



MEMORANDUM

TO: Heritage Markham Committee

FROM: Evan Manning, Senior Heritage Planner

DATE: October 11, 2023

SUBJECT: Minor Heritage Permit Application
216 Main Street (“Fred Varley Art Gallery”), Unionville
Seasonal Courtyard Furniture

FILE: HE 23 142414

Property/Building Description: Two-storey building constructed c.1980s as per municipal records

Use: Institutional

Heritage Status: Designated under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act as part of the Unionville Heritage Conservation District (the “UHCD” or the “District”).

Application/Proposal

- The City has received a Minor Heritage Permit (HE) application seeking permission for the seasonal use of colourful metal chairs, tables and umbrellas within the courtyard at the Fred Varley Art Gallery (the “Subject Property” or the “Property”).

Background

Context

- The Subject Property, municipally-known as 216 Main Street, is located on the northwest corner of Main Street and Carlton Road. A paved, programmable courtyard fronts the intersection;
- The furniture has been introduced without the acquisition of an approved Minor Heritage Permit.

Legislative Context and Heritage Policy

Ontario Heritage Act

- As per Section 42(4) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, Council (or its delegate) must approve a heritage permit, with or without conditions, 90 days from the date the municipality

serves notice to the applicant of receipt of the submission. While Heritage Section staff (“Staff”) can approve a heritage permit via delegated authority, only Council can deny a permit;

- Staff served notice to the applicant on September 26, 2023 resulting in a decision deadline of December 25, 2023.

Unionville Heritage Conservation District Plan

Categorization

The Subject Property is categorized as a Class ‘B’ property. As described in Section 2.4 (‘Building Classification’) of the UHCD Plan, Class ‘B’ properties are described as follows:

- *Class 'B' Buildings that are important in terms of contextual value.*
 - *They may not be of significant historical or architectural value, however they contribute substantially to the visual character of the village landscape.*
 - *They support and help define the character of the District.*

Policies and Guidelines

The UHCD Plan contains the following policies and guidelines relevant to this application:

- Section 3.2.2 - Landscape/Streetscape provides the following direction ***“To introduce landscape, streetscape and infra-structure improvements that will enhance the heritage character of the District.*”**
- Section 5.4 – Street Furniture and Pedestrian Amenities provides the following direction: ***“New street furniture and pedestrian amenities should be co-ordinated in terms of design with the existing material located in the commercial core area of Main Street”***

Staff Comments

- Staff have no objection from a heritage perspective to the seasonal use of the colourful metal chairs, tables and umbrellas within the courtyard. While not strictly in keeping with the heritage character of the District in terms of colour, the furniture can be considered in keeping with the creative spirit of an art gallery.

Suggested Recommendation for Heritage Markham

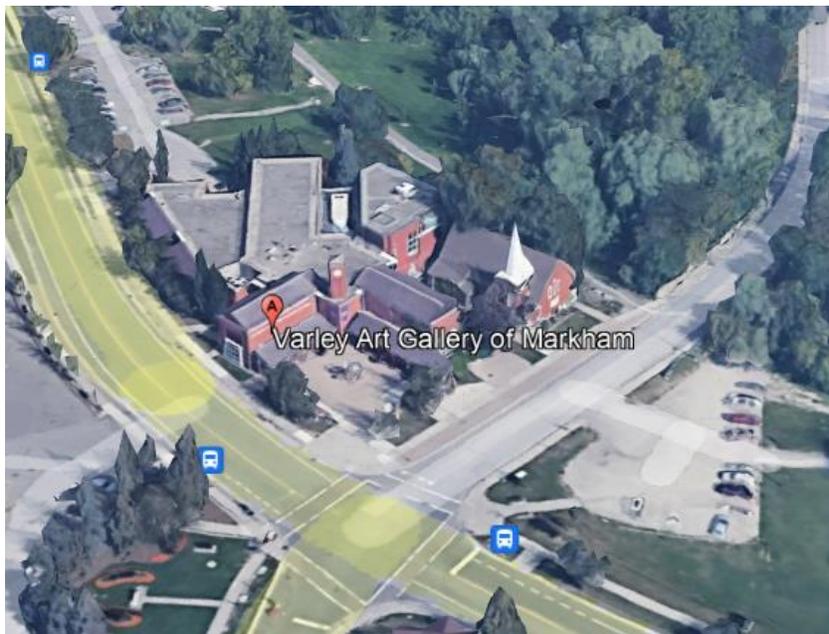
THAT Heritage Markham supports the use seasonal use of the courtyard furniture and recommends that the Minor Heritage Permit application for 216 Main Street be approved.

ATTACHMENTS:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Appendix ‘A’ | Property Map and Aerial Image of the Subject Property |
| Appendix ‘B’ | Photograph of the Subject Property |

Appendix 'A'

Property Map



Property map showing the location of the Subject Property outlined in blue [above] and an aerial image of the Subject Property [below] (Source: City of Markham)

Appendix 'B'

Photograph of the Subject Property



The courtyard as viewed from Main Street showing the seasonal patio furniture (Source: City of Markham)