

October 7, 2024

Heritage Committee Markham  
City of Markham, 101 Town Centre Boulevard,  
Markham, Ontario L3R 9W3

Re: Demolition Permit Application (24 179349 DP) – 10 Ruggles Avenue

I have taken the time to read all the material related to the above-noted demolition permit application. It appears that we have only **one** report from a firm known to be familiar with damaged heritage structures. It is not surprising then to see that this firm, Facet Group Inc., is the only one which has noted that there are remaining sound attributes of the Munshaw House which can be salvaged.

The Facet Group report states:

“The remaining sound attributes, specifically the original douglas fir ground floor joists from the west portion of the building, may be salvaged during the demolition and cleanup. The original front doorframe and multi-paned sidelights may be able to be salvaged once the roof and second floor framing are removed.

Areas of the clapboard siding or representative samples should be able to be salvaged. The foundation and plinth stone can be salvaged.”

While it is true that this approach will require extensive construction and is not the perfect solution, I am not sure that it will result in an asset of lesser value. The recommendation should be that the owner work with firms known to be familiar with the restoration of damaged heritage structures to develop a restoration plan for this house. In my opinion, this restoration would be of greater value than demolition and plaque installation. The Munshaw House should be allowed to stand as a symbol of Markham’s rich history and the importance of protecting these rare assets.

Sincerely,

*Elena Cesaroni*

Elena Cesaroni  
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