

## Appendix I

### William Porter and Son—London Houses 1917–1953

From

“Houses and Buildings Attributed to William G. Porter  
and William Porter and Son”






June 2008

By W. Glen Curnoe




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Source: Unpublished research study courtesy of Glen Curnoe  
(NB: Houses built after 1942 by William Porter or Stan Porter where noted)  
Images courtesy Glen Curnoe and Lynda Curnoe as attributed; additional images and table by author




## William Porter and Son—London Houses: 1917–1953 by Glen Curnoe\*





Address	Photograph	Age	Notes
<p>390 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>  <p>Photo by Reg Porter c. 1918 Courtesy Lynda Curnoe</p>		<p>c. 1917</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built by William Porter for daughter Grace and son-in-law Earl Rhame, steamfitter</li> </ul>
<p>362 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>  <p>Photo by Reg Porter c. 1919 Courtesy Lynda Curnoe</p>		<p>c. 1919</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Built by William Porter for his wife Grace and their family</li> </ul>
<p>16 Emery St E</p>		<p>c. 1922</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Second home built for daughter Grace and son-in-law Earl Rhame</li> </ul>



<p>18 Emery St E</p>		<p>c. 1924</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupant Frank Carns, printer</li> </ul>
<p>310 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1924</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupant Donald Graham, contractor</li> </ul>
<p>494 Emery St E</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1924</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupants (home &amp; shop) Clarence J (Martha) Donnelly, grocer</li> <li>• Property demolished (date n/a)</li> </ul>




<p>218 Emery St E</p>		<p>c. 1925</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First occupants Charles (Gladys) Papworth, fireman</li></ul>
<p>240 Cathcart St</p>		<p>c. 1925</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First occupants Samuel (Mabel) Bexton, machinist</li></ul>
<p>312 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1925</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First occupant Donald Graham, contractor</li></ul>




<p>386 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>		<p>1925</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built for Lorne Rhame (Earl Rhame's brother) and wife Dolly</li> </ul>
<p>194 Emery St E</p>		<p>c. 1925</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupants Barnabas (Helen) Parsons, assistant baggage master CNR</li> </ul>
<p>358 Wortley Rd</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1926</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupants (home &amp; shop) Clarence J (Martha) Donnelly, grocer</li> </ul>

<p>384 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>		<p>1927</p>	
<p>1 Langarth St E</p>  <p>1 Langarth under construction Courtesy Glen Curnoe</p>		<p>c. 1927</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupant Oliver Aiken</li> </ul>
<p>183 Cathcart St</p>		<p>c. 1928</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupants Hanes (Betsy) Walden, farmer</li> </ul>

<p>368 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>		<p>c. 1929</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Built for son Reg Porter and daughter-in-law Myrtle</li></ul>
<p>Wharncliffe Rd S &amp; Southdale Rd</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1920s</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First occupants Ross (Olive) Hicks who operated adjacent garage</li><li>• Property demolished (date n/a)</li></ul>
<p>176 Langarth St E</p>		<p>c. 1930</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First occupants Harvey (Catherine) Reynolds</li></ul>

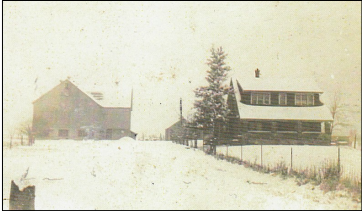








<p>149 Emery St E</p>		<p>c. 1931</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First occupants Edward G (Emily) Scott, grocer</li></ul>
<p>173 Emery St E</p>		<p>c. 1931</p>	<p>First occupants Herbert H (Jane) Vail, cement</p>
<p>364 Wharncliffe Rd S</p>		<p>1931</p>	

<p>2329 Dingman Dr</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>1931</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built for Fred and Ettie (née Rhame) Murray</li> <li>• Replaced earlier 2-storey frame farm house that burned March 1931</li> <li>• Demolished in July 2014</li> </ul>
<p>63 Wyatt St</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1932</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupant Mrs Alice Irwin (widow of William)</li> </ul>
<p>12 Franklin Ave</p>		<p>c. 1932</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupants James (Marnie) Holmes, artist</li> </ul>



