

November 4th, 2012

To the Members of Planning & Environment Committee

We are writing to add our say against the demolition of 591 Maitland Street. This home resides within the boundaries of a designated heritage district and, as such, is afforded special protection to ensure its continued presence remains in our neighbourhood. The home in question was built in approximately 1875. It is still sound and likely has the original wood siding under the existing aluminum siding.

The current owner expressed to LACH that he would like to tear down 591 Maitland St. and build a more modern home for his daughter who wishes to live in the core. We believe the existing structure could be internally altered to meet the daughter's need for the modern trappings desired without demolition. The multiple purpose homes within Woodfield are important to maintaining a vibrant, contributing mix of individuals and families that truly support the core of London.

Given the sad atrocity of the recent demolition of the home at the corner of Palace & Central, our community is stepping up its vigilance to protect other properties in London and Woodfield's heritage district. We have not yet recovered from the loss of such a prominent, unique home. Woodfield did not truly understand the historical significance of this home until it was too late. We cannot afford to make the same mistake again.

Thank you for considering our concerns.

Yours truly,

Rod and Joey McDowell
Residents of Woodfield
507 Princess Ave.