



Photo: City Staff, 2009

### **1520 Pinetree Crescent**

This is a two-storey house on the east bank of the Credit River, south of the Queen Elizabeth Way.

### **Historical Background**

Charles Pierce Bechan Angus (1898-1955) and Gladys Irene Watson (1899-1988), married in 1920. They purchased the subject property in 1925 and commissioned Arnoldi, McMaster and Co. to design the subject house. "Cedar Bank" fronted Stavebank Road (#1486) until 1956.<sup>1</sup> As such, it would have originally had a deep front yard. The property is heavily forested in historic (1954) aerial photography.

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<sup>1</sup> Property name from Heritage Mississauga records.



Architect (Evelyn) Telfer Arnoldi (1881-1975) apprenticed for 12 years under Langley and Howland before starting his own business in 1920.<sup>2</sup> From 1924 to 1930 he partnered with engineer A.T.C. McMaster.<sup>3</sup> They designed St. Mark's Anglican Church on Blackthorn Avenue near St. Clair in 1929; the church still stands under a different name.<sup>4</sup>

Angus was in the show card business. Show cards are temporary signs to be displayed in store windows.<sup>5</sup> They are "honest, straightforward," as per Toronto's Dominion Modern Gallery, hand painted paper signs and were a profitable profession.<sup>6</sup> Angus partnered with fellow "card writer" Carlye Arthur West (1893-1960) and formed West-Angus Show Card Service, with Angus as V.P. and Manager but the company went bankrupt in 1925 only a couple of years since being listed in *Might's Directory* in 1923.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Biographical Dictionary of Canadian Architects, [www.dictionaryofarchitectsincanada.org/node/60](http://www.dictionaryofarchitectsincanada.org/node/60), accessed June 13, 2024.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> *Toronto Star*, December 27, 1929.

<sup>5</sup> Lawrence J. Strong and Charles J. Strong, *The Art of Show Card Writing: A Modern Treatise Covering All Branches of the Art*, Chicago: Frederik J. Drake and Company, 1922.

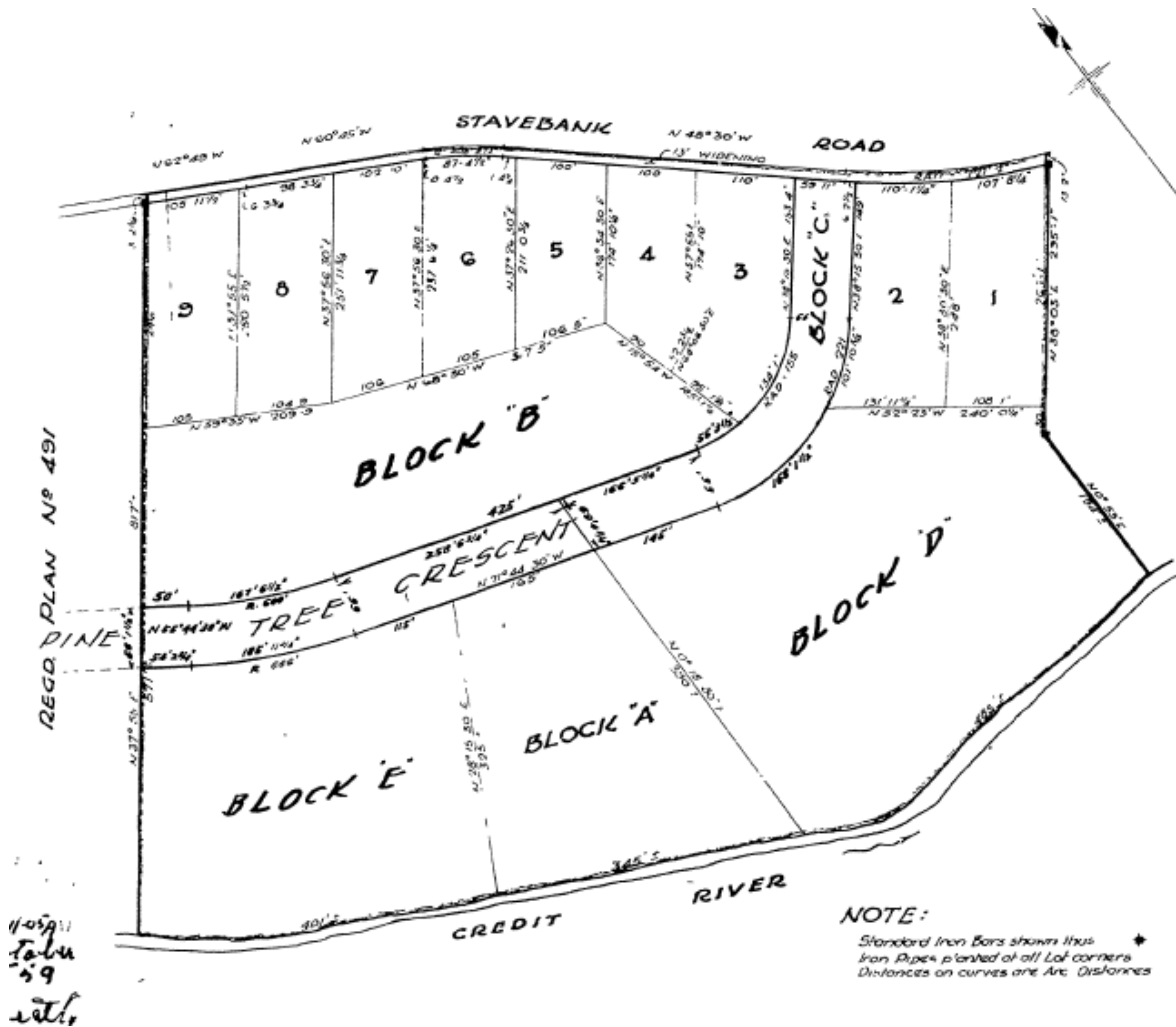
<sup>6</sup> Meredith Kasabian, "The Candid Appeal of the Advertising Show Card," *JSTOR Daily*, March 8, 2017, <https://daily.jstor.org/the-candid-appeal-of-the-advertising-show-card/>, accessed June 13, 2024.

