



By-law 2024-29

A by-law to designate a property as being of
Cultural Heritage Value or Interest
“Arthur and Sarah Spofford House”
11520 Kennedy Road

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 Arthur and Sarah Spofford House;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Markham, by resolution passed on November 15, 2023, has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

Christine Pallas
11520 Kennedy Road
Markham, Ontario
L6C 1P3

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the Arthur and Sarah Spofford House, 11520 Kennedy Road, 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:

“Arthur and Sarah Spofford House”
11520 Kennedy Road
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 February 28, 2024.

Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk

Frank Scarpitti
Mayor

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2024-29

In the City of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, the property municipally known as 11520 Kennedy Road, Markham, Ontario, and legally described as follows:

PT E PT OF E1/2 LT 31 CON 5 PT 3, 64R8204; T/W MA109888. TOWN OF MARKHAM

PIN: 037250049

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2024-29

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Arthur and Sarah Spofford House

11520 Kennedy Road
c.1880

The Arthur and Sarah Spofford House 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 Arthur and Sarah Spofford House is a one-and-a-half storey stucco-clad dwelling located at the north-west corner of Kennedy Road and Nineteenth Avenue, east of the historic hamlet of Almira. The house faces eastwards.

Design Value and Physical Value

The Arthur and Sarah Spofford House has design value and physical value as a locally rare example of a late nineteenth century Gothic Revival farmhouse with a cruciform plan. Its picturesque roofline with multiple gables ornamented with curvilinear bargeboards, and its prominent, two-storey canted bay windows with iron cresting make it a locally excellent example of its architectural style. The Gothic Revival style was popular in Ontario from the 1860s to the 1880s and was suited to the design of dwellings at a variety of scales.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The Arthur and Sarah Spofford House has historical value and associative value, representing the locally-significant theme of immigration, particularly the significant wave of British families who arrived in Markham Township from 1830 onwards. William and Harriet Spofford were English immigrants who came to Markham from Yorkshire sometime between 1833 and 1837. William Spofford was a farmer and lumber dealer who became a prominent property owner in the vicinity of Almira. Arthur Spofford, the youngest son of William and Harriet Spofford, purchased the family homestead in 1872. In approximately 1880, he constructed a new brick farmhouse in the Gothic Revival style. In this way, the property is indicative of the nineteenth century trend whereby farmsteads were improved as the agricultural community progressed past the early settlement phase. The property remained in the ownership of the Spofford family until 1933.

Contextual Value

The Arthur and Sarah Spofford House has contextual value as it is physically, visually, and functionally linked to its surroundings where it has stood since c.1880. The property is also historically linked to its surroundings where it helps make legible the agricultural character of the former Markham Township.

Heritage Attributes

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Arthur and Sarah Spofford House 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 locally rare example of a late nineteenth century Gothic Revival farmhouse:

- One-and-a-half storey height;
- Cruciform plan;
- Brick masonry underlying the existing stucco cladding;

- Segmentally-headed window openings with projecting lugsills;
- Two-storey canted bay windows on the south and east gable end walls with their decorative cast iron cresting;
- Medium-pitched, cross-gabled roof with projecting, overhanging eaves and curvilinear bargeboards;
- Steeply-pitched gabled wall dormers with projecting, overhanging eaves, curvilinear bargeboards, and pointed-arched windows.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value or associative value, representing the locally significant theme of immigration, particularly the waves of British families who arrived in Markham Township from 1830 onwards, and the nineteenth century trend whereby farmsteads were improved as the agricultural community progressed past the early settlement phase:

- The dwelling dating from c.1880 is a tangible reminder of the English Spofford family of successful farmers that historically resided on this property from the mid-1830s until 1933.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's contextual value as a nineteenth century agricultural remnant and landmark nearby to the historic community of Almira:

- The location and orientation of the building facing east, at the north-west corner of Kennedy Road and Nineteenth Avenue.

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

- Enclosed front porches;
- Chimneys;
- Modern windows and doors;
- One-storey rear wing;
- Rear sunroom and deck;
- Barn and other accessory buildings.