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Lois Chipper  
THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON



DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY CLERK  
K.W. SADLER, CITY CLERK

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MAY 13 1988

ARCHITECTURE AND  
PLANNING  
HERITAGE BRANCH

May 6, 1988

REGISTERED MAIL

Ministry of Citizenship & Culture  
Heritage Branch  
7th Floor, 77 Bloor Street West  
TORONTO, Ontario  
M7A 2R9

Re: Designation of 476 Richmond Street  
The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, c. 337

Please find enclosed, a certified copy of By-law No. L.S.P.-1985-156, entitled "A by-law to designate 476 Richmond Street to be of architectural value", passed by the Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London on May 2, 1988 and registered as Instrument No. 800398 on May 6, 1988.

*for* *D. Seely*  
R.J. Tolmie  
Assistant City Clerk

/ds

Enc

Bill No. 211  
1988

By-law No. L.S.P.-1985-156

A by-law to designate 476  
Richmond Street to be of  
architectural value.

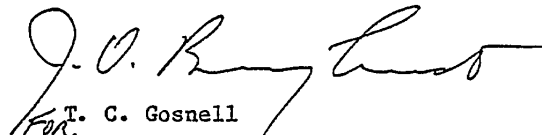
WHEREAS pursuant to The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, c. 337 the Council of a municipality may by by-law designate a property including buildings and structures thereon to be of historic or architectural value or interest;


AND WHEREAS notice of intention to so designate the property known as 476 Richmond Street has been duly published and served and no notice of objection to such designation has been received.

The Municipal Council of The Corporation of the City of London enacts as follows:

1. There is designated as being of architectural value or interest the real property, more particularly described in Schedule "A" hereto, at 476 Richmond Street, for the reasons set out in Schedule "B" hereto.
2. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered upon the title to the property described in Schedule "A" hereto in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owner of the aforesaid property and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in the London Free Press, and to enter the description of the aforesaid property, the name and address of its registered owner, and short reasons for its designation in the Register of all properties designated under The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980.
4. This by-law comes into force on the day it is passed.

PASSED in Open Council on May 2, 1988.

  
T. C. Gosnell  
Mayor

  
K. W. Sadler  
City Clerk

First reading - May 2, 1988  
Second reading - May 2, 1988  
Third reading - May 2, 1988

## SCHEDULE "A"

to By-law No. L.S.P.-2985-156

"That part of St. Paul's Block, in the City of London and County of Middlesex, designated as Parts 2 and 3 on Reference Plan 33R2867."

## SCHEDULE "B"

to By-law No. L.S.P.-2985-156

### Architectural Reasons

Enhanced by the curve of Richmond Street and the adjacent lawn of St. Paul's Cathedral, 476 Richmond Street is an important London architectural landmark. Built in 1890 for the London Mutual Fire Insurance Company, it has served a variety of functions, among them a hall for the fraternal Woodman of the World, the offices of the Diocese of Huron and as a restaurant. Designed by London architect George Craddock, this three storey, red brick commercial building is characterized by the solid heaviness associated with the Romanesque Revival style. The three bays of the front elevation and the six bays of the south side elevation are separated by brick pilasters running through all three stories, excepting the first storey pilasters of the front elevation and the first three pilasters of the south side elevation which are of rusticated red sandstone blocks. As well, the two tall second storey pilasters of the front elevation are smoothly finished Corinthian columns of granite and comprise the building's most appealing feature. The last four bays of the south side elevation exhibit fewer decorative elements, thus giving the impression that the front elevation and the first two bays of the south side elevation were designed as the "public sides" of the building.

The roofline of the front elevation is dominated by a rather striking parapet gable harboring a petaled sunburst. At the corners and between the three decorative brick chimneys of the south side elevation are squat brick finials, each capped with a pyramidal piece of cut-stone. A bracketed wooden cornice runs the complete length of both elevations (the double brackets serve to link the pilasters to the cornice). A second cornice separates the second and third stories of the front elevation, but continues only for two of the bays of the south side elevation. Finished cut-stone coursing joins the heads and sills of the third storey windows; cut-stone coursing further divides the second from the third storey and links the sills and decorates the pilasters between the tall second storey windows; rusticated red sandstone heads extend as a string course through the three bays of the front elevation and the first two bays of the south side elevation, continuing thereafter in unfinished cut-stone.

The front elevation and the two bays on the south side elevation are supported on a base of rusticated red sandstone foundation blocks; in contrast, the concluding four bays of the south side elevation rest only on rusticated cut-stone blocks, as this is again the less public side of the building. A small enclosed gable caps the main entrance through the centre bay of the front elevation. Doors have replaced the windows on either side of the main entrance. The windows of the first storey of the south side elevation have also been altered. Of the doors that fill the first storey of the third and fifth bays, only the former appears original.

Of particular heritage significance in the interior is the second floor wooden ceiling paneling, which extends to the original rear wall of the building (the second floor was formerly one large room, partitioned in recent years for a restaurant). The north wall of the undivided section of the room is also paneled and accommodates a wooden fireplace with later additions. Dominating the room, the tall plate glass windows of the front and south walls of the undivided section are framed by wood paneled cases, which formerly held interior shutters now mostly removed.

Wooden paneling is found also over the staircase at ceiling level and decorating the walls. The original stair railing remains, supported by simple, square, uncarved spokes and newel posts. The entire staircase is lighted by a large, wood framed, plate glass window.