

Dear Planning and Environment Committee,

I'm very pleased to hear that 197 & 183 Ann Street have been put forward for designation. I fully support this designation on both historical and contextual grounds. The Kent brewery is an integral element to both the history and culture of brewing in London Ontario. The fact that Kent Brewery continued to produce and sell porter in a market that also supported lager is truly astounding. Overseas, for example, the emergence of bottom-fermenting yeast, or lager, ushered in a new era of beer production and consumption. Palates of beer drinkers quickly changed and producers of porter and stout were driven out of business. London Ontario, however, was able to deviate from the norm. Here, both porter and lager existed in relative harmony. While palates undoubtedly changed, Kent was still able to successfully produce and sell a porter, a feat unquestionably significant given the demise of porter in its native birthplace.

I hope this brief summary will help inform discussions.

All the best,

Evan Wiley

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