



Draft Summary OEVCA Executive Meeting

Sunday, June 14, 2015

2:30-4:00pm

LIFE*SPIN Living Room, 868 Dundas St.

Members of the executive present: Kristina Greenaway Courey (President/Chair); Jacalyn Grabowski (Treasurer); Rodger Moran; Carole Perraud Joly; Bruce Rankin; Paul Seale (Secretary); Susan Toth

Voting members of the executive absent: Jennifer Diplock (Past-President); Joel Eckert; Greg Fowler; Oliver Godbout; Ellen Husk (Vice-President); Guido Mulder

Executive members *ex officio* present: Mike Courey (Social Committee); Lewis Seale (*OEV NEWS*); Benjamin Vazquez (East London Historical Society)

Executive members *ex officio* not present: Meg Pirie (Communications and Public Relations)

Kristina opened the meeting by recapping the busy month in the Village since our last meeting.

2:43pm: Approval of April minutes

2:45pm: Benjamin Vazquez presented the findings and recommendations of the London East Historical Society with respect to the heritage status of industrial in and near the neighbourhood.

3:05pm: The executive endorsed all five of the LEHS recommendations.

#1. We recommend that the following buildings be added to the existing Inventory of Heritage Structures in London. This gives us a sixty-day window to prepare a case for preserving the buildings if demolition or significant alteration is proposed, but offers no protection beyond that window. Note that some of the structures here listed are already included on the inventory, but most are not. We're including a complete list here, but will remove the structures already on the inventory when we forward to LACH.

- 639 Nelson Street, the S.F. Lawson Building, London's last surviving structure to have served as an oil refinery during the oil boom of the 1870s.

- 825 Cabell Street, Public Utility Substation #2, London's second electrical substation, associated with the arrival of electricity from Niagara Falls, the application of electricity to industry in the early twentieth century, and Sir Adam Beck. Also a structure of significant architectural interest.

- The heritage Portions of 20 Kitchener Avenue, the London Concrete Machinery Complex.

- The heritage portions of the George White & Sons Complex (various addresses at the intersection of Cabell Street and Roberts Avenue

- 430 Adelaide Street North, the O-Pee-Chee Building
- 630 Dundas Street, the Somerville Building
- 312-316 Rectory Street, the Bennett Furnishing Building, currently home to the offices of the BIA.
- The remaining stall of the Canadian Pacific Roundhouse in the Quebec Street Yard.
- 982 Princess Avenue, the Orange Crush Bottling Building, recommended for inclusion on its architectural rather than its historical merits.
- 471 Nightingale Avenue, the Hunt Milling Company Building, London's tallest structure when built and currently home to Novacraft Canoes.
- 445 Nightingale Avenue, the Reid Brothers Building
- 1108 Dundas Street, the Empire Brass Company (EMCO) Building
- The heritage portions of 100 Kelloggs Lane, the Kellogg's Complex (essentially the portion of the complex north of King Street).
- 1127 Dundas Street, the Dominion Office Furniture Building, the oldest surviving structure in the Smokestack District.
- 1152 Dundas Street, The Ruggles Trucks Building
- 1173 Dundas Street, the Jones Box & Label Building, notable for the impressive Art Deco entrance on Dundas Street.
- 1156 Dundas Street, the McCormick's Building, including the structure's surviving smokestack, which is original to the complex.
- The heritage portions of 1157 King Street, the Webster Air Building (the original 1936 factory and the WWII expansion at King & Eleanor Streets)
- 1151 & 1161 Florence Street & 1150 Frances Street, the Supersilk Hosiery Complex.

#2. In addition we recommend that the following buildings also be designated as heritage structures. This offers a great deal of long-term protection against the demolition or unsympathetic alteration of the buildings in question. Of the buildings listed only McCormick's is currently a designated property.

- 825 Cabell Street, Public Utility Substation #2, London's second electrical substation, associated with the arrival of electricity from Niagara Falls, the application of electricity to industry in the early twentieth century, and Sir Adam Beck. Also a structure of significant architectural interest.
- 430 Adelaide Street North, the O-Pee-Chee Building
- 630 Dundas Street, the Somerville Building
- 471 Nightingale Avenue, the Hunt Milling Company Building, London's tallest structure when built and currently home to Novacraft Canoes.
- The heritage portions of 100 Kelloggs Lane, the Kellogg's Complex (essentially the portion of the complex north of King Street).
- 1152 Dundas Street, The Ruggles Trucks Building
- 1156 Dundas Street, the McCormick's Building, including the structure's surviving smokestack, which is original to the complex.

#3. We recommend that the existing heritage designation for the McCormick's building be extended to include the structure's smokestack, a significant neighbourhood landmark and reminder of the area's industrial heritage.

#4. As a collection of industrial architecture unique in London and possibly in Southwestern Ontario, we recommend the eventual establishment of a heritage district in the Smokestack District defined to include the properties on the north side of Dundas Street from Burbrook Place to Ashland Avenue, these on the south side of Dundas Street from 1097 to 1173 Dundas, these on the east side of Nightingale from Dundas Street to 471 Nightingale, the portion of the Kellogg's complex lying north of an extension of King Street, and the south side of King Street from 1101 to 1165 King.

#5. We recommend that the city consider the erection of historical plaques on the former sites of the Imperial Oil Refinery (bounded by Adelaide Street, Hamilton Road, Inkerman Street, and Nelson Street), and the Grand Trunk Car Shops (bounded by Florence Street, Egerton Street, the CN Tracks, and a point roughly midway between Rectory & Egerton Streets). We elected not to recommend the erection of plaques on the site of significant industries whose structures were still standing, although in the future that could be considered as well.

3:10pm: After renewed discussion of the OEVCA's role in appointing representation to the Lorne Ave RFP it was moved and carried that Kristina Greenaway Courey should fill the position when the city calls upon us.

3:20pm: Brief discussion of summer priorities and timetables including Block Party (July 18); OEV News (tentatively Sept 12) and the Lorne Ave site.

3:25pm: Kristina facilitated a SWOT analysis of the Old East Village Community Association.

3:50pm: Resolved to have an additional June meeting specifically to analyze the results of the SWOT exercise and discuss ways to improve the OEVCA.

Next meetings: (Additional) Wednesday, June 24, 5:30-7:30pm,
Home of Jacalyn Grabowski, 839 Dufferin Ave.

(Regular) Sunday, July 12, 2:30-4:00pm,
LIFE*SPIN Living Room, 868 Dundas St