



**LONDON REGION**

Home address: 39-250 North Centre Rd

London, N6G 5A4

Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Planning and Environment Committee

City Hall

London

Dear Committee:

**759 Elizabeth Street**

ACO London Region is very concerned to note that there is an application for demolition for the above residence.

The house has a very significant history attached to the site. A house was built on this land by a Talbot settler, Charles Henry, who was a pioneer farmer in 1818. His house was then surrounded by bush and his cleared fields. He gradually sold off parcels of his land for development as London grew. He sold his 75-acre farm to John Carling in 1864. Sir John Carling, London's most prominent 19<sup>th</sup> century politician and businessman, later used some of his land (this and surrounding plots) for the building of Wolseley Barracks.

It is hard to prove but examination of the house has suggested that this house was built before 1861 (when it was recorded on the Census) and is likely considerably older. The cottage was built in the 'Regency cottage' style most indicative of a date not later than the 1840s. The style is characterised by the very shallow hipped roof, and the typical concern for symmetry – the placing of the centre door, flanking windows and two chimneys – speaks of this early period in building.

The house is also situated 'awkwardly' on the lot, which indicates that it was built before roads were planned or constructed in the area. It takes advantage of a view from a rise – typical needs for a farmer surveying his land.

It is unfortunate that the importance of this house could not be established before the buyers purchased it. But we urge you to consider the significance and importance of this charming reminder of early pioneer days in London's history and architectural heritage.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,

Maggie Whalley, President, ACO London Region