

Appendix D

Statement of Significance

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John B. Miller House
West Half Lot 21, Concession 9
7134 Major Mackenzie Drive East
c.1855

The John B. Miller House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 John B. Miller House is a one and a half storey fieldstone dwelling located on the north side of Elgin Mills Road East, between Ninth Line and Reesor Road. The house was constructed into a natural slope so that it is two and a half storeys at the eastern end. The house is not visible from the road, faces south, and overlooks a tributary of the Rouge River.

Design or Physical Value

The John B. Miller House is a noteworthy and locally rare example of a fieldstone bank house, constructed to fit within a natural slope. The house is a good example of vernacular Georgian tradition architecture. The fieldstone wall construction is accented with squared stone quoins at the corners and buff and red brick quoins and arches around door and window openings. The application of the quoin treatment around the door and window openings is a distinctly Scottish detail, suggesting the house may have been built by Scottish stone masons.

Historical or Associative Value

The John B. Miller House has historical value for its association with John B. Miller, a grandson of Jacob Miller and Phoebe (Gould) Miller, American immigrants from Erie County, New York, who arrived in Markham Township in 1796. The family were farmers and founding members of the Ninth Line Baptist Church.

Contextual Value

The house at 7134 Major Mackenzie Drive East remains in a rural setting, significant for having been built to address the specific topography of its site on the banks of a tributary of the Rouge River.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the John B. Miller House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its two and a half storey height, rectangular plan, the volume of the structure, and its siting into a natural slope;
- Fieldstone wall construction with squared stone quoins at the corners and buff and red brick quoins and arches around door and window openings;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves, eave returns and associated wood mouldings;
- Front doorcase with multi-paned transom light, multi-paned sidelights and wood door;
- Flat-headed, multi-paned wood sash-style windows with a 6 over 6 glazing pattern and projecting window sills.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

David Burke House

North Half Lot 24, Concession 10

10531 Reesor Road

c.1850

The David Burke House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 David Burke House is a two storey fieldstone dwelling located on the east side of Reesor Road, just south of the intersection of Elgin Mills Road East and Reesor Road. The house faces west and is set back from the road.

Design or Physical Value

The David Burke House is an exceptionally fine example of fieldstone construction. The large, squared, multi-coloured fieldstone on the front wall is a rare treatment in Markham. On the rear and side walls, the fieldstone treatment is more informal. The full two-storey height and remnants of Venetian windows on the ground floor front are uncommon locally for a farmhouse of this period and are therefore noteworthy. Stylistically, the house is a good example of vernacular Georgian tradition architecture, with its façade exhibiting a formal symmetry. A frame, one storey sidewing is an unusual 19th century addition, contrasting with the more common practice of adding wings at the rear of rural dwellings.

Historical or Associative Value

The David Burke House has historical value for its association with David Burke, an Irish immigrant who received the Crown patent for this property in 1838. The size and quality of the house is an indication of David Burke's success as a farmer in the country he chose as his new home.

Contextual Value

The house at 10531 Reesor Road remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community surrounding the historic crossroads hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the David Burke House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its two storey height, rectangular plan, the volume of the structure, and its one storey frame sidewing;
- Fieldstone wall construction with squared stone on the front wall and coursed rubblestone on the side and rear walls;
- Stone arches above door and window openings on the front wall, and brick arches above window and door openings on the side and rear walls;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves, eave returns and associated wood mouldings;
- Front doorcase with sidelights with wood panels below, and panelled wood door;
- Flat-headed windows openings, including the bricked-in remnants of original Venetian window on the ground floor front with a 6 over 6 glazing pattern and projecting window sills.

For Heritage Designation By-Law for 11201 Reesor Road

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wellington Wideman House

Lot 28, Concession 10

11201 Reesor Road

c.1910

The Wellington Wideman House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 Wellington Wideman House is a two and a half storey red brick dwelling located on the east side of Reesor Road, approximately half way between Elgin Mills Road East and Nineteenth Avenue. The house faces south, and due to its setback, cannot be seen from the road.

Design or Physical Value

The Wellington Wideman House is a good example of an American Foursquare style house in red pressed brick. Its design and detailing are typical of the simplified character of Markham's post-Victorian rural houses built in the early years of the 20th century. The wrap-around veranda, supported on simple Tuscan columns resting on brick pedestals, is a significant decorative feature.

Historical or Associative Value

The Wellington Wideman House has historical value for its association with Wellington Wideman, a member of a prominent Pennsylvania-German family. Wellington Wideman, a farmer, was a great-grandson of the Reverend Henry Wideman, who came to Markham from Pennsylvania in 1803. Henry Wideman was one of the first ordained Mennonite ministers in Upper Canada.

