

# Recommendation To Designate 54 King Street East, Hamilton

April 25, 2025 Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee

Maryssa Barras, Cultural Heritage Planning Technician

Planning and Economic Development Planning Division, Heritage and Urban Design

PED25102

# Background

#### 1980s

First surveyed

#### 2013

Addition to Municipal Heritage Register

#### 2013

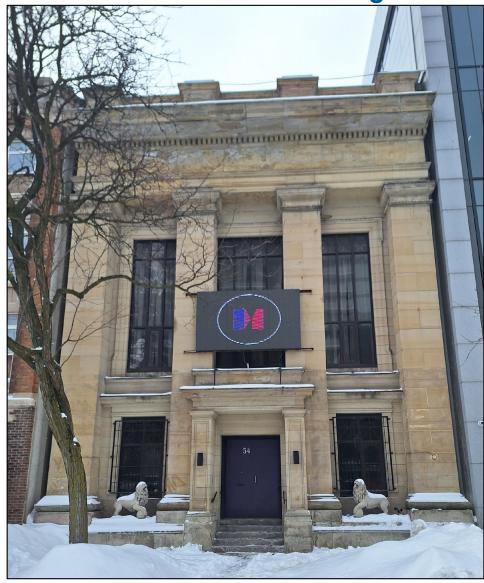
Preliminary heritage evaluation prepared

#### 2022

Identified as a high priority for review for designation

#### 2024

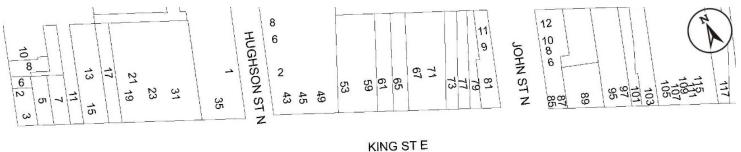
Outreach for consultation and feedback on draft heritage evaluations from 2SLGBTQ+ communities

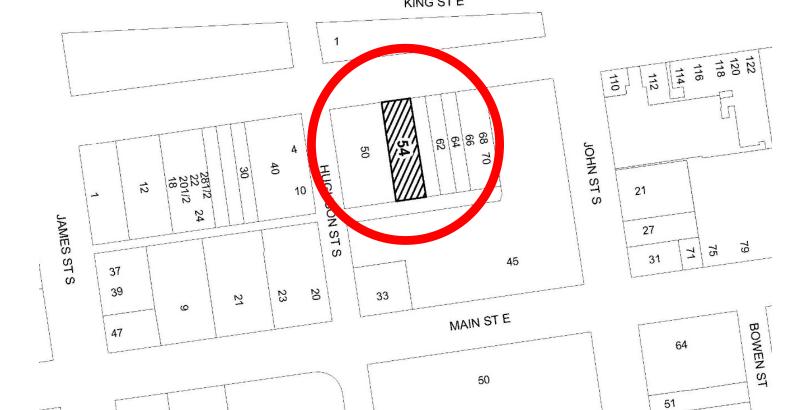




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#### 54 King Street

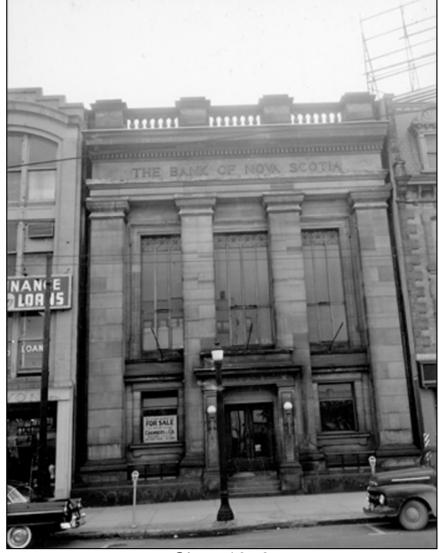






Planning and Economic Development Planning Division, Heritage and Urban Design

# Recommendation for Designation Under Part IV of the OHA



Circa 1950

Planning and Economic Development Planning Division, Heritage and Urban Design

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#### 54 King Street East

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria (8 of 9)

