LOCATION MAP, PHOTOGRAPHS AND BACKGROUND: ATTACHMENT NO. 2A 650 QUEEN STREET EAST



The **arrow** marks the location of 650 Queen Street East. This location map is for information purposes only and is oriented with North at the top. The exact boundaries of the property are <u>not</u> shown.



Showing the south and west elevations of 650 Queen Street East, 1906-7, the 1949-1950 stair case and single storey addition below the 2008 two-storey addition (*HPS*, 2015)



Drawing for the Queen St. Elevation for a Proposed Hotel, N E Corner Queen & Carroll Streets, Toronto for Mr. S. D. Ramey, 1906 (City of Toronto, Building Records)



<u>Don-Queen Bridge, November 21, 1910</u>: showing at right the ground and second floor of the Edwin Hotel,
650 Queen Street East, with the rusticated base and a stone pier with a decorative brick panel at the second floor as per the drawing above (*City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1231, Item 10024*)

Inclusion on the Heritage Register - 650, 666, 668, 670, 682-688 Queen Street East - Attachment 2A



650 Queen Street East, showing the original hotel with changes to the ground floor at left, the 1949-50 staircase and canopy at right (*HPS*, 2006)



650 Queen Street East showing the 1906-7 hotel and 1949-50 stair case and single storey additions prior to later additions (*HPS*, 2006)



Showing the south and west elevations, 650 Queen Street East, before the 2008 addition and rehabilitation. Note especially the ground floor openings (*HPS*, 2006)



Showing the south elevation of 650 Queen Street East with the 2008 addition and the canopy (HPS, 2012)

650 Queen Street East: Background

Located at the north-east corner of Queen Street East and Carroll Street, the Edwin Hotel (1906-7) is a three-storey hotel building with a stucco-clad ground floor and yellow brick-clad upper stories capped with an overhanging shallow-pitched hipped roof. Mr. S. D. Ramey, constructed the hotel for passengers arriving at the Don Railway Station across the Queen Street Bridge.¹

The hotel was designed by the architect James Patrick Hynes (1868-1906) in 1906² in an Ecole des Beaux Arts Italian Palazzo style. The style is evident in the originally rusticated base, with stone piers framing the ground floor openings and the double-storey arcade of the upper levels. The arched windows, decorative panels framed in moulded brick and the stone trim of the string courses and sills and headers are further elements of the style.

The architect, Hynes, operated as a sole practitioner primarily in Toronto from approximately 1894-1914 when he went into partnership as Hynes, Feldman Watson. The work produced during his 40 year career included a wide building typology of houses, schools, hotels, apartments, churches and several large additions to St. Michael's hospital (1904, 1919, 1925, 1926) as well as St. Ann's School (1895) in Riverdale on Bolton Avenue.

In 1949 a building permit application³ was submitted by Max Worth, the then current owner, to extend the hotel eastwards along Queen Street East with a new three-storey stair hall and a single-storey extension. The style of the extensions was Style Moderne, a later, more streamlined version of the Art Deco style, combining the yellow brick of the original building with characteristic linear cast-stone reliefs and glass block as well as projecting curvilinear canopies over the entrances.

In 2008, architects Levitt-Goodman, submitted a building permit application on behalf of the property owner, Wood Green Community Housing. The application included a twostorey addition on top of the 1949-50 single storey as well as the conversion of the hotel, which had by then become a rooming house, to provide a total of twenty-eight dwelling units of affordable/alternative housing. The addition at the second and third levels was completed in a contrasting brown brick. The 1949-50 canopies appear to be contained within new metal cladding. The conversion sensitively restored the original pattern of openings to the ground floor elevations of the 1906-7 hotel facing Queen and Carroll Streets.

¹ Whyte, p 69.

² Biographical Dictionary of Architects, James Patrick Hynes, Building Permit no. 6122, 14 December 1906.

³ Building Permit 2924, 19 July, 1949.