

Dick House

Location: 117 Main St. South, Seaforth, Ontario
Year built: 1873

THE BRICK HOTEL, now familiarly known as The Dick House, was built in 1873 by John Bowden. But, it was J.H. McCallum who opened for business later that year. As the owners changed so did the name of the hotel – McCallum’s, Hawkshaw House and Kling’s Hotel, and The Dick House. James Dick and his son, Arthur, were the last to do business there as a hotel. Lenna Dick, Arthur’s wife, used the building as a boardinghouse. In 1986, the old hotel was renovated into apartments.



The Hawkshaw House. An earlier photograph, in the 1900 *A Souvenir of Seaforth*, shows a sign for “Kling’s Hotel” above the centre door. Frank Kling died in 1913 of typhoid — water from a next door well was blamed.

It is a handsome two-storey solid brick structure with a hipped roof. It was originally white brick, but appears to have been painted red when it was The Dick House (*as in the photo below*). The slightly arched segmented labels above the doors and windows are accented in white. The six-bay Georgian-style building had three entrances, dividing it into two halves. Note the six-over-six sash windows in the above photograph.



The white brick is now painted red and the lower storey windows are more recent. The striped awnings help set off the upper storey.