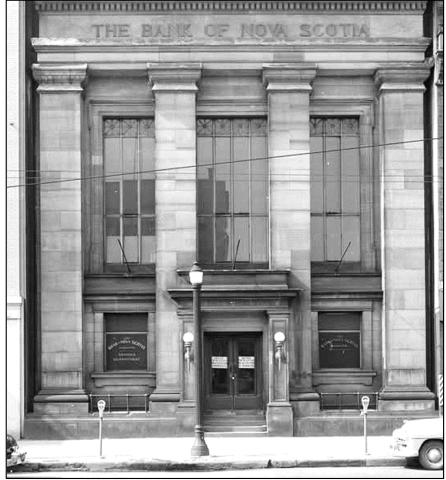
- Design / Physical (Criteria #1, #2)
- Historical / Associative (Criteria #4, #5, #6)
- Contextual (Criteria #7, #8, #9)



# Heritage Evaluation Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

### Design / Physical Value

- 1. The property is a **representative example** of a commercial bank building designed in the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style.
- 2. The property displays a high degree of artistic merit.
- 3. The property is not considered to demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.



Circa 1950



Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

# solutely fire-proof. The front is of Ohio canyon stone and is the first

#### Hamilton Spectator, November 3, 1914

6

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#### IN NEW QUARTERS

#### Bank of Nova Scotia Now Occupies Fine Building

The Bank of Nova Scotla, which for many years past has been located in the W. E. Sanford building at the corner of John and King streat, moved to its new quarters at 54-56 King street east this morning, and when a few finishing touches have been made, the bank will have one of the handsomest places of business of its kind in the province. When the bank purchaséd the site, the building which was then there was removed and a new one of modern de-

#### solutely fire-proof. The front is of Ohio canyon stone and is the first of the kind to be used in the first

The interior of the building is finished in terra cotta and ornamented with (Grecian designs. The customers' and clerks' tables are of terra cotta with French inarble tops and bronze trimmings. The floor of the customers' room is of mosaic marble and the clerks' department of cork and is consequently noiseless. The other finishings of the interior are of mahograny and the whole makes a vory pleasing appearance.

the manager's room and this is handsomely fitted and finished in mahogany and to the left is a parlor which has been fitted with all that would make for the comfort and convenience of the ladies who patronize the bank. In the basement are the lunch, cloke and wash rooms and all of these are fitted in keeping with the remainder of the bank. The structure is about one hundred teet in length by forty in width and tairty-two in height and the lighting is accomplished by means of long windows in the front and back and from skylights in the roof, the latter also serving as ventilators. One of the features of the furnishing of the

also serving as ventilators. One of the features of the furnishing of the bank is the vault, which in all ways is most modern. It is made by the Reemigton and Sherman Company, of Philadelphia, Pa., and is burglarproof. Within this is encased a second vault which is also burglarproof. Within this is encased a second vault which is also burglarproof. The new banking quarters were opened for business to-day and F. W. Ross, the manager, and his staff were busy putting things in shape. The amalgamation of the bank with the Metropolitan bank has been set back until November 16, when it is expocted that an announcement will be made as regards the operation of the combined banks in the city.





#### Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria





#### Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



February 2025

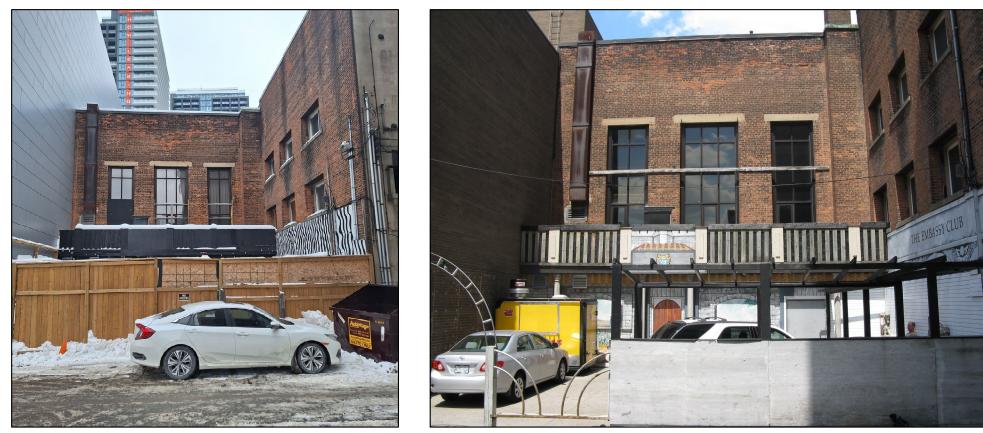


Circa 1950





Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



2025

2012



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#### Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

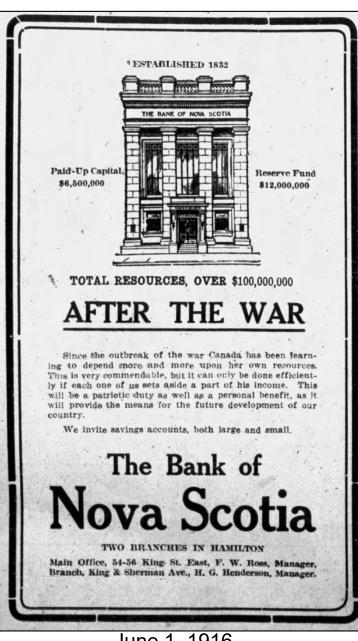
### Historical / Associative Value

- 4. The property has historical value for its direct associations with the banking industry and 2SLGBTQ+ communities in Hamilton.
- 5. The property **yields information** that contributes to an understanding of Hamilton's **early twentieth-century downtown communities and 2SLGBTQ+ communities.**
- 6. The property **demonstrates and reflects the work and ideas** of the nationally prominent firm **Bond & Smith architects.**









June 1, 1916

Iamilton

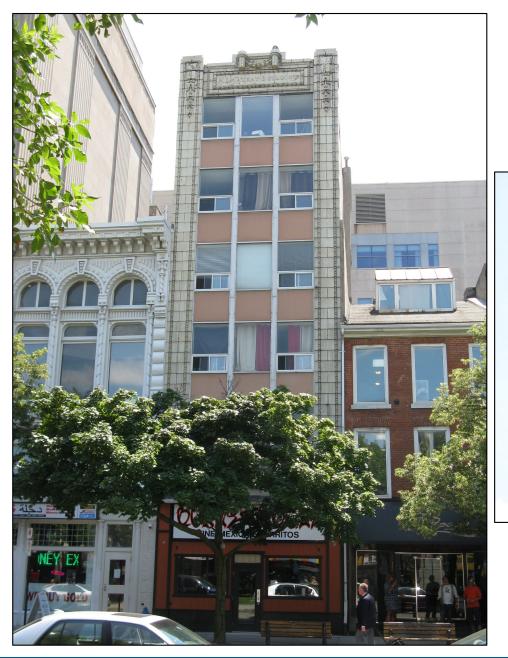
# Heritage Evaluation

#### Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



#### August 6, 1910





# Heritage Evaluation Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



MacKay Building, 66 King Street East

#### Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria





Circa 1980s/90s



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Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



2012



#### Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

#### **Police seek** witnesses to 'hate-motivated' assaults

#### **BY RACHEL DE LAZZER**

Two unprovoked, "hate-motivated" attacks against gay men on the weekend have left one man with potentially serious head injuries.

Both men, in their early 20s, told police they were attacked after leaving Hamilton's Embassy Night Club, a predominantly gay venue on King Street East near Hughson Street South early Sunday morning.

One man was walking north along John Street with three women when three men, also in their early 20s, approached them around 3 a.m.

"The three males directed anti-gay slurs toward the male and assaulted him," said Acting Detective Sergeant Chris Kiriakopoulos. The victim was then punched and kicked in the head and upper body area even after he had fallen to the ground.

A half hour later, a second gay man walking with two men and a woman in the same location was similarly assaulted, verbally and physically, by three men who police believe may be those responsible for the first attack.