<sup>7</sup> *Globe and Mail*, November 13, 1925.

Perkins Bull notes that Angus kept bees.<sup>8</sup> The couple had two sons, Howard Charles “Chris” Angus (1925-2003) and Carlyle “Carl” Watson Angus (1921-1999). Doris Hazel Arntfield Angus (1928-2012) ran Woodland Heights Nursery School in the house with Gladys in 1949 and 1950.<sup>9</sup> She married Howard in 1948 and the couple lived in the home until at least 1962, as per voters lists.<sup>10</sup>

In 1949, Charles and his sons started a jewelry business on Bloor Street (Toronto). Charles Angus was involved with the Toronto Township Ratepayers Association since its inception in the early 1930s. He was elected Vice President in 1945 and co-VP in 1952.<sup>11</sup> The subject property was considered to be on the outskirts of Port Credit.

After Angus’ death, Gladys subdivided the property in 1956 to form Pinetree Crescent, reserving Block A for herself (RP00559). She married Richard S. Pickell, auditor. The wedding reception for Carlyle’s daughter, Susan Carol Angus, was held at the property in 1972.<sup>12</sup>



<sup>8</sup> PAMA

<sup>9</sup> Port Credit Weekly, February 10, 1949.

<sup>10</sup> Globe and Mail, October 12, 1948.

<sup>11</sup> PAMA and Port Credit Weekly.

<sup>12</sup> Mississauga Times, September 27, 1972.



Image: BlogTO 2021, <https://www.blogto.com/sponsored/2021/11/1520-pinetree-crescent-mississauga/>, accessed 21 June 2024. More images available [here](#).

The house is designed in the Craftsman style with Tudor Revival elements. The Craftsman style originated from the Arts and Crafts movement, which riled against the machine focused Industrial Revolution. It espoused a truthful use of materials and harmony with nature in its picturesque glory. This style of architecture would have suited Angus, card writer (“honest, straightforward”) and jeweler, well. It is also blends well with a rustic setting. The house is largely made of Credit Valley stone with Tudor half timbering in the upper areas and Tudor paneling and leaded fenestration at the main entrance, which faced south. It is a multi cross-gabled layout with a wide chimney so, largely, a more rambling and asymmetric aesthetic. These are aspects of Tudor Revival architecture but the steeply pitched roofing of the English style is absent. A two-storey veranda faces the river, screened in on the main floor. The house features deep overhangs, exposed purlins, rafter ends and heavy brackets, all elements of the Craftsman style.

Wealthy Torontonians began visiting the area now known as Toronto Township in the late nineteenth century for summer vacations. As an example, the area now known as Lorne Park Estates originated as a summer resort with cottages. In the early twentieth century, well-to-do Torontonians began establishing estates, especially in the south part of area. Automobiles, paved roads and electric railway service allowed people to commute from Clarkson, Port Credit and Lakeview into Toronto.<sup>13</sup> This is a significant aspect of Mississauga’s history. A non-exhaustive record of such estates is below:

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<sup>13</sup> Roger E. Riendeau, *Mississauga: An Illustrated History*, Windsor Publications, 1985, p. 82.

| <b>Name</b>   | <b>Address</b>                          | <b>Architect</b>              | <b>Year</b> |
|---------------|---|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Hall          | Miss Rd./QEW Area                       | Unknown                       | 1908        |
| Hobberlin     | 20 Ben Machree Drive                    | E.J. Lennox                   | 1910        |
| Ryrie         | Clarkson                                | Edmund Burke                  | 1911        |
| Lee           | 1341 Stavebank Road                     | Unknown                       | 1912        |
| Parker        | Riverwood                               | Mathers and Haldenby          | 1913        |
| Eaton         | 766 Balboa Drive                        | Unknown                       | 1913        |
| Walker        | 1 Godfrey's Lane                        | Murray Brown                  | 1917        |
| Adamson       | 850 Enola Avenue                        | Sproatt and Rolph             | 1919        |
| Fudger        | Rattray Marsh                           | Dunning                       | 1920        |
| Langmuir      | 1945 Mississauga Road (heavily altered) | Molesworth, West and Secord   | 1920        |
| Bickell       | 1993 Mississauga Road                   | Murray Brown                  | 1923        |
| Angus         | 1520 Pinetree Crescent                  | Arnoldi, McMaster and Company | 1925        |
| Cawthra       | 1507 Cawthra Road                       | W.L. Somerville               | 1926        |
| Evans         | 1695 The Collegeway                     | Mathers and Haldenby          | 1928        |
| Fasken        | 2221 Shawanaga Trail                    | Wickson and Gregg             | 1928        |
| Hunter/Squair | 1959 Folkway Drive                      | Unknown                       | 1930        |
| Bell/Harding  | 2700 Lakeshore Road West                | Marani Lawson and Morris      | 1931        |
| Dean          | 2165 Mississauga Road                   | George and Moorehouse         | 1936        |

Charles Angus' house, overlooking the Credit River, is part of Mississauga's estate history.