

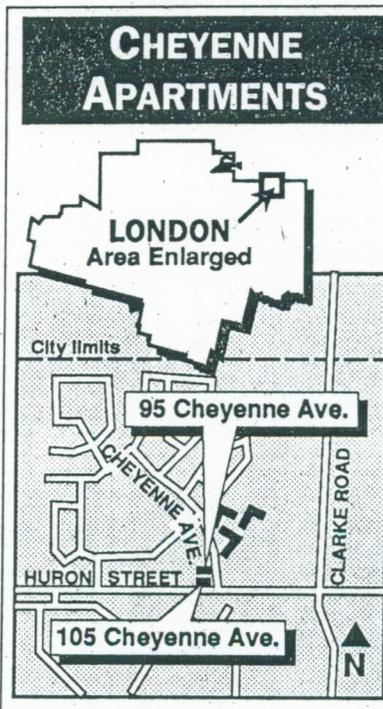
Building cleanups bog down

A split in responsibility for inspections and a clogged court system are stalling efforts to help tenants of the two London apartment buildings.

The fight to clean up the Cheyenne apartments appears hopelessly bogged down in bureaucracy and a clogged court system. London city council's environment and transportation committee heard Monday from a community worker and provincial and city officials about the delays in prosecuting the owner of 95 and 105 Cheyenne Ave.

BUREAUCRATIC SNAG: Community worker Susan Eagle says tenants of the building are putting up with "generations of cockroaches" while civic and health officials sort out responsibility and attempt to have bylaw infractions prosecuted in court.

Medical officer of health Dr. Douglas Pudden said the complaints are "falling through the cracks" because responsibility for inspections are split between health inspectors and city building inspectors.



Research: Eric Bender

The London Free Press

The city's director of building controls, Rocky Cerminara, said the prosecution process has been held up for months because the owners have taken full advantage of appeals offered in city regulations and the court system.

SYSTEM CRITICIZED: Ward 3 Aldermen Pat O'Brien and Bernie MacDonald said the system was favoring the owner and forcing

- Address:** 95 and 105 Cheyenne Ave. at Huron Street.
- Owner:** Elija Elieff.
- Description:** Two 20-unit buildings.
- Tenants:** High percentage of refugees and immigrants.
- Problems:** Cockroaches, intermittent plumbing breakdowns, general disrepair.
- Earlier city hall action:** Investigation last year led to order to repair common areas. Failure-to-comply charge laid in June. Court date Nov. 6.
- Health unit action:** Order to exterminate cockroaches two weeks ago. Major sewage blockage at 95 Cheyenne rectified after 15-hour water cutoff Sept. 14. Extermination preparations under way. Should be complete by early next week.

the tenants, many of them Cambodian immigrants, to suffer.

"If this is the best we can do, that's just not good enough," said O'Brien.

The committee requested a report on streamlining the inspection and prosecution process and a meeting with court administrators to discuss delays in setting trial dates.