



By-law 2020-67

A by-law to designate a property as being of
Cultural Heritage Value or Interest
Bishop-Reesor House

WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, the Council of a Municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Markham has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

7739 9th Line
Markham L6B 1A8

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the Bishop-Reesor House, 7739 Ninth Line, and has caused such notice of intention to be published once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MARKHAM HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the following real property, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest:

Bishop-Reesor House
City of Markham
The Regional Municipality of York

2. THAT the City Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the properties described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

Read a first, second, and third time and passed July 14 and 16, 2020.



Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk



Frank Scarpitti
Mayor

**SCHEDULE ‘A’ TO
BY-LAW 2020-67**

In the City of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, property descriptions as follows:

PART LOT 5, CONCESSION 9, MARKHAM AS IN R621232

CITY OF MARKHAM
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2020-67

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bishop-Reesor House

7739 Ninth Line

c.1890

Description of Property

The Bishop-Reesor House is a two storey buff brick dwelling at the south-east corner of Ninth Line and Fourteenth Avenue in the historic hamlet of Box Grove.

Historical and Associative Value

The Bishop-Reesor House has historical and associative value as the former home of James and Capitola Bishop. James Bishop was a member of a family of prominent carpenter-builders active in the eastern part of Markham Township in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. James Bishop built a number of houses as speculative ventures in which he and his wife lived for short periods of time before selling and building anew. This property was sold to James' brother Thomas in 1900, who sold to Josephus and Elizabeth Reesor in 1901. Josephus Reesor, a retired Mennonite farmer who farmed south of Box Grove on Lot 3, Concession 9, was noteworthy in his Box Grove – Cedar Grove community as a skilled herbalist. Some of his remedies were said to have come from aboriginal sources and were passed down through generations of the family. The property remained in the ownership of the Reesor family until 1921.

Design and Physical Value

The Bishop-Reesor House is a representative example of a village dwelling in a vernacular interpretation of the Gothic Revival style. Its irregular plan, medium pitched roof with multiple gables, and overall sense of verticality, express the picturesque form of late Gothic Revival architecture, but in this example without some of the decorative elements typically associated with the style. There are no pointed-arched feature windows, and there is an absence of bargeboard trim in the gables. Fretwork details still visible on a portion of the west porch suggest that there may have originally been further wooden embellishments to this many-gabled village dwelling.

Contextual Value

The Bishop-Reesor House is of contextual value as one of several 19th century buildings that are found in the historic crossroads community of Box Grove. Its location at a prominent street corner, where one would expect that a commercial enterprise would have been located rather than a residence is unusual, resulting in a dwelling that is a landmark at the intersection. While many of the remaining heritage buildings in Box Grove are smaller in scale and are of frame construction, the Bishop-Reesor House is a superior class of dwelling and would have been noteworthy for its quality at the c.1890 time of construction.

Significant Architectural Attributes to be Conserved

Exterior, character-defining elements that embody the cultural heritage value of the Bishop-Reesor House include:

- Irregular plan outline;
- Masonry foundation;
- Buff brick walls with brick plinth and angled arches over door and window openings;

- Medium-pitched gable roof with open, overhanging eaves and steep Gothic Revival gable on the north side;
- Flat-headed one over one sash-style windows;
- Canted bay window on the north side of the house;
- Modified former open porch on the north side of the house, sheltering an entrance door, with a hipped roof and fretwork brackets and spandrels;
- Open, shed-roofed porch on the west side of the house, sheltering an entrance door;
- Gable-roofed frame wing at the south end of the house, clad in vertical tongue and groove wood siding.