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VIA EMAIL: kkitteringham@markham.ca

Kimberly Kitteringham
City Clerk,
City of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard,
Markham, Ontario,
L3R 9W3

Re: 7696 9TH LINE (Box Grove) Markham, Ontario; Notice of Objection to Listing of Property of Register (Section 27 (3) Ontario Heritage Act)

Please be advised that we represent the estate of the late Martha Grant, the owner of the property municipally described as 7696 9TH LINE (Box Grove) Markham, Ontario ("Subject Property"). It has very recently come to the attention of the Estate Trustees that the dwelling located on the Subject Property is listed as a property with cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to subsection 27(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O. 18 ("Heritage Act"). The estate objects to the inclusion of the dwelling on the register and requests that the council remove the Subject Property and dwelling located thereon from the register it maintains pursuant to Section 27 of the Heritage Act. The dwelling in question contains little or no historical or cultural value as the exterior and interior of the dwelling has, since the 1950s, been altered to such an extent that none of the original exterior or interior remains. This letter is provided to you pursuant to Subsection 27(7) of the Heritage Act, which provides:

The owner of a property who objects to a property being included in the register under subsection (3) or a predecessor of that subsection shall serve on the clerk of the municipality a notice of objection setting out the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts. 2019, c. 9, Sched. 11, s. 6; 2022, c. 21, Sched. 6, s. 3 (3).

Pursuant to Subsection 27(8) of the Heritage Act

If a notice of objection has been served under subsection (7), the council of the municipality shall,

- (a) consider the notice and make a decision as to whether the property should continue to be included in the register or whether it should be removed; and
- (b) provide notice of the council's decision to the owner of the property, in such form as the council considers proper, within 90 days after the decision.

While the original dwelling (along with a blacksmith's shop) may have been constructed in the 1880s, the house in question was completely renovated in the mid-1950s and the shop is long gone. The estate trustees, who are the children of the deceased, have knowledge of the overhaul as they were present when their parents effected the renovations. They wish to draw the following to your and council's attention:

- 1) All of the features that could have been considered having historical or cultural interest were removed in the 1950s renovation, including: the removal of the barrel-style cistern, the stone foundation, the back summer kitchen, the concrete chimneys, and the original siding and roofing;
- 2) None of the original exterior, including siding, windows, door or the roof remain. The siding on the dwelling is now composed of aluminum, plywood and brick;
- 3) The footprint of the house was enlarged in the 1960s as the owners constructed an addition at the rear of the dwelling (the exterior of which is composed of brick).
- 4) Major alterations were made to the very frame of the dwelling to incorporate new modern windows;
- 5) The size and location of most, if not all, of the windows and door frames have been altered;
- 6) The blacksmith's shop (a separate outbuilding) was demolished many in the 1950s as well.

Included with this letter are photographs of the exterior of the dwelling as it currently appears.

In addition to the exterior alterations, the interior was completely remodeled around the same time: the layout of the rooms was reconfigured; the lath and plaster walls were replaced with drywall and fake wood paneling; the original stairwells were moved and are now composed of modern materials; and the rotting floors were torn up and fitted with new joists and flooring.

We appreciate that recent amendments to the Heritage Act are requiring municipalities, including the City of Markham, to consider what listed buildings on its register should receive designated status ahead of January 1, 2025. Given the above, the estate trustees feel that it is highly unlikely that this non-descript house composed of vinyl siding, plywood and brick has any of the features and/or characteristics will receive a heritage designation under the Heritage Act and can and should be removed from the list of non-designated properties included on the Register. The estate trustees, therefore, respectfully request that the municipal council remove this building and property from the list of properties included on the register pursuant to Subsection 27(3) of the Heritage Act.

We look forward to receiving council's decision. Please advise should you have any questions or require any further documentation.

Yours truly,


Joe Grant;

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