

Re: Heritage Designation of 197, 183 and 179 Ann St.

Dear Members of Council,

I am hoping that you will review the designation request of 197, 183 and 179 Ann St carefully and independently of any development pressure.

Designating heritage properties does not require public or owner approval because designation is depended on merit. I have attached O.Reg. 9/06 which describes the criteria for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act for your review if needed.

The City of London through the London Plan officially recognizes that as a community we value our heritage and history and is fundamental to our shared identity. The London Plan states this very clearly on page 138:

“WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO ACHIEVE? 554_

In all of the planning and development we do, and the initiatives we take as a municipality we will:

- 1. Promote, celebrate, and raise awareness and appreciation of London’s cultural heritage resources.**
- 2. Conserve London’s cultural heritage resources so they can be passed on to our future generations.**
- 3. Ensure that new development and public works are undertaken to enhance and be sensitive to our cultural heritage resources.”**

Heritage and development should be complimentary but it takes municipal leadership to communicate that heritage retention and repurpose are important and that the principles set out in the London Plan are serious. There is professional consensus that these properties have the merit to fulfil all the heritage criteria required for designation and deserve recognition.

The push to combine heritage designation for these properties at the same time as a review of the proposed development for the same site raises genuine concerns of a repeat of the Camden Terrace review, where designation was overwhelmed by a development proposal. That process was broadly viewed as disingenuous because it became a ‘tug-of-war’ rather than a consideration on merit.

In closing, it is anticipated that very few individuals will attend a public participation meeting on November 30th because it is predicted that cases of the infectious virus Covid-19 will increase through the months of November and December. Individuals often wait several hours to be heard at these meetings and this could increase their risk of exposure. It is anticipated that comments will be submitted in writing and not in person.

Sincerely,

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Ontario Heritage Act

ONTARIO REGULATION 9/06

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST

Consolidation Period: From January 25, 2006 to the [e-Laws currency date](#).

No amendments.

This is the English version of a bilingual regulation.

Criteria

1. (1) The criteria set out in subsection (2) are prescribed for the purposes of clause 29 (1) (a) of the Act. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 1 (1).

(2) A property may be designated under section 29 of the Act if it meets one or more of the following criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest:

1. The property has design value or physical value because it,
 - i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method,
 - ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or
 - iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
2. The property has historical value or associative value because it,
 - i. has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community,
 - ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture, or
 - iii. demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.
3. The property has contextual value because it,
 - i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area,
 - ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings, or
 - iii. is a landmark. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 1 (2).

Transition

2. This Regulation does not apply in respect of a property if notice of intention to designate it was given under subsection 29 (1.1) of the Act on or before January 24, 2006. O. Reg. 9/06, s. 2.