Contextual Value

The house at 11201 Reesor Road remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community surrounding the historic crossroads hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Wellington Wideman House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its two and a half storey height, cubic plan, and the volume of the structure;
- Red pressed brick wall construction with red brick arches over door and window openings;
- Truncated hipped roof with hipped roofed dormers, wide overhang, and wood soffits;
- Red brick chimney with corbelled cap;
- Hipped roofed wrap-around veranda supported on wood Tuscan columns resting on red brick pedestals, and the simple wood railing that formerly existed;
- Original door and window openings with brick arches and projecting window sills, with the windows presumed to be wood, one over one sash windows, based on the style of the house and the date of construction;

For Heritage Designation By-Law for 10295 Ninth Line

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

William F. Johnson House

West Half Lot 22, Concession 9

10295 Ninth Line

c.1915

The William F. Johnson House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 William F. Johnson House is a two and a half storey frame dwelling located on the east side of Ninth Line, just north of Major Mackenzie Drive East. The house faces south, not far from the road.

Design or Physical Value

The William F. Johnson House is a good example of a frame farmhouse in the American Foursquare style. Its design and detailing are typical of the simplified character of Markham's post-Victorian rural houses built in the early years of the 20th century. This frame example is noteworthy as most houses of this type that were constructed in Markham Township were faced in red pressed brick.

Historical or Associative Value

The William F. Johnson House has historical value for its association with William F. Johnson, a farmer, who lived on the property from the early 20th century until 1967. The Johnston family were established in the immediate area as early as 1827, when Cornelius Johnson purchased a neighbouring property. The present house at 10295 Ninth Line was probably built by the Johnson family some time between 1914 and 1925, and may have replaced an earlier house on the property.

Contextual Value

The house at 10295 Ninth Line remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community on the outskirts of the historic neighbourhood of Milnesville.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the William F. Johnson House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its two and a half storey height, cubic plan, one storey sidewing, and the volume of the structure;
- Frame wall construction with original wood siding underlying the existing vinyl cladding;
- Hipped roof with hipped roofed dormer and wide overhanging eaves;
- Gable-roof of the sidewing, with the slope continuing over a full-width veranda;
- Red brick chimney;
- Hipped roofed wrap-around veranda formerly supported on full-height, wood Tuscan columns;
- Flat-headed door and window openings now with replacement windows but previously with wood, one over one sash windows, based on the style of the house and the date of construction;

For Heritage Designation By-Law for 11223 Reesor Road

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

James Collins House

West Part Lot 29, Concession 10

11223 Reesor Road

c.1850

The James Collins House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 James Collins House is a one and a half storey frame dwelling located on the east side of Reesor Road, approximately half way between Elgin Mills Road East and Nineteenth Avenue. The house faces west, and is set back from the road.

Design or Physical Value

The James Collins House is a typical example of a modest tradesman's house in the vernacular Georgian architectural tradition. The effect of the building's design relies more on balance and proportion than upon decorative elements. A small barn associated with the house may have also contained a carpentry shop when originally constructed.

Historical or Associative Value

The James Collins House has historical value for its association with James Collins, an Irish immigrant who purchased a one acre parcel of Lot 29, Concession 10 in 1849. Collins was a carpenter by trade, and is believed to have built the modest frame house on this property c.1850. After James Collins sold the property in 1865, it became part of the Vanzant family land holdings. The Vanzants were of Dutch descent, and came to this area of Markham Township from New York State about 1800.

Contextual Value

The house at 11223 Reesor Road remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community surrounding the historic crossroads hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the James Collins House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its one and a half storey height, L-shaped plan incorporating a one and a half storey rear wing, and the volume of the structure;
- Frame wall construction with the original finish concealed beneath later claddings;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves;
- Simple front door opening;
- Flat-headed windows openings, which may have originally contained wood, 6 over 6 sash windows based on the style of the house and its period of construction;
- Frame barn with wood board and batten siding and a gable roof.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Boyles House East Part Lot 28, Concession 10 11190 York-Durham Line c.1870

The John Boyles House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 John Boyles House is a one and a half storey frame dwelling located on the west side of the York-Durham Line, approximately half way between Elgin Mills Road East and Nineteenth Avenue. The house faces east, and is sited close to the road.

Design or Physical Value

The John Boyles House is a good example of a frame, centre-gabled, Classic Ontario farmhouse. It is noteworthy due to the presence of canted bay windows on the north and south gable ends. Originally the door and window openings on the ground floor were segmentally-headed, which was typical for the period of construction. A portion of the one-storey rear wing may be the original kitchen tail.

Historical or Associative Value

The John Boyles House has historical value for its association with John Boyles, an American immigrant of German origin, who purchased the property in 1839. During the mid-19th century there were a number of frame houses on the property. John Boyles was a labourer, sawyer, and later, a farmer. He lived on another lot in the area until the early 1870s, when his son, Leonard Boyles took over the family farm. After that, John Boyles moved to this property and constructed a new house for his retirement.

Contextual Value

The house at 11190 York-Durham Line remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community surrounding the historic crossroads hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the John Boyles House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its one and a half storey height, L-shaped plan incorporating a one storey rear wing, and the volume of the structure;
- Frame wall construction with the original finish concealed beneath later claddings;
- Steeply-pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves and steep front gable;
- Simple front door opening;
- Segmentally-headed windows openings on the ground floor, which may have originally contained wood, 2 over 2 sash windows based on the style of the house and its period of construction;
- Flat-headed window openings on the second floor, which may have originally contained wood, 1 over 1 sash windows based on the style of the house and its period of construction.
- Canted bay windows on the north and south gable ends.