<p>251 St. James St</p>		<p>1932</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built for J. Maurice (Jean) Pocock</li> <li>• Tudor Revival—Part V Designation: Bishop Hellmuth HCD</li> <li>• Designating By-Law: L.S.P.-3333-305 – Force and Effect Date: February 7, 2003</li> </ul>
<p>178 Wharncliffe Rd N</p>		<p>c. 1933</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupant Donald Graham, contractor</li> </ul>
<p>99 Baseline Rd E</p>		<p>c. 1934</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tudor Revival</li> <li>• Listed—Force and Effect Date of Register: March 26, 2007</li> </ul>

<p>514 Eden Ave</p>  <p>Early photo on original site Courtesy Glen Curnoe</p>		<p>1935</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built for John (Lavinia) Dale, farmer</li> <li>• Moved from original site at Lot 27, 2<sup>nd</sup> Concession (Southdale Road) in 1995</li> </ul>
<p>75 Langarth St E</p>		<p>1936</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built for daughter Nellie and son-in-law Gordon Curnoe</li> <li>• Family home and first art studio of Greg Curnoe</li> </ul>
<p>25 MacKay Ave</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1940</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First occupant Mrs. A.L. Johnson (Ethel Porter's mother; son Stanley's mother-in-law) and her sister and brother-in-law Arthur (Helen) Fischer, knitter</li> <li>• Originally stucco</li> </ul>

<p>435 Baker St</p>		<p>c. 1942</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Built of reclaimed brick due to shortage of bricks during wartime</li></ul>
<p>49 Cliftonvale Ave</p>		<p>c. 1944</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family home of William Porter's son Stan and wife Ethel</li><li>• Built by Stan Porter of reclaimed brick; aluminium siding added later</li></ul>
<p>97 Wharncliffe Rd N</p>	 <p>Photo Courtesy Glen Curnoe 2008</p>	<p>c. 1953</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• First occupant Mrs. Ethel Henderson (widow of Harry)</li></ul>

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\* A Note on Research Methods by Glen Curnoe:

*Much of this information was given by my mother and grandmother over the years. I took my mother and grandmother for Sunday drives during the time that my dad was treasurer of Calvary United Church. The church had a large congregation and Sunday collections were substantial. He needed to deal with church collections every Sunday. I was young then and enjoyed driving the family car. They would point out Porter built houses along the way*

*In my most recent excursions, I found that several had been demolished, and since they had been pointed out, I felt that I should take pictures of the ones still standing. Some of the information has been verified over the years by people who I have talked to, such as my grandmother, Grace Porter, Marnie Holmes, George Donnelly, Melvin Dale, Aunt Grace Rhame and her daughter, Avalon Higgins. In some cases, I talked to the current owners. Much of the information is based on memory. Some of the information has been verified by comparing the pictures that I have taken showing similar building materials and house designs. Approximate date of construction and the names of first occupants have been found by searching through city directories.*

–Glen Curnoe, July 2008

*Additional people who I have talked to after July 2008: Nancy Coups, 2018; Elaine Fitzgerald, first cousin who still lives in Old South London; Mel Murray, 2014, no relation of mine, but a first cousin of my first cousin, the late Avalon Higgins; Joan Porter, first cousin, daughter of Reg; Pat Blaney, second cousin. My mother was the youngest sibling in her family, so all of my surviving first cousins are older than me. I'm 81.*

–Glen Curnoe, Revised June 2020

## Appendix II






### Museum London

*Greg Curnoe Studio*

*Gift of Glen Curnoe, London, Ontario and Lynda Curnoe, Toronto, Ontario,  
2001*

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Source: Museum London, Greg Curnoe Collection—Donation List (Greg Curnoe Studio donation.pdf)  
Courtesy of Museum London

