



## By-law 2023-xx

A by-law to designate a property as being of  
Cultural Heritage Value or Interest  
“Box Grove United Church”

---

WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV, Section 29, of the Ontario Heritage Act (the “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;

WHEREAS the property described in Schedule “A” to this By-law (the “Property”) contains the cultural heritage resource known as the Box Grove United Church;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Markham, by resolution passed on September 12, 2023, has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada  
2450 Milltower Court  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L5N 5Z6

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the Box Grove United Church, 2 Legacy Drive, and has caused such notice of intention to be published digitally in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Act;

AND WHEREAS Council has described the Property, set out the Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest for the Property, and described the heritage attributes of the Property in Schedule “B” to this By-law, which forms 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:

“Box Grove United Church”  
2 Legacy Drive  
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 property described in Schedule “A” attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

Read a first, second, and third time and passed December 13, 2023.

---

Kimberley Kitteringham  
City Clerk

---

Frank Scarpitti  
Mayor

# **SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2023-xx**

In the City of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, the property municipally known as 2 Legacy Drive, Markham, Ontario, and legally described as follows:

**BLOCK 282, PLAN 65M3133, MARKHAM**

**PIN: 029360932**

# SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2023-xx

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Box Grove United Church

2 Legacy Drive  
c.1877

The Box Grove United Church is recommended for designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance.

#### **Description of Property**

The Box Grove United Church is a place of worship overlooking the Rouge Valley and Fourteenth Avenue within the historic hamlet of Box Grove.

#### **Design Value and Physical Value**

Box Grove United Church has design and physical value as a representative example of a late-nineteenth century vernacular frame village church in the Classic Revival and Italianate architectural styles. It is a vernacular building that is a later version of the Classic Revival style that was popular for rural Methodist churches in the mid-nineteenth century. The beauty of this church lies in its white-painted simplicity in combination with its setting among mature trees on a promontory overlooking the Rouge Valley. The medium-pitched gable roof and board and batten siding are features often associated with the Gothic Revival architectural style while the round headed windows are associated with the Italianate style that was used on many of the public buildings within nearby Markham Village.

#### **Historical Value and Associative Value**

Box Grove United Church has historical and associative value, representing the theme of religious and cultural diversity within early Markham. The roots of the Box Grove United Church go back to the early 1830s when an Episcopal Methodist congregation became established in the Markham Township hamlet of Sparta, later named Box Grove. A church building on this site appears on the "Plan of the Village of Sparta," dated 1850 (Plan 19). The property was formally deeded to the church by Sarah Wooley Tomlinson in 1869. A new church, the present building, was constructed in 1877. In 1884, the various branches of Methodism came together to form the Methodist Church. Box Grove Methodist became part of the United Church in 1925 when the Methodists, Congregationalists, and some Presbyterians joined to form the United Church of Canada. In the mid-2000s the property became the place of worship for the Full Gospel Assembly of God.

#### **Contextual Value**

Box Grove United Church has contextual value as a key heritage building in a grouping of nineteenth century buildings that are important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character of the historic hamlet of Box Grove. The church is located next to its historically-associated cemetery that pre-dates the existing building. Box Grove United Church has contextual value as a landmark within the heart of the historic hamlet of Box Grove where it is sited in a prominent and picturesque location overlooking the Rouge Valley and Fourteenth Avenue.

#### **Heritage Attributes**

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Box Grove United Church are organized by their respective Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria, as amended, below:

*Heritage attributes that convey the property's design value or physical value as a representative example of a late nineteenth century vernacular frame village church designed with the influences of the Classic Revival and Italianate architectural styles:*

- Rectangular plan;
- Frame construction;
- Entrance vestibule and pastor's room additions of the 1960s.
- Wood board and batten siding with moulded battens;
- Medium pitched gable roof with overhanging open eaves;
- Round-headed windows with their wood sash, moulded surrounds and lugsills.
- Round headed 4-light transom over the entrance doors;
- Fieldstone former entrance gates with poured concrete caps.

*Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value or associative value, representing the theme of religious and cultural diversity within early Markham to which it is linked as a location of consistent Christian worship for over 190 years:*

- The church is a tangible reminder of the long history of the property as a place of Christian worship, beginning in the 1830s.

*Heritage attributes that convey the property's contextual value as a building that is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character and extent of the historic hamlet of Box Grove, and its contextual value as a landmark:*

- The siting of the building overlooking the Rouge Valley and Fourteenth Avenue, within the historic hamlet of Box Grove.

*Attributes of the property that are not considered to be of cultural heritage value, or are otherwise not included in the Statement of Significance:*

- Modern double-leaf doors;
- Cemetery.