The victims were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital by ambulance and released the same day, but the first victim returned Monday night for further treatment because his head injuries may be more severe than first thought.

"We're concerned obviously because of the motivation. Clearly it appears to be anti-gay," said Kiriakopoulos. "Also the severity of the attack, unprovoked."

Kiriakopoulos said the men could not identify anything that would single them out as gay other than the fact that they had been in the Embassy and the attackers may have seen them there. "It's believed that they (the accused) were seen in the Embassy Club also, prior to the assaults," said Kiriakopoulos.

An assault qualifies as a hate crime when it's a criminal offence against a person or property that is motivated to some degree by bias or prejudice based on that person's race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability group, age or gender.

Charges for a hate crime assault are no different from a regular assault except that in the case of a conviction. police will appeal to the court to increase the penalty because of the hate motivation, said Kiriakopoulos.

Two of the suspects are described as white and a third had a darker complexion. Anyone who may have witnessed the two assaults is asked to call the Victims of Crime Unit at 905-546-4962 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

rdelazzer@thespec.com 005-526-3404

December 12, 2007

#### Marchers condemn recent hate attacks

#### BY DANA BROWN

They were loud, proud and ready to take back the streets.,

On Saturday, Hamilton's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community held a rally and march downtown to condemn two recent hate-motivated attacks

The attacks were on two men who, at separate times, left Embassy Night Club with friends in the early morning hours of Dec. o.

The club is frequented by members of Hamilton's GLBT community. The first victim, a 23-year-old man, was punched and kicked in the head and upper body and subjected to anti-

gay slurs. About an hour later another man was physically and verbally assaulted in a similar way. Two men have been charged in con-

nection with the incidents. The march began at Skydragon Cen-

tre on King William and wove its way up to Main before coming back down to the Embassy on King Street East. "We will not live our lives in fear." rally organizer Jamie Blair told a crowd

outside the Embassy. "We are fearless ... Never has one word meant so much."

About 35 people carried signs reading No more hate only love and Our security lies in the fight for the rights of all, and intermittently chanting "Hey, hey, ho, ho, homophobia's got to go." When the crowd reached the night-



The head of Hamilton's hate crime unit told the GLBT community to stand together and not be afraid.

club, speakers addressed the crowd, including a friend of one of the victims. Emily Groom, 24, read a statement prepared by friends of the victims.

who were not at the rally themselves. "Based on this experience we affirm that the right of individuals to their own lifestyle, sexual orientation and gender affiliation is a matter of basic

human rights," the statement says. The speech also noted that one of the men who was attacked was not a member of the GLBT community.

LASER VISION CORRECTION

"So, as long as such basic rights are

not guaranteed for everybody, then they are guaranteed for no one," the statement continued

It also said society has failed to educate its members and this has led to hate crimes that "undermine and injure the well-being of whole communities." Representatives from CUPE Local

3906, the LGBTQ Community Wellness Centre of Hamilton and the GLBT advisory committee for Hamilton, among others, were on hand to show their support.

Classified 905-527-5555

THE HAMILTON OPPTITUDE

Advertise in the

get FAST CASH!

"These attacks that occurred are the

extreme acts of homophobia that occur every day," Natalie Lazier told the crowd. Lazier is the chair of the community relations and fundraising committee for the wellness centre.

Acting Detective Sergeant Chris Kiriakopoulos, head of Hamilton's hate crime unit, told the crowd he was "appalled as a citizen of this city to hear that type of hatred" was exercised the way it was.

TED BRELLISFORD, THE HAMILTON SPECTAT

Kiriakopoulos told the community to stand together and not be afraid; the Hamilton Police Service is with them.

