

From: Steve.O [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, September 18, 2023 5:45 PM

To: Hopkins, Anna <ahopkins@london.ca>; Pelozo, Elizabeth <epelozalondon.ca>; craman@london.ca; Hillier, Steven <shillier@london.ca>; Lehman, Steve <slehman@london.ca>; City of London, Mayor <mayor@london.ca>; pcuddly@london.ca; Trosow, Sam <strosow@london.ca>; Franke, Skylar <sfranke@london.ca>; McAlister, Hadleigh <hmcAlister@london.ca>; Stevenson, Susan <sstevenson@london.ca>; jprybil@london.ca; Van Meerbergen, Paul <pvanmeerbergen@london.ca>; Ferreira, David <dferreira@london.ca>; Council Agenda <councilagenda@london.ca>

Cc: AnnaMaria Valastro [REDACTED]; Louise White [REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: oldest house in London? 176 Piccadilly Street Heritage

Please add my letter to the public agenda re:

3.2 Request to Remove Property from Register of Cultural Heritage Resources - 176 Piccadilly Street

Dear Members of the Planning and Environment Committee,

London needs to be able to preserve heritage houses, buildings, and sites. If not where they originally reside, then have them relocated to a facility where it is possible to maintain them, for example Fanshawe Pioneer Village. It seems to me that city council is less concerned about London's unique history and is more willing to look the other way in favour of promoting the real estate business for rich elites, who together are destroying our traditional culture and history. I'm not against business growth, but there should be a way to accommodate both initiatives in a manner that is agreeable to everyone.

The building at 176 Piccadilly is over 200 years old and therefore can NEVER meet the 3 heritage criteria needed for heritage designation because it is a simple wood structure common of rural London in the early 19th century. It not just the house alone that is important. It is a house that was present when Carling Creek was running freely and open and next to a pond found on Ann St and Talbot St.

While some Councillors may believe that 'old' structures should not be preserved, even though all heritage buildings are old, simple wood structures that show us how early rural Londoners lived are as important as grand architectural buildings.

This house was lived in as recently as 2018, and has deteriorated significantly since through neglect. Demolition by neglect is ignored by Council because Council has shown little respect for our history, and by taking no action and mocking efforts by staff to safe guard our history, encourages investment property owners to let historical houses rot.

This important historical remnant of rural living in London needs to be preserved either through heritage preservation or as a museum piece. We are not so simple that we can't appreciate our early modest beginnings beyond that is 'grand'.

And for those Councillors who think that preserving our history 'gets in the way' of development, fail to appreciate the cultural and economic value of integrating history with contemporary.

regards,
Steve Olivastri
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London