880 and because he defaulted on payments, Canada Permanent Savings and Loan Company took possession. In 1889, the Loan Company sold the block to Mary Adams, wife of Allen A. Adams. Mr. Adams had been the proprietor of the Queen's Hotel since 1878. In 1901, Mary Adams sold the block to Lewis Bennett who added a storey to the south end in 1907.

Similar to the St. Lawrence Hotel (87-97 Walton Street), the block combined accommodation on the upper floors and retail space on the lower floor. In 1880, C.F. Randall's hardware and furniture store was "under" the Queen's Hotel. Kells and Hills clothing store was located in the block in 1876. S. Williams and Company ran a tailoring shop in the upper floors of the block in 1880. Hugh Ross ran a staple and fancy dry goods store at this location in 1881. In 1883, Lelean and Williams occupied Williams' old stand (S. Williams space). In 1899, George Hansman ran the Central Boot and Shoe Store in the Queen's Hotel Block.S. Williams and Company ran a tailoring shop in the upper floors of the block in 1880. Hugh Ross ran a staple and fancy dry goods store at this location in 1881. In 1883, Lelean and Williams occupied Williams' old stand (S. Williams space). In 1899, George Hansman ran the Central Boot and Shoe Store in the Queen's Hotel Block.

**Historical Directory Ad**



The Queen's Hotel, Port Hope,

Offers first-class accommodation for Commercial Travellers. Large, light sample rooms on ground floor. The travelling public will find "The Queen's" well equipped and comfortable, in every particular. Superior table and attendance. Best Liquors and Cigars. Charges moderate.

A. A. ADAMS, Proprietor.



**Architectural Detail**

View of the Quinlan Block (78-92 Walton Street) through the arches of the Queen's (Walton) Hotel.




The Queen's Hotel and neighbouring blocks as it appeared at the turn of the century from Port Hope: A Brief History published by bookseller, W. Williamson.