For Heritage Designation By-Law for 11122 Reesor Road

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Noble Tenant Farmer's House

East Half Lot 28, Concession 9

11122 Reesor Road

c.1840

The Noble Tenant Farmer's House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 Noble Tenant Farmer's House is a one and a half storey frame dwelling located on the west side of Reesor Road, approximately half way between Elgin Mills Road East and Nineteenth Avenue. The house faces east, and is set far back from the road.

Design or Physical Value

The Noble Tenant Farmer's House is a typical example of a modest tenant farmer's house in the vernacular Georgian architectural tradition. The asymmetrical arrangement of the door and window openings on the front façade is an indication of an early date of construction and a common element of vernacular architecture where the practicality of the interior plan took precedence over the exterior design. The front veranda is an early 20th century addition. A barn associated with the house is located to the west.

Historical or Associative Value

The Noble Tenant Farmer's House has historical value for its association with Ambrose Noble, an American immigrant from Massachusetts who came to Markham in 1816. Ambrose Noble and his son, Charles, operated a tannery from their home farm at Mount Joy in the mid-19th century. By 1861, the family concentrated on farming. The Noble family did not at any time reside on this property; rather it was occupied by tenant farmers. The rear wing may be the initial phase of construction of the existing house, perhaps dating from as early as c.1840, when the land was purchased from King's College.

Contextual Value

The house at 11122 Reesor Road remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community surrounding the historic crossroads hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Noble Tenant Farmer's House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its one and a half storey height, L-shaped plan incorporating a one storey rear wing, and the volume of the structure;
- Frame wall construction with the original finish concealed beneath later claddings;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves;
- Simple front door opening;
- Flat-headed windows openings, with wood 2 over 2 sash windows;
- Hipped-roofed front veranda supported on simple wood posts.

For Heritage Designation By-Law for 10676 Reesor Road

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Adam Betz House
East Half Lot 25, Concession 9
10676 Reesor Road
c.1871

The Adam Betz House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 Adam Betz House is a one and a half storey frame dwelling located on the west side of Reesor Road, just south of the crossroads of Nineteenth Avenue and Reesor Road. The house faces east, and is set far back from the road.

Design or Physical Value

The Adam Betz House is a typical example of a frame, centre-gabled Classic Ontario Farmhouse. The house is simply detailed, with no decorative bargeboards or pointed-arched window in the Gothic Revival centre gable. The flat-headed door and window openings remain in their original size, but now contain modern doors and windows.

Historical or Associative Value

The Adam Betz House has historical value for its association with Adam Betz, a German immigrant that arrived in Markham in the 1870s. Adam Betz was a farmer. His descendants continued to own and farm the property until 1955.

Contextual Value

The house at 10676 Reesor Road remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community surrounding the historic crossroads hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Adam Betz House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its one and a half storey height, rectangular plan with a one storey rear wing, and the volume of the structure;
- Frame wall construction with the original finish concealed beneath later claddings;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves and steep centre gable;
- Simple front door opening;
- Flat-headed windows openings, which would likely have originally had wood 2 over 2 sash windows based on the age and style of the house.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Richard Tarr House **East Half Lot 26, Concession 9** **7368 Elgin Mills Road East** **c.1894**

The Richard Tarr House is recommended for designation under Part IV 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 Richard Tarr House is a two storey red brick dwelling located on the north side of Elgin Mills Road, just west of the crossroads of Elgin Mills Road and Reesor Road. The house faces south, and is set back a short distance from the road.

Design or Physical Value

The Richard Tarr House is an unusual example of a brick, vernacular farmhouse from the late 19th century, with a Georgian Tradition form and arrangement of openings, but with a hipped, pyramidal roof and cubic plan reflecting echoes of the earlier Italianate style. Its simplicity of form and detail is a noteworthy departure from the more prevalent irregular outlines and exuberant decoration of late Victorian houses in Markham Township. The house is therefore significant as a precursor of the Edwardian Classical and Foursquare style brick houses that became common in the early years of the 20th century. It is not known if the second storey door on the front façade ever opened onto a balcony or two-storey porch.

Historical or Associative Value

The Richard Tarr House has historical value for its association with George and Richard Tarr. The Tarr family purchased the former Degeer farm in 1893. Richard Tarr and his wife, Esther, resided here in the early years of the building's construction, according to assessment records. The Markham Township Map of 1918 indicates the property was in the ownership of George K. Tarr at that time. The farm was sold out of the family in 1919.

Contextual Value

The house at 7368 Elgin Mills Road East remains in a rural setting, and is a significant remnant of the agricultural community surrounding the historic crossroads hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Richard House include:

- Overall form of the building, including its two storey height, cubic plan with a two storey frame rear wing, and the volume of the structure;
- Red brick walls with brick arches over door and window openings;
- Pyramidal roof with overhanging eaves, associated wood mouldings and single-stack red brick chimney;
- Simple front door opening on the ground floor, and second storey door opening above;
- Flat-headed windows openings, with transomed, large-paned windows on the ground floor front, and wood, 1 over 1 sash windows elsewhere.