

From: Sharon Lunau
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Zoning By-Law Amendment Application – File Z-9250 – 100 Fullarton Street

As a Londoner passionate about our City's treasured built-heritage, I am writing to express opposition to the requested zoning by-law amendment for 100 Fullarton Street which will impact 93-95 Dufferin Street and 475-501 Talbot Street (the former Camden Terrace).

The double house at 93-95 Dufferin Street has significant cultural heritage value. Of Italianate (93) and Classical Revival (95) style, it is believed to have been designed by Samuel Peters (London's first City Engineer). Mr. Peters lived in 93 Dufferin Street from approximately 1868 to 1882. Later on, Colonel John Walker (Member of Parliament in 1874; Middlesex County Registrar) lived there.

City Council's decision to permit the demolition of Camden Terrace at 475-501 Talbot Street (and to not pursue its designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act – despite strong evidence of its cultural heritage value) was controversial, and came only after considerable debate and discussion. The requirement for the property-owner to carefully dismantle the façade and then to reconstruct it within the lobby of the new building was a key element in Council's eventual decision to approve the demolition and the proposed development on the property now known as 100 Fullarton Street.

It is vitally important to the existence of London's built heritage that Council uphold the original terms of the demolition of Camden Terrace. As an experienced developer, it seems unlikely that Old Oak did not do a thorough investigation of the terms reached by Rygar and the city before a final deal was made between the two companies. Reneging on the previous Council's decision sets a dangerous precedent for property owners to continue the heinous practice of demolition by neglect. Wait long enough and you will find supporters for your deliberate inaction.

Perhaps London City Council could look to cities who have embraced their built heritage. The NBA Milwaukee Bucks wear cream coloured uniforms bearing the name Cream City. This is not a reference to the beer and dairy products for which Wisconsin is known. It is a statement of pride in the cream coloured brick buildings that were built a century or more ago from bricks produced from the local clay in Milwaukee's brickyards. In London, our buff brick buildings of the same vintage were also produced in local brickyards from local clay deposits. In fact, it is often referred to as London Brick. London calls itself the Forest City and efforts are being made to stop the destruction of our trees after years of neglect. It is time for the Buff Brick City to receive attention before more of that heritage is destroyed.

Please consider the possibility of London's past, present and future buildings coexisting harmoniously.

Respectfully
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