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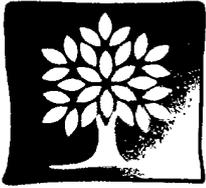
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CITY OF



LONDON  
CANADA

*The Forest City*

JEFF MALPASS  
*Deputy City Manager*

REGISTERED

September 15, 2000

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

**RE: DESIGNATION OF 305 QUEENS AVENUE**  
**THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. L990, c. O.18**

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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 Subsection 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18.

*Sandy*

*for* Cathie L. Best  
Deputy City Clerk  
/sm

Encl.

Corporate Services Dept.  
300 Dufferin Avenue  
Room 308  
PO Box 5035  
London, ON N6A 4L9

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Middleton

(Tree  
Logo)

**NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE PLACE  
OF ARCHITECTURAL AND/OR HISTORICAL VALUE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of The Corporation of the City of London intends to designate as a place of architectural, historic and/or contextual value or interest the following properties in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990*:

<u>Property Descriptions</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Last Date For Objection</u>
850 Highbury Avenue	September 16, 2000	October 16, 2000
398 Piccadilly Street	September 16, 2000	October 16, 2000
305 Queens Avenue	September 16, 2000	October 16, 2000
513 Talbot Street	September 16, 2000	October 16, 2000

The detailed reasons for designation of these properties can be seen in or obtained from the Office of the City Clerk, Room 308, City Hall, 300 Dufferin Avenue, London, Ontario N6A 4L9 during normal office hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday). Any person who objects to any intended designation must, **within thirty days** after the date of the first publication, serve on the City Clerk a notice of objection in writing, setting out the reason for the objection and all relevant facts. The *Ontario Heritage Act* provides that where a notice of objection has been served, the Council shall refer the matter to the Conservation Review Board for a hearing.

DATED at London, Ontario on September 16, 2000.

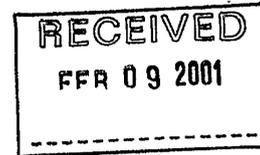
Cathie L. Best  
Deputy City Clerk

**LONDON FREE PRESS LEGAL SECTION - September 16, 2000**



London  
CANADA

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



February 6, 2001

S. Manders  
Documentation Clerk\*

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its session held on February 5, 2001 resolved:

1. That, on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Planning and Development, notice of the Municipal Council's intention to designate the property located at 305 Queens Avenue (known as Elsie Perrin Williams Memorial Library) to be of historical, architectural and contextual value or interest **BE GIVEN** for the attached reasons under the provisions of subsection 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18*; on the understanding that the land to be included in the designation will be as shown on the assessment roll; it being noted that the Children's Library, Centennial building and library interior (with the exception of specifically listed elements in the foyer) are not part of the reasons for heritage designation; and it further being noted that the reasons for heritage designation have been reviewed by the City's Facilities Planning and Engineering Division and the London Advisory Committee on Heritage and following such review it was determined that the heritage designation should not impose additional costs to the proposed renovation of the subject building. (35.1.1.) (1/3/PC)

  
Cathie L. Best  
Deputy City Clerk  
/hal

attach.

cc: London Public Library  
Ontario Heritage Foundation, 77 Bloor Street West, 2nd floor, Toronto, M7A 2R9  
G. McGinn-McTeer, Urban League of London, 1017 Western Road, N6G 1G5  
M. Whalley, London Branch, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, 1017 Western Road, N6G 1G5  
V. A. Coté, Commissioner of Planning and Development, Room 708  
J. Fleming, Planning Administrator - Policy, Room 609  
C. Nelson, Heritage Planner, Room 609  
B. Campbell, Division Manager, Facilities Planning & Engineering, 111 Horton Street  
Chair and Members, London Advisory Committee on Heritage

The Corporation of the City of London  
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council&committees@city.london.on.ca  
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C. Nelson

## Appendix 1

### Recommended Reasons for Designation As Recommended by the London Advisory Committee on Heritage and Revised by Staff

#### The Elsie Perrin Williams Memorial Library - 305 Queens Avenue

##### Historical Reasons

Built using funds willed to the City by Mrs Elsie Perrin Williams, London's Central Library building was named as a memorial to this generous citizen of London. The building was opened on 4 October 1940 by the Ontario Minister of Education at the time, Duncan McArthur. It was the fourth library building for the City, replacing the previous Main Library at the corner of Wellington Street and Queens Avenue.

In 1942 the American Library Association Bulletin hailed this new library building, writing, "...this clean-cut, inviting building, ..., is one of the finest examples of what a modern public library should look like." They went on to feature "The ingenious ground floor plan ... includes a spacious, well-lighted children's room with entrance across a large sunken garden and lawn. ... The main floor plan ... is a definite and successful contribution to library architecture."

The library was designed to meet an extensive list of educational needs. It incorporated an auditorium, an art gallery and featured a Children's library with a children's Club Room and an outdoor reading garden where "children may read in the fine weather while at the same time getting fresh air and sunshine. As the demands on the library changed, so has the building been adapted to suit those demands, but some of the original furniture is still in use in the London Room and the Central Hall retains the openness of the atrium even though the skylight was covered with a second floor addition.

The original library building was designed by London architects Thornton McBride and L. Gordon Bridgman in consultation with Richard Crouch, the Chief Librarian. The design reflects and symbolizes the Greek ideal of freedom gained through rational thought. This ideal countered the threats of war that were rampant in the world at the time that the design was struck. Also reflecting the themes of the time, the building's form is austere classical in which beauty, dignity and simplicity are combined.

##### Architectural Reasons

Several of the original architectural features are still present and deserve preservation. The front and side walls are faced with Queenston limestone. Engraved across the front face are the words, "London Public Library ELSIE PERRIN WILLIAMS MEMORIAL Art Gallery and Museum" in between decorative horizontal bands above and below. The front door is surrounded by a tall projecting frame decorated with carved Greek key designs and a mask of Socrates over the door. The double doors are surmounted by a large, 3 by 5 light transom doubling the height of the doors. In front of this projecting frame is a large terrace, flanked by stone parapets decorated on the front faces with carved allegorical designs. The exterior window spandrels are made from black Virginia serpentine marble, separated by fluted stone pilasters. In the interior, the finish of the walls in the Foyer was described (in 1940) as "jaune ambre French marble" and most of it remains in place. The floor in the Foyer is the original patterned terrazzo. The original stairway leading up and down from the Foyer is still in use. Two of the original light fixtures still hang in the Foyer and Vestibule. The original wooden

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**C. Nelson**

doors remain between the Foyer and the Central Hall, originally a central atrium covered by a huge rectangular skylight. Openings off the Central Hall are flanked by ribbed pilasters that reflect those of the facades outside. The clock over the front door remains today.

#### Contextual Reasons

The architectural styling of this building and the use of Queenston limestone is quite uncommon in the City, but is reflected in the Dominion Public Building at 457 Richmond Street. The limestone also ties the building with the Bell Canada building at Clarence Street and Dufferin Avenue.