



By-law 2025-14

A BY-LAW TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY AS BEING OF
CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE OR INTEREST
“ABRAM AND MARGARET RAYMER HOUSE”
7530 NINTH LINE

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 Abram and Margaret Raymer House;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Markham, by resolution passed on September 25, 2024, has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

William Bassels
7530 Ninth Line
Markham, Ontario
L6B 1A8

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the Abram and Margaret Raymer House, 7530 Ninth Line, 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:

“Abram and Margaret Raymer House”
7530 Ninth Line
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 January 28, 2025.

Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk

Frank Scarpitti
Mayor

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2025-xx

In the City of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, the property municipally known as 7530 Ninth Line, Markham, Ontario, and legally described as follows:

PART EAST 1/2 LOT 3 CONCESSION 8; PART 1, 65R10220; MARKHAM

PIN: 02937-0011

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2025-14

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Abram and Margaret Raymer House

7530 Ninth Line
c.1889

The Abram and Margaret Raymer 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 Abram and Margaret Raymer House is a one-and-a-half storey and two-storey brick dwelling located on the west side of Ninth Line, south of the historic crossroads hamlet of Box Grove. The house faces east.

Design Value and Physical Value

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House has design and physical value as a good representative example of a brick dwelling rendered in the vernacular Queen Anne Revival style. The Queen Anne Revival style was popular in late nineteenth century Markham, particularly in the eastern portion of the former Township for frame and brick houses in both villages and in rural areas. It was the most eclectic style of domestic architecture in the nineteenth century. The American version of Queen Anne Revival influenced domestic architecture in Canada. This example combines the L-shaped form and steep centre gable typical of vernacular Gothic Revival with elements of the High Victorian Queen Anne Revival style in the treatment of the front projecting gable with its two-storey canted bay window and fretwork ornamentation.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House has historical value for its association with the early cultural and religious diversity of Markham Township, namely Markham's Pennsylvania German Mennonite community, and more specifically for its association with Abram Raymer. He was a member of a locally important early Pennsylvania German Mennonite family that are considered the founders of Mount Joy which is located immediately north of Markham Village. This ornate brick dwelling was constructed c.1889 on a 25-acre parcel of Markham Township Lot 3, Concession 8 that was purchased by Abraham Raymer in two parts (1854 and 1868). Abraham Raymer lived on an adjacent property to the north where he farmed and owned a sawmill. This property was the home of his son Abram Raymer and his wife, Margaret (Legeer) Raymer, who married in 1889. In addition to farming, Abram Raymer contributed to a religious revival in the Box Grove community by leading Bible study groups and prayer meetings at the old Stone Jug hotel after the business closed. The property remained in the ownership of the Raymer family until 1939.

Contextual Value

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House is of contextual value as one of several nineteenth century dwellings that remain in the vicinity of the historic crossroads community of Box Grove, and because it is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to the site where it has stood since c.1889.

Heritage Attributes

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Abram and Margaret Raymer House are organized by their respective Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria, as amended, below:

Heritage attributes that convey the property's design and physical value as a good representative example of a brick dwelling rendered in the vernacular Queen Anne Revival style:

- L-shaped plan of brick dwelling;
- Combination of one-and-a-half and two-storey heights;
- Fieldstone foundation;
- Buff brick walls with projecting plinth and radiating arches over door and window openings;
- External fireplace chimney on the north elevation;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with projecting, open eaves and steep gable-roofed wall dormer;
- Decorative fretwork on the primary (east) elevation gable;
- Flat-headed 1/1 single hung wood windows with projecting lugsills on east and north elevations;
- Two-storey canted bay windows with large, fixed plate glass windows topped with leaded glass transom lights and 1/1 single hung windows on the primary (east) elevation;
- Shed-roofed front veranda;
- Bay window on south gable end, sided in narrow tongue and groove wood.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value for its association with the early cultural and religious diversity of Markham Township, namely Markham's Pennsylvania German Mennonite community, and more specifically for its association with Abram Raymer:

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of Abram Raymer, a member of a locally prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family considered to be the founders of Mount Joy, north of Markham Village.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings:

- The location of the building on its original site, facing east, south of the historic crossroads hamlet of Box Grove where it has stood since c.1889.

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

- Recent posts and railing on the front veranda;
- Frame front vestibule sided in narrow tongue and groove wood with diamond-shaped four-paned window;
- Modern principal door with sidelight on the south wall of vestibule;
- French doors on second floor of the south gable end;
- Frame rear addition;
- Accessory buildings.