In Hamilton last year, there were 61 hate-motivated incidents reported to police, although only 19 qualified as hate crimes. Of those initial 61 complaints, 13 had to do with sexual orientation, including four assaults.

dbrown@thespec.com 905-526-4629





Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria

#### Contextual Value

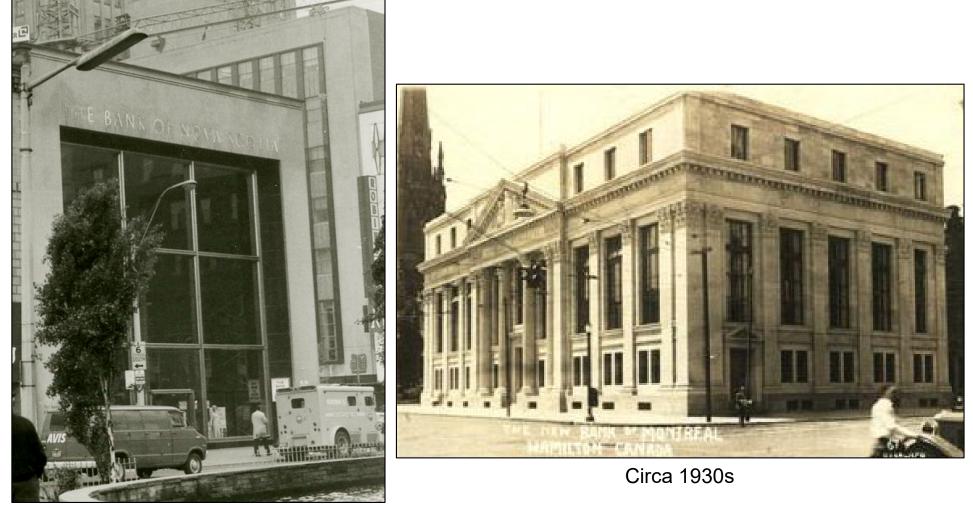
- 7. The property is important in **defining** the character of the area.
- 8. The property is visually, historically and physically linked to its surroundings.
- 9. The property is considered to be **a local landmark**.



Circa 1970s



# Heritage Evaluation Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



Circa 1960s

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Ontario Regulation 9/06 Criteria



Still of 54 King Street East from the Umbrella Academy Netflix TV show



Planning and Economic Development Planning Division, Heritage and Urban Design

# Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest (Summary)

The property at 54 King Street East is comprised of a three storey high commercial bank building constructed in 1914, with design value as **a representative example of Beaux-Arts Classicism Bank** and demonstrates **a high degree of artistic merit**.

The property has **historical and associative value** for its association with Hamilton's banking industry, 2SLGBTQ+ communities, has the **potential to yield information** about Hamilton's 2SLGBTQ+ and early twentieth century downtown communities, and **is demonstrative of the work** of Bond & Smith architects.

The property is important in **defining** the character of the area, is **historically**, **physically**, **and visually linked to its surroundings**, and is a **landmark**.





# Description of Heritage Attributes (Summary)

The key attributes that embody the physical value of the property as a representative example of a commercial bank building designed in the Beaux-Arts Classicism architectural style and is associated with earlynineteenth century banking institutions, late-twentieth century 2SLGBTQ+ communities and events, and Bond & Smith architects and which display a high degree of artistic merit includes:

- The front (north) elevation and roofline of the three-storey building, including its:
  - Symmetrical façade clad with Ohio Canyon cut stone with;
    - $\circ$  an even-course finish, and;
    - carved decorative details;
  - Flat-headed window openings and multi-pane metal windows; and
  - Recessed central entrance.

#### Key attributes that embody the contextual value of the property include its:

• Location fronting onto King Street East.



# **Staff Recommendation**

That the City Clerk be directed to give **notice of Council's intention to designate 54 King Street East, Hamilton**, shown in Appendix "A" attached to Report PED25102, as a property of cultural heritage value pursuant to the provisions of Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, in accordance with the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and Description of Heritage Attributes, attached as Appendix "B" to Report PED25102, subject to the following:

- (a) If no objections are received to the notice of intention to designate in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to introduce the necessary by-law to designate the property to be of cultural heritage value or interest to City Council;
- (a) If an objection to the notice of intention to designate is received in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, City Council directs staff to report back to Planning Committee to allow Council to consider the objection and decide whether or not to withdraw the notice of intention to designate the property.





# **QUESTIONS?**



# THANK YOU