



BY-LAW 2007-206

A by-law to designate a property as being of
Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest
The Abraham Reesor 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:

Linvest Properties (Cornell) Limited
3625 Dufferin Street Suite 500
Toronto Ontario
M3K 1N4

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate The Abraham Reesor House, 7265 Highway #7 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;

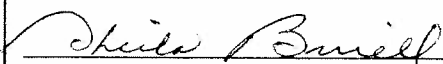
NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

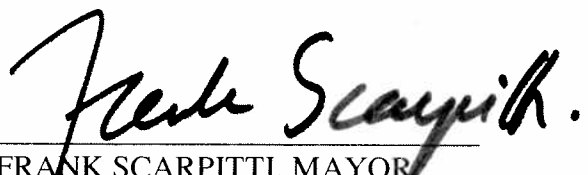
1. THAT the following real properties, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest:

The Abraham Reesor House
7265 Highway #7
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
25TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2007.


SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK


FRANK SCARPITTI, MAYOR

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2007-206

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

Pt Lt 10 Con 9 Markham as in R688786

TOWN OF MARKHAM
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2007-206

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Abraham Reesor House 7265 Highway 7

Built 1875

The Abraham Reesor 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 Abraham Reesor House is a one and a half storey red brick farmhouse located on the south side of Highway 7, east of Ninth Line. The property is situated within the southern Cornell Centre area of the Cornell community of Markham.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Historical Value

Christian Reesor immigrated to Upper Canada with his wife Fanny Reiff and their six children in 1804. The Reesors were members of prominent family of Pennsylvania-German Mennonists that established a significant agricultural community in Markham Township in the first decade of the 19th century. Christian Reesor purchased the full 200 acres of lot 10, Concession 9, in 1805, but resided on Lot 14, Concession 10. After his untimely death from a falling tree in 1806, Christian Reesor's property holdings passed to his eldest son, Peter. The lot upon which 7265 Highway 7 stands was granted to Peter Reesor's younger brother, John, in 1807.

John Reesor married Annie Grove, another member of the local Pennsylvania-German community. They resided in a stone house that still stands to the west, at 6937 Highway 7. Here they raised a family of 15 children, one of whom was John Reesor Jr. John Reesor Jr. purchased the east 98 acres of Lot 10, Concession 9 from his father in 1846. He married Catherine Brown and later, Magdalena McDowell. John and Catherine's eldest son, Abraham, a carpenter by trade, became the owner of the farm in 1873. In 1875, he built the red brick house at 7265 Highway 7. In 1888, as a condition of Abraham Reesor's will, a 3 ½ acre parcel containing the house was left to Martha, his widow, who lived here until her death in 1923.

Architectural Value

The house at 7265 Highway 7 is an exceptionally well preserved farmhouse of the mid 1870s. It was designed in the Ontario vernacular L-plan house form, which was popular from the 1860s to around 1900. The vertical profile of the house, and architectural details such as the steep front gable with round-headed window and the medium pitched gable roof ornamented with curvilinear bargeboards reflect the Picturesque aesthetic of the third quarter of the 19th century. The use of patterned brick, segmentally-arched windows and louvered shutters are characteristic features of the period and contribute to rich decorative effect of the overall composition.

Contextual Value

The Abraham Reesor House is a landmark example of an Ontario vernacular L-plan farmhouse in brick, exhibiting dramatic Gothic Revival detailing. Built in 1875, it is one of a local group of heritage buildings associated with the Reesor family's long history at this location. The Reesor family amassed some 2,500 acres of land in Markham Township. The three Reesor houses that still stand on Lot 10, Concession 9, represent five generations of the family on this Township lot and the changing tastes in architectural style over time.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the heritage value of the Abraham Reesor House include:

- Overall form of the building, including the rear wings;
- Fieldstone foundation;
- Datestone on the front wall with the date “1875;”
- Red brick walls with white (buff coloured) brick accents;
- Medium pitched gable roof with projecting wood eaves;
- Steeply pitched front gable;
- Decorative wood bargeboards, finials and drops;
- Segmentally-arched 2 over 2 wood sash windows with wood brickmoulds, projecting sills and louvered wood shutters;
- Round-headed 2 over 2 wood window in the front gable;
- Half-round wood window over the front entrance;
- Front doorcase with panelled wood door and wood transom light and sidelights;
- Rear porch with turned wood posts, decorative wood brackets and shed roof