Willistead Manor, the home of Edward Chandler Walker and Mary Griffin Walker, was completed in 1906. It was also the show place of the Hiram Walker & Sons Company. In 1925, the manor became property of the Town of Walkerville, and was used as a public library and the first home of the Art Gallery. There are many memories and stories to be told... we hope your visit here will make more memories.

Thank you for joining us. Happy 125th, Windsor!
The Great Hall
Decorated by Jacquelyn Capaldi, Donna Oldnall, Samantha Capaldi, Mitchell Capaldi, John Oldnall, Blake Oldnall, Mary Vasyliw, Zilda McKelvie and Claudia McArthur

“NESTLED BY THE FIRE”. Let the cozy fire invite you into the Great Hall, where the birds lay at rest amongst bejewelled fruits and branches emblazoned by the setting sun on a tame winter’s day.

The Dining Room
Decorated by Robert Gauthier - Interior Designer; with Nora Franko, Kristina Palazzi and Sebastian Palazzi

“DAZZLING HOLIDAY DINING”. A dazzling array of green and gold ornaments to enhance the holiday dining experience, abundant with peacock accessories.

The Butler’s Pantry
Decorated by Becky Schwery, Sharon Bellaire, Connie Pitman and Jenny Fitzpatrick

“VILLAGE CAROLLERS”. Voices raised in Christmas song as the carollers stroll through the village.

The Conservatory
Not decorated for 2017

A roomful of windows is beautiful anytime of the year, and we look forward to the holiday display here each December. However, this year, all those windows are getting some tender love and care as part of the Canada 150 Restoration Project. Check back in 2018 to see this room all dressed up.

The Withdrawing Room
Decorated by the Dettinger Family - Jessica, Vince, Nick, Mary Jane & Carl, with Micaela Cox

“WHITE SPARKLING CHRISTMAS MORNING”. Shimmer of white and gold ornaments, flowers, branches, nests and bird houses enhance the beauty of Mary Walker’s Withdrawing Room.

From the Friends of Willistead and the City of Windsor...
a very special Thank You to Janet Easton, Sheryl Elliott, Stan Winters, and all the holiday decorating volunteers; and to Kathie Renaud... for co-ordinating the holiday magic in the manor.
The Morning Room
Decorated by Gail Drouillard, Cheryl McKeown, Ruth Reddam and Val Tabler
“LIGHT UP THE SEASON”. Upon entering the Morning Room you will find yourself greeted by garlands of greenery interlaced with shimmering lights and turquoise bows. The colour scheme continues as your eyes travel throughout the room. Clusters of sparkling fruit cascade from the wall sconces making this a wonderful room for entertaining.

The Billiard Room
Decorated by Grace LaSorda, Marina Simone, Colleen A. Gaudette, Lori Rauscher, and Gina and Violet Robinson
“SILVER BELLS”. Silver bells and silver decor enhance the masculinity of this room - the bright accents make us wish we could hear the bells ringing.

The Library
Decorated by Stephanie Harrington O’Neill - O’Neill Harrington Interiors, and Peggy O’Neill - Peggy’s In Your Garden
“THE LOVELY LIBRARY LOUNGE”. Happy Holidays. Please enjoy the warmth and richness of a velvety green and whiskey infused spirit of Christmas - Cheers!

Staircase, Landing and Upper Hall
Decorated by Flowers by Phil Sadi Florists & Family
“STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN”. You cannot help but be impressed by the English-inspired staircase that leads your eye up to the landing’s leaded glass window and up, up, up... But all of this is greatly enhanced with the greenery and lush decor that has been placed to help lead you to the second storey. Stop and look back... WOW!

St. Mary’s Academy Hall Cabinet
Decorated by Brenda Clayton and Diana Curran
Each section shows us a different aspect of Christmas - from the shepherds and their sheep to a family living room.

Mrs. Walker’s Dressing Room
Decorated by Bonnie Graham, Anne-Marie Laino and Sherry Lee Domino
“PRETTY IN PINK”. So lady-like and feminine as it should be! Mary would be able to muse on the days’ events and appreciate the florals among her personal apparel.
The Master Bedroom
Decorated by Carol Anne Winters and Bess Zivanovich
“A QUIET RETREAT”. A quiet retreat for Edward and Mary at days end. The fire burning brightly in shades of orange and gold would warm them. Christmas was coming! The mantle is finely decorated with lights and gold branches. A garniture is centre of attention reflecting in the antique mirror. The wall sconces are decorated with the same theme that is displayed on pillars below - gold branches and burgundy orchids. This room highlights the elegance that the Walker’s enjoyed.

Saltmarche Gallery
(North and East Galleries)
Decorated by Colleen Gaudette, Jeanne Brennan, Louise Brown, Alexia Lanoue, Mark Ronning, Cathy Chambers, Andalieb Abu-Zahra, Jaclyn Boots and Danielle Gaudette
“A CHRISTMAS ROMANCE” - Saltmarche Gallery - North Gallery
“HOLLY DAY” - East Gallery

The Coach House
Not decorated for 2017
While we look forward to hosting our ‘Cider in the Coach House’ crafters and refreshments every holiday season, this year we needed to make room for the dedicated craftsmen and restoration workers on site giving Willitead Manor some much deserved attention as part of the Canada 150 Restoration Project. Our Coach House operation will be back in full swing in 2018!

Thank you for joining us
Please share your photos and experience with us at willistead@citywindsor.ca

Visit us again
Private group tours are available for groups of 25 or more. Please contact us directly for details and bookings. Special events, public tours and activities are scheduled throughout the year please visit willistead.ca. Consider joining The Friends of Willistead - a volunteer community group dedicated to enriching the offerings at Willistead Manor, through events, tours and activities throughout the year.

Plan your next special occasion at the manor
Willistead Manor is the perfect location for weddings, receptions, celebrations, seminars, meetings, special events, photos, and more. Please contact us today to book your upcoming special occasion.