Object Number	Collection	Attribution	Object Name / Title, Date	Image
<b>Museum London</b>				
<b>Greg Curnoe Studio</b>				
<b>Gift of Glen Curnoe, London, Ontario and Lynda Curnoe, Toronto, Ontario, 2001</b>				
1.	006.A.061	(Art)	GREG CURNOE PRINT THE GREAT CANADIAN SONNET POSTER, 1974	
2.	2006.029.001	(Material Culture)	DESK GREG CURNOE'S DESK	
3.	2006.029.002	(Material Culture)	LAMP CROWN DESK LAMP	
4.	2006.029.003	(Material Culture)	BOX, ARTIST'S PAINT BOX	
5.	2006.029.004	(Material Culture)	BOX, ARTIST'S PAINT BOX	
6.	2006.029.005	(Material Culture)	DOOR "CURNOE'S INFERNO" DOOR	
7.	2006.029.006	(Material Culture)	EASEL GREG CURNOE'S EASEL	
8.	2006.029.007A-K	(Material Culture)	TOOL KIT ARTISTS TOOL KIT	
9.	2006.029.008	(Material Culture)	PALETTE PAINTERS WOODEN PALETTE	
10.	2006.029.009	(Material Culture)	LAMP, ELECTRIC FLUORESCENT LIGHT WITH BULB	

## Appendix D – Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

### Legal Description

Part Lot 13, Block G, Plan 392(4<sup>th</sup>), Part Lot 14, Block G, Plan 392 (4<sup>th</sup>) as in 410248, London

### Description of Property

The Greg Curnoe Childhood Home and First Art Studio at 75 Langarth Street East is a one-and-a half storey gable-roofed residential house, located on the south side of Langarth Street East, between Edward Street and Cathcart Street in the neighbourhood of Old South London. It was built in 1936 by local builder William Porter, Greg Curnoe's grandfather.

### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

The property at 75 Langarth Street East demonstrates Historical and Associative Value because it has direct associations with events and persons that are significant to a community. The property was the childhood home and first studio of renowned London-born artist Greg Curnoe (1936-1992). It was in this South London home that Curnoe developed a love of art as a child, where his artistic talent emerged as a young adult, and where his early thinking on regionalism as an artistic sensibility began to take shape. This was also the site of "Curnoe's Inferno", his first art studio, in which he would produce works of art that reflected his love of home and family and the influences of the everyday world around him. Objects from the Langarth Street studio are now held in the collections of Museum London and the Art Gallery of Ontario.

The property also yields information that contributes to an understanding of the community of artists in Curnoe's circle, including Jack Chambers, John Boyle and others, who represented a unique art movement known as London Regionalism—described as a group of artists who recognized home as the centre and subject of creative activity; who acknowledged yet refused to situate themselves in the art world of the metropolitan centre; who even refused to participate in 'movements'. Curnoe was a leading figure in this circle. The basement studio of 75 Langarth Street East, known as "Curnoe's Inferno," played a catalytic role in the emergence of Curnoe's artistic talent and his regionalist sensibility.

The property also demonstrates and reflects the work of the builder, Greg Curnoe's grandfather William Porter, who is significant to the community. A carpenter and cabinet maker by trade, Porter emigrated from England in 1907 and established his construction company, William Porter and Son, in London in the 1920s. William Porter designed and built at least 33 houses in London between 1917 and 1953, as well as a number of shopfronts in London and surrounding towns. Porter's houses display a notable and distinct vernacular style in the London context, which may have influenced later builders in the South London neighbourhood where his properties are concentrated.

The property is comparable in form, scale and massing to the modest homes built by Porter and Son in South London in the 1920s and 30s. In style, it includes many Tudor Revival references popular in South London at the time, and which Porter featured in a number of his houses. Two of these, 251 St James Street (1932) and 99 Baseline Road East (c. 1934) are listed as Tudor Revival dwellings on the City of London Register of Cultural Heritage Resources; the property at 251 St James Street is designated under Part V in the Bishop Hellmuth Heritage Conservation District.

