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Middlesex NOV 2 Q MARKA CONSERVATION REVIEW



300 Dufferin Avenue P.O. Box 5035 London, ON N6A 41.9

# REGISTERED

November 17, 2004

P. Aziz 1180 Western Road London, ON N6G 1G8

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

## Re: Designation of 1180 Western Road The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18

Please find enclosed, for your information, a certified copy of By-law No. L.S.P.-3367-235, entitled "A by-law to designate 1180 Western Road to be of historical and contextual value or interest", passed by the Municipal Council of the Corporation of the City of London on November 1, 2004 and registered as Instrument No. ER325220 on November 10, 2004.

The London Advisory Committee on Heritage will be contacting you at a later date to determine whether or not you wish to have a plaque mounted on this building to designate it as a site of historic and contextual value.

Kevin Bain City Clerk /cl

Enclosure

- cc: C. Nelson, Planning Division, Room 603
  - L. Fisher, Committee Secretary LACH, Room 308
  - R. Cerminara, Building Division, Room 710

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

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Bill No. 386 2004

By-law No. L.S.P.-3367-235

A by-law to designate 1180 Western Road to be of historical and contextual value or interest.

WHEREAS pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18*, the Council of a municipality may by by-law designate a property including buildings and structures thereon to be of historic and contextual value or interest;

AND WHEREAS notice of intention to so designate the property known as 1180 Western Road has been duly published and served and no notice of objection to such designation has been received;

THEREFORE the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of historical and contextual value or interest, the real property at the 1180 Western Road, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto, for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" hereto.

2. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered upon the title to the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry Office.

3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in the London Free Press, and to enter the description of the aforesaid property, the name and address of its registered owner, and short reasons for its designation in the Register of all properties designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

This by-law comes into force on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council on November 1, 2004.

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Anne Marie DeCicco Mayor

Kevin Bain City Clerk



CITY OF LONDON DOCUMENT CERTIFICATION RECORD

I, <u>Kevin Bain, City Clerk</u> of The Corporation of the City of London, hereby certify that the document hereunder is a true copy of By-law No. L.S.P.-3367-235 to designate 1180 Western Road to be of historical and contextual value or interest on November 1, 2004.

Dated at London, Ontario, this 17th day of November, 2004.

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Kevin Bain, City Clerk

First Reading - November 1, 2004 Second Reading - November 1, 2004 Third Reading - November 1, 2004

4.

# SCHEDULE "A" To By-law No. L.S.P.- 3367-235

Part of Park Lot 2 on the south side of Huron Street in the City of London and County of Middlesex as in Instrument 65435LY.

SCHEDULE "B" To By-law No. L.S.P.- 3367-235

# Reasons for Designation 1180 Western Road

revised - 22 July 2004

1180 Western Road is significant to the cultural heritage of London and area as the home and studio of artist Philip Aziz, renowned in art circles in Canada and internationally, particularly in New York City and Yale University Art Department. His studio and grounds hold not only many pieces of his art, but also his collection of architectural artifacts salvaged from several of London's landmark buildings of the past.

#### Historical Reasons

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Mr. Aziz's house on this property appears to be renovated around an original Ontario Farmhouse which has been updated and enlarged but still exhibits several features of the original construction in the basement and attic areas. Research into the property did not confirm the date of the original building of the house, but hand-hewn timbering and framing that is visible in the basement and attic areas, indicate that the house dates to circa 1875.

#### **Cultural Reasons**

This property's main significance is as Philip Aziz's art studio and gallery. Mr. Aziz was born in St. Thomas, Ontario and began art studies at H.B. Beal Secondary School. After graduating from Yale University with a Bachelor's and Master's Degree in Fine Arts, he returned to establish a studio at his home in London.

A quote from the catalogue for a 1996 show of Mr. Aziz's work at the London Regional Art and Historical Museum (now Museum London) reads, "In a career spanning 40 years he has made his mark as a painter, not only here in London, but elsewhere in Canada. He has also earned a wide international reputation, and his works are to be found in public and private collections in the United States, in France and Italy, and as far away as Japan and Australia."

"Like his predecessors in the Renaissance, Aziz has also turned his hand to the design of sculpture, either on a monumental scale or in fine metalwork, or of a private residence and its furniture, or of a chapel and its liturgical vessels and furnishings. Whatever he touches reveals his feeling for rich and precious materials, and his meticulous attention to detail."

With a deep interest in liturgical art, several pieces of Mr. Aziz's art can be found in chapels of St. Peter's Basilica here in London.

## **Architectural Reasons**

Mr. Aziz's artistic eye and sense of design lead him to salvage interesting features from many of London's earlier landmark buildings, even as the buildings were being demolished. These artifacts have been incorporated into the construction of his studio and courtyard in a way that is reminiscent of Mackenzie King's collection of ruins featured in Gatineau Park outside Ottawa. Several of these artifacts are worthy of note and deserve preservation in their current context. Flanking the driveway are brick walls adorned with stone brackets taken from the former Prevost Building. The courtyard surface is paved with bricks from the early London Street Railway tracks in downtown Dundas Street. Around the courtyard is a brick fence highlighted with carved stone capitals taken from the previous Bank of Montreal building at Dundas and Wellington Streets. Several other capitals decorate the courtyard as free-standing planter bases or plain pieces. The studio on the west side of the Bank of Montreal. Many of the windows in the studio were taken from various old homes in the city.

Inside the studio and gallery, the architectural artifacts continue among the collection of Mr. Aziz's art, including a large hammered copper sink taken from the Smallman residence at 468 Colborne Street (now the Mocha Shrine), decorative cut and bevelled glass windows from several old homes and more carved stone capitals in brick walls and columns. One pair of capitals, taken from the Prevost building, form the bases of two stone columns at the south end of the gallery. The fireplace in the west wall of this area is formed in two-tone green marble salvaged from an altar that was being removed from the chapel in St. Peter's Seminary.

Several other artifacts can be found around the studio and courtyard where Mr. Aziz has not yet found the place to incorporate them in the building.

# Contextual Reasons

At this location, the intersection of Western Road with Sarnia Road and Huron Street, the house, courtyard and studio sit in contrast with the hustle and traffic of the roads busy with University traffic. The rural, "bucolic" atmosphere denies the pressure of the University of Western Ontario that surrounds it.