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





REGISTERED

September 13, 2004

P. Aziz 1180 Western Road London, Ontario 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. 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.

/cl

City Clerk

CC:

Chris Nelson, Planning Division, Room 603

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



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 property in accordance with the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990*:

Property Descriptions
Publication Date
Last Date For Objection

1180 Western Road
September 18, 2004
October 18, 2004

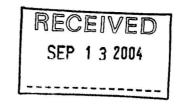
The detailed reasons for designation of this property can be seen in or obtained from the Office of the City Clerk, Room 308, City Hall, 300 Dufferin Avenue, London, Ontario N6A 4L9 during normal office hours (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday). Any person who objects to any intended designation 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 18, 2004.

Kevin Bain City Clerk

PLEASE PUBLISH IN THE LONDON FREE PRESS LEGAL SECTION – Saturday, September, 18, 2004.





September 8, 2004

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

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its session held on September 7, 2004 resolved:

7. That notice of the Municipal Council's intention to designate the property located at 1180 Western Road 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, Philip Aziz, 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. (7/19/PC)

Kevin Bain City Clerk /hw

CC:

- P. Aziz, 1180 Western Road, London, ON N6G 1G8
- B. Callow, Forest City Wildlife, 22164 Valleyview Rd. R. R. #1, Thorndale, ON N0M 2P0
- R. Panzer, General Manager of Planning and Development
- J. M. Fleming, Manager III, Land Use Planning Policy
- D. Menard, Heritage Planner
- R. Verhoeven, Documentation Services Representative
- C. Litalien, Documentation Services Representative

PR

The Corporation of the City of London Office: 519-661-6400 Fax: 519-661-4892

Committees, Council@.london.ca

www.london.ca

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

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 courtyard is finished in salvaged London clay brick adorned with more stone capitals from 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 Shriners building), 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.