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**London**  
CANADA

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

RECEIVED

MAY 02 2008

REGISTERED

April 30, 2008

The Incorporated Synod of The Diocese of Huron  
C/o Bishop Cronyn Memorial  
442 William Street  
London, ON  
N6B 3E2

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

**RE: DESIGNATION OF 442 WILLIAM STREET  
THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990, 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 Section 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18.

Kevin Bain  
City Clerk

/jn

cc: Don Menard, Heritage Planner

The Corporation of the City of London  
Office: 519-661-2500 ext. 0916  
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P.O. Box 5035  
London, ON  
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April 29, 2008

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

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its session held on April 28, 2008 resolved:

4. That, on the recommendation of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage, notice of the Municipal Council's intention to designate the property located at 442 William Street (Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church) to be of cultural heritage value and interest **BE GIVEN** for the attached reasons under the provisions of subsection 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.0.18.* (4/11/PC)

  
Kevin Bain  
City Clerk  
/hw

cc: Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church, 442 William Street, London, ON N6B 3E2  
G. Barrett, Manager, Land Use Planning Policy  
D. Menard, Heritage Planner  
L. Fisher, Heritage Registry  
J. Nethercott, Documentation Services Representative  
Chair and Members, London Advisory Committee on Heritage

✓  
LAC#

## Reasons for Designation

December 24 2006

### Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church - 442 William Street

Built in 1873, Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church is recommended for Designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a building of cultural heritage value. It is a monument to the life and achievements of London's own first Anglican Bishop, the Rt. Reverend Benjamin Cronyn. The church was designed by the well respected Toronto based architect, Henry Langley. It stands as a fine example of pure Gothic church architecture. Cronyn Memorial abounds with historic and architectural value, and clearly should be designated.

#### Historical Reasons

Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church was built as a memorial to the Rt Reverend Benjamin Cronyn, the first Bishop of the newly formed Diocese of Huron. Benjamin Cronyn came to Upper Canada as a 26 year old Anglican priest from Ireland in 1832. He served as Rector of St. Paul's Church from that time until 1857, when he was elected by the Synod as Bishop; the first election by a joint lay-clerical Synod in Anglican history. His achievements included the building of the present day St. Paul's Cathedral in 1846, the founding of Huron College in 1863 (the precursor for the University of Western Ontario), and the creation of numerous new Anglican parishes throughout southwestern Ontario. This, at a time, when London was growing from frontier village to a promising industrial and commercial centre. Bishop Cronyn died in 1871. Cronyn Memorial Church was built under the patronage of Verschoyle Cronyn, the third son of Bishop Cronyn. Verschoyle Cronyn was a prominent London citizen, the founding lawyer for Huron and Erie Savings and Loan Co. (now TD Canada Trust), the founding president of the London Street Railway (today's LTC) and, for more than 50 years, the Chancellor of the Diocese of Huron.

Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church was consecrated on December 14, 1873. The celebrant was Bishop Hellmuth, Benjamin Cronyn's successor as Bishop. Its first Rector was the Rev. W. Harrison Tilley, the former curate at St. Paul's, and the son of one of Canada's Founding Fathers of Confederation. The church locality at William and North Streets (Queens Avenue) undoubtedly reflected the industrialization of the Adelaide St. area and the corresponding need to serve its growing population. In practice, it replaced the previous small wood framed St. George's Parish Church on Adelaide Street.

Cronyn Memorial has undergone several major alterations since it was built in 1873, the most intensive being the addition of the north and south transepts and gallery in 1879 (which increased the seating capacity to 720) and the redecoration of the chancel and sanctuary in 1949. The costs involved were again largely borne by the Cronyn family. A rectory built to the immediate south of the church in 1884, was demolished about 1985 to make way for the Warner Place Senior's Residence.

#### Architectural Reasons

Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church was designed by Toronto based architect, Henry Langley, regarded at that time as the foremost church architect in Ontario. Langley trained for seven years under William Hay, a renowned Gothic architect in his own right, and designed the Gothic Chalmers Presbyterian Church in 1871, St George's Anglican Church, Guelph, in 1873 and First Baptist Church, Guelph, in 1873, all prior to his start on Cronyn Memorial.

#### Exterior

Langley's Bishop Cronyn Memorial Church is a lesson in pure Gothic church architecture. The very low side walls, high pitched roof, pronounced buttresses and narrow nave windows reflect the essence of the prototype medieval English parish church. The bell tower is deliberately set to one side of the front façade, and, before the installation of the transepts in 1879, the church's original rooflines certainly

delineated the positioning of nave, chancel, vestry, and organ chamber in the interior. The prominent porch with its three entrances and multi-gabled roof on the front façade still defines the inside vestibule.

The visual impact of bright red brick in the trim of white brick buttresses, window arches and bell tower is striking. Polychromatic brickwork had been introduced by architects elsewhere, purportedly to reflect the true nature of materials. This application reflects its initial use in London church architecture.

Dormer windows first appeared on Gothic churches towards the end of the Gothic Revival era. They were used to provide more light in the lofty heights of the church interior. The dormers on Cronyn Memorial are part of the original building, but the stained glass windows are 1948 replacements.

#### Interior

Important architectural features of the nave and transepts include the exposed wooden beams and brackets below the ceiling, the 1879 gallery, the paired Gothic arches at the entrance to both the north and south transepts and the stained glass windows. The latter include the large west window above the gallery (comprising three quatrefoil windows above four gospel lancet windows), and the many paired memorial windows installed throughout the nave and transepts, most of them in 1933.

The Chancel was totally renovated in 1949. Important features include the ceiling with its enriched Gothic ornamentation and four évangelist symbolism, the Memorial Window in the East Wall of the Chancel and the Caen stone and intricate oak screens on the north and south walls.

#### Contextual Reasons

The multi-storey Warner Place Senior's Residence (not a historical building) built to the immediate south of the church was opened in 1986. Named after Canon Warner, Cronyn Memorial's longest serving rector, the matching polychromatic brickwork and high gabled roofline pinpoint its allegiance to its 133 year old neighbour. Looked at in this way, the buildings put the changing role of the church into true context.

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#### Statement of Agreement in support of Designation

We are in agreement with the Reasons For Designation under the Ontario Heritage Act as written above.

Patricia Mitchell  
Cruce Redebop, warden

Warden

Dated This 2nd day of May 2007