The property demonstrates Physical/Design Values in its representation of the Tudor Revival architectural style popular in South London residential houses in the 1920s and 30s. Designed by Curnoe's mother Nellie Porter and built by his grandfather William Porter in 1936, the property is distinguished by its projecting red brick buttressed porch with steeply pitched roof, half-timbering set in stucco in the front gable, pointed bargeboard and prominent gable ends, and fenestration that includes multiple leaded glass panes at the front and flanking the fireplace on the west elevation, a decorative quarry under the front gable, and an oriel window typical of Period Revival styling.



The property also displays a high degree of craftsmanship of the builder. Porter's fine carpentry skills and craftsmanship are evident not only in the exterior Tudor Revival styling, but also in the interior handcrafted Canadian chestnut baseboards, fireplace mantel and built-in bookcases, hand-polished oak floors, bevelled glass and mirrored interior doors, and high wooden kitchen cupboards, all of which remain today.

The property also has Contextual Value in defining and maintaining the historic and architectural character both of the streetscape and the neighbourhood. Langarth Street East, along with parallel streets Briscoe and Emery (formerly Wreay), holds a long history. These streets were first given their names and laid out on an 1880 survey of the "Woodside" estate of Crown Attorney Charles Hutchinson, inspired by the titles of his holdings in Cumberland County, England. The original street layouts remain today.

The property is physically, visually and historically linked to its surroundings. The streetscapes on both north and south sides of this section of Langarth Street remain largely unaltered since the houses were built between the late-19th and mid-20th century. These include the cluster of six brick bungalows built between 1925-27 on the north side of Langarth Street East, directly facing the Curnoe family home, and the c. 1886 Ontario Cottage directly west at 73 Langarth Street East, one of five Langarth Street properties built between 1883 and 1914 that are listed on the City of London *Register of Cultural Heritage Resources*.

### **Heritage Attributes**

Heritage attributes which support and contribute to the cultural heritage value or interest of this property include the form, scale and massing of the one-and-a-half storey dwelling with Tudor Revival styling, featuring:

- Half-timbering set in textured stucco;
- Gable roof with wood soffits;
- Projecting brick-buttressed porch with steep gable;
- Red brickwork with alternating darker bricks set randomly, with a soldier course and basket weave bond over the front doorway;
- Plain wood moulded bargeboard trim with prominent gable ends;
- Multi-paned diamond leaded front windows and decorative quarry;
- Pair of leaded side windows flanking the fireplace and brick chimney on the west elevation;
- Oriel window projecting from west-facing dining room;
- Four-over-one sash window at rear, originally the Curnoe boys' bedroom window, portrayed in Greg Curnoe's 1972 painting, *Backyard, Langarth St. E.*; and,
- Interior Canadian chestnut baseboards handcrafted by William Porter, along with fireplace mantel and built-in bookcases, and bevelled glass and mirrored wood doors to the vestibule and master bedroom.

## Appendix E – Heritage Attributes



*Image 5: Annotated photograph of the property at 75 Langarth Street East identifying the heritage attributes of the property. Note: interior heritage attributes and heritage attributes located on the rear façade not identified above, but are identified in Image 6.*



1. Half-timbering set in textured stucco



2. Gable roof with wood soffits



3. Projecting butters-like porch with steep gable



4. Red brickwork with alternating darker brick set randomly, with a soldier course and a basket weave bond over the front doorway



5. Plain wood moulded bargeboard trim with prominent gable ends



6. Multi-paned diamond leaded front windows and decorative quarry (main front window shown)



7. Pair of leaded side windows flanking the fireplace and brick chimney on the west elevation (interior view of one window shown)



8. Oriel window projecting from the west-facing dining room (interior view shown)



9. Four-over-one sash window at rear, originally the Curnoe boys' bedroom window, portrayed in Greg Curnoe's 1972 painting, *Backyard, Langarth St. E.*



10. Interior Canadian chestnut baseboards hancrafted by William Porter, along with fireplace mantel and built-in bookcases, and bevelled glass and mirrored wood doors to the vestibule and master bedroom



Image 6: Photographs of the heritage attributes of the property at 75 Langarth Street East.