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300 Dufferin Avenue P.O. Box 5035 London, ON N6A 4L9

C ITARIO HERITAGE FOUNDATION

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SEP 0 8 2005

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CANADA

REGISTERED

September 7, 2005



Ontario Heritage Foundation 10 Adelaide Street East Toronto ON M5C 1J3

DESIGNATION OF 224-226 RICHMOND STREET RE:

THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, C. O.18

Enclosed for your information is notice of the Council of The Corporation of the City of London's intention to designate the property identified above pursuant to Section 29(3) of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18.

Kevin Bain City Clerk

/cm

CC:

Chris Nelson, Heritage Planner, Room 603 D. Menard, Heritage Planner, Room 603

The Corporation of the City of London Office: 519-661-2500 ext. 4939 Fax: 519-661-4892 cmaxwell@london.ca www.london.ca





ONTARIO HERITAGE FOUNDAT CY
SEP 0 6 2005

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August 30, 2005

Ontario Heritage Foundation 10 Adelaide Street East Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its session held on August 29, 2005 resolved:

8. That, on the recommendation of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage, notice of the Municipal Council's intention to designate the property located at 224-226 Richmond Street to be of historical, contextual and architectural value or interest **BE GIVEN** for the <u>attached</u> reasons under the provisions of subsection 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18*; it being pointed out that the owner of the subject property, has concurred in the above recommendation on the understanding that the land to be included in the designation will be as shown on the assessment roll. (8/21/PC)

Kevin Bain City Clerk /hw

cc:

- C. Nelson, Heritage Planner
- D. Menard, Heritage Planner
- R. Verhoeven, Documentation Services Representative
- C. Maxwell, Documentation Services Representative

Chair and Members, London Advisory Committee on Heritage

Fax: 519-661-4892 www. london.ca

224-226 Richmond Street: Reasons for Designation

224-226 Richmond, architecturally, is important as an example of an 1880's semi-detached residence stressing simplicity and functionality. It recognizes, through its occupants, the relationship of this type of residence to the central business district of the city and the work force. The Agnos family's association with this building and its neighbouring buildings illustrates, also, the emergence of the Greek ethnic community and its contributions to the fabric of London's society and culture.

Historical Reasons

Examination of City Directory information shows frequent changes in occupants at this semi-detached residence. Many of the occupants were workers in local businesses or were employed as laundresses, seamstresses and clerical workers. In the war years occupants had military connections. There seems to be a clear link to the developing downtown urban economy of London through these years with the residences providing rental accommodation close to the workplaces.

In 1950 William Agnos purchased 224 Richmond and his daughter, Georgia, bought 226. The Agnos family is significant for both this property and neighbouring properties with which they were associated.

William Agnos, (Anagnostopoulos) himself, came to Canada in 1927 and he brought his wife, Despina, (Pinio) and their three children from Greece in 1935 to join him in London. William owned and operated for many years, until his death, the Capital Shoe Repair and Hat Cleaners business which he relocated in 1951 to 222 Richmond, another semi-detached residence which has since-been damaged by fire and demolished. A shoeshine bench used in the business is now in the Museum London collection. His ties to the street were strengthened when, in 1945, he built a new home for his family at 230 Richmond.

The Agnos family is notable for several reasons. Pinio Agnos was active in Greek cultural societies. William was President of the Greek community association in 1948-1949 and he played a major part in the building of Holy Trinity Orthodox Church. He also assisted in establishing a Greek language school on Saturday mornings at Beal Secondary School. Both parents stressed the importance of education to their children. Son, John, graduated, cum laude, in 1952 from the University of Western Ontario Medical School. His subsequent medical career in radiology saw him retire as Head of Radiology from Westminster Hospital in London. During his tenure there the Diagnostic Radiology Department received accreditation status. John was also an active and noted environmentalist and former President of the McIlwraith Field Naturalist Society. His interest in science and the environment led him to produce a monthly column on those matters in the London Free Press until his death in 1991. To honour his life's achievement a memorial has been placed on the empty lot at 220-222 Richmond Street.

Georgia Agnos Velos, daughter of William and Pinio, also achieved prominence as the first Greek immigrant high-school teacher in London at H.B. Beal secondary School. She served as President

of the Daughters of Penelope, a Greek cultural society. Georgia's daughter, Pamela, became the first Canadian-born woman of Greek ancestry from London to become a medical doctor.

Architectural Reasons

224/226 Richmond is a two-storey, semi-detached painted brick house with a front rectangular section set on a fieldstone foundation. A rear section, also rectangular is narrower than the front. The building is in the vernacular Italianate style. A notable feature of the house front is its symmetry.

Below a hip roof, there are plain soffits around the building. The second storey of the Richmond St. exterior is broken by four windows evenly spaced across the façade. On the ground floor the building features a bay at each end, each containing a larger central window flanked by two narrower windows. A porch joins the bays. Within the porch the two front entrances are immediately adjacent, each with a transom above.

Most windows are segmental headed and trimmed with brick voussoirs. Each has simple recessed wood trim. The upper floor windows are two over two as is the central window in each lower bay. The door openings have segmental arches topped by brick voussoirs. The door casings, framed with turned mouldings, are original.

The porch is open but contains a wooden divider separating the entrance to each residence. The porch roof is deeper than the bay windows allowing the roof edge to curve to meet the inside of the bay. The porch fascia has two rows of dentil mouldings extending across each bay. Below the fascia board is a band of turned spindles. The porch is skirted with profiled vertical boards.

Owner's Consent to Reasons for Designation as Written Above

I consent to the above Reasons for Designation for the property at 224-226 Richmond St. S.

