



## By-law 2024-124

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY AS BEING OF  
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST  
“ISAAC AND EMMA REESOR HOUSE”  
6742 STEELES AVENUE EAST

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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 Isaac and Emma Reesor House;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Markham, by resolution passed on April 3, 2024, has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

Dorothy Reesor  
6742 Steeles Avenue East  
Markham, Ontario  
L3S 3J5

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the Isaac and Emma Reesor House, 6742 Steeles Avenue East, 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:  
  
“Isaac and Emma Reesor House”  
6742 Steeles Avenue East  
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 June 26, 2024.

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Kimberley Kitteringham  
City Clerk

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Frank Scarpitti  
Mayor

# **SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2024-124**

In the City of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, the property municipally known as 6742 Steeles Avenue East, Markham, Ontario, and legally described as follows:

PART EAST 1/2 LOT 2, CONCESSION 9, MARKHAM AS IN R744721  
(SECONDLY); PART LOT 1 CONCESSION 9, MARKHAM; PART EAST 1/2  
LOT 2, CONCESSION 9, MARKHAM PART 7, PLAN 64R7853  
CONFIRMED BY 65BA2151 & 65BA2152; S/T DEBTS IN R744721; S/T  
SPOUSAL INTEREST IN R744721; MARKHAM

PIN: 030650083

# SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2024-124

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Isaac and Emma Reesor House

6742 Steeles Avenue East  
c.1899 & c.1922

The Isaac and Emma Reesor 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 Isaac and Emma Reesor House is a two-and-a-half storey frame dwelling located on the north side of Steeles Avenue East, west of Reesor Road, in the historic community of Cedar Grove. The house faces south.

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

The Isaac and Emma Reesor House has design and physical value as a unique example of an evolved vernacular farmhouse that blends two distinct periods of development, each with its own architectural form and stylistic features. The dominant architectural form is an American Foursquare, typical of the early twentieth century period of its construction. The recessed eastern portion of the house, dating from the late nineteenth century, reflects a restrained version of the vernacular Gothic Revival style. Along with the sunroom and enclosed veranda additions which are more recent additions, the house makes legible the changing needs and tastes of the several generations of the Reesor family that have resided here.

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

The Isaac and Emma Reesor House has historical value for its association with the Pennsylvania German Mennonite community who formed one of the initial European communities in Markham Township during the early nineteenth century, and for its association with several generations of Reesors, a locally prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family. The first phase of this house was constructed in 1899 as the home of farmer Isaac Reesor and Emma (Rittenhouse) Reesor on the eastern half of Markham Township Lot 1, Concession 9. In addition to farming, Isaac Reesor was a skilled woodworker who followed in the footsteps of his father, Simeon Reesor, owner and operator of a sawmill in Cedar Grove. The original farmhouse was expanded and remodeled in 1922 when Simeon Reesor, a son of Isaac and Emma Reesor, married Annie Wideman. Isaac Reesor's descendants continue to reside here and operate one of the last family-owned farms in Markham.

#### **Contextual Value**

The Isaac and Emma Reesor House has contextual value as one of a number of nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings that help to define the character and extent of the historic community of Cedar Grove.

#### **Heritage Attributes**

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Isaac and Emma Reesor 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 unique example of an evolved vernacular farmhouse that blends two distinct periods of development, each with its own architectural form and stylistic features:*

- Front-facing L-shaped plan;

- Fieldstone foundation;
- Vertical tongue and groove wood siding;
- Flat-headed rectangular single-hung windows with a two-over two-pane division;
- Two-and-a-half storey height of the western portion of the dwelling;
- Hipped roof, hip-roofed dormer, and single-stack brick chimney of the western portion of the dwelling;
- Three-bay primary elevation of the western portion of the dwelling, with its off-centre single-leaf door;
- Hip-roofed open veranda supported on square wood posts;
- Gable roof of eastern portion of the dwelling with its steep centre gable;
- Rear kitchen wing and woodshed;
- Sunroom with its grouped rectangular windows;
- Enclosed front veranda with its single-leaf door and bank of three-over-one rectangular windows.

*Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value for its association with the Pennsylvania German Mennonite community who formed one of the initial European communities in Markham Township during the early nineteenth century, and for its association with several generations of Reesors, a locally prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family.:*

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of the several generations of the Pennsylvania-German Mennonite Reesor family that have resided here.

*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 community of Cedar Grove:*

- The location of the building facing south, where it has stood since 1899.

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

- Barn complex and other accessory buildings.