



BY-LAW 2008-188

A by-law to designate a property as being of
Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest
Sylvester Tomlinson House

WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage 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 historic and/or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Markham has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

Alexander Starzinsky and Elise DiDomenici
14 Sixpenny Court
Thornhill, ON
L3T 4E5

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate Sylvester Tomlinson House, 7943 Ninth Line and has caused such notice of intention to be published once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designations are set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the following real properties, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest:

Sylvester Tomlinson House
7943 Ninth Line
Town of Markham
The Regional Municipality of York

2. THAT the Town Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the properties described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

READ A FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS
9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2008.


KIMBERLEY KITTERINGHAM
TOWN CLERK


FRANK SCARPITTI
MAYOR

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2008-188

In the Town of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, property descriptions as follows:

Part of Lot 1, Plan 3542 designated as Part 1 Plan 65R-29421

TOWN OF MARKHAM
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2008-188

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Sylvester Tomlinson House

West Part, Lot 7, Concession 9

7943 Ninth Line

c. 1853

The Sylvester Tomlinson 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 Sylvester Tomlinson House is a one and a half storey frame farmhouse. In 2008 it was relocated to a new lot on Ninth Line in 2008, from its original location further to the east, but still with the historic farm property. The house is located with the Box Grove Secondary Plan area of Markham, and is historically associated with the Box Grove community.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Historical Value

The Sylvester Tomlinson House, constructed circa 1855, has cultural heritage value for its association with the Tomlinson family and the historic community of Box Grove. Sylvester Tomlinson's father Joseph was among the earliest settlers of Markham and was listed in William Berczy's Census of 1803. Joseph Tomlinson's last marriage produced 11 children including Sylvester's brother Alfred, who was credited with constructing a dam on the Rouge River that led to the establishment of a sawmill, a woollen mill, and a shoddy mill. These mills formed the economic nucleus of a community which was originally named Sparta.

The name was changed from Sparta to Box Grove by Sylvester's father Joseph when he applied for a post office in 1867 and found out that another community named Sparta already existed in Ontario. It is thought that Joseph Tomlinson may have chosen the name "Box Grove" after boxwood trees growing in the vicinity. His son, Sylvester, was a farmer and resided on his father's property on Lot 7, Concession 9 as early as 1853. In 1861, the farm was sold to Sylvester Tomlinson for one dollar. He and his wife Sarah (Gohn) Tomlinson raised a family of 6 children on the property, none of whom ever married.

Architectural Value

The Sylvester Tomlinson House is a representative example of a modestly-scaled, mid-19th century Markham Township farmhouse. It possesses the classic simplicity and balance of the vernacular Georgian tradition. This common house form is characteristic of mid-19th century Ontario and is evocative of a period in the area's history when the settlement period was long over, and Markham's agricultural community was well-established and prospering. Many early homes were replaced or substantially improved during this time. Sylvester Tomlinson Although some of the details of the Tomlinson House have been covered over with modern materials, and alterations have been made, the original design intent of the builder and the proportions and form of the house remain faithful to the Georgian architectural tradition.

Contextual Value

The Sylvester Tomlinson House is of contextual significance for its association with the rural farming community that once surrounded the hamlet of Box Grove. The Sylvester Tomlinson House is one of only two buildings in the area that remain to commemorate this prominent Box Grove family.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Sylvester Tomlinson house include:

- the house's simple rectangular form and 1 ½ storey height;
- the placement, size and shape of door and window openings;
- the trim, transom window, and classical entablature associated with the entrance door;
- the moderately pitched gable roof;
- the 3 bay principal façade;
- the original wooden clapboard siding concealed beneath the modern vinyl siding.