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ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

JUL 09 2020

RECEIVED

July 8, 2020

**Via Registered Mail**

Jim Leonard  
Registrar, Ontario Heritage Trust  
Heritage Programs and Operation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Dear Jim Leonard:

**Re: Notice of Intention to Amend Designation By-law, Ontario Heritage Act  
By-law 4-78**

The Council of the City of Markham intends to amend the designation by-law of the following property by replacing the "Reasons for Designation" with a new "Statement of Significance" in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, Part IV, Section 30.1(2) to (10):

Eckardt-Stiver House  
206 Main Street Unionville  
Markham, ON

Notice of objections will be received **on or before 4:30 p.m. on August 7, 2020**, at the following address:

Clerk's Department, City of Markham  
Attention: Mary-Jane Courchesne  
101 Town Centre Boulevard  
Markham, ON L3R 9W3  
Email: [mcourchesne@markham.ca](mailto:mcourchesne@markham.ca)

The Statement of Significance is attached.

Yours truly

Kimberley Kitteringham  
City Clerk  
c. Regan Hutcheson, Manager – Heritage

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### **Eckardt-Stiver House**

**c.1829**

**206 Main Street, Unionville**

The Eckardt-Stiver 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 Eckardt-Stiver House is a one storey adobe brick building on the west side of Main Street, Unionville, within the commercial core of the village.

#### Historical and Associative Value

The Eckardt-Stiver House has historical and associative value as the oldest remaining building in the village of Unionville, constructed c.1829 for Frederick Eckardt, one of the sons of Berczy settler Philip Eckardt. Frederick Eckardt created a plan of village lots in the 1840s that in time became the centre of the village. He was primarily a farmer that resided north of the village and only lived in this dwelling for a short time. In William Berczy's original plan for his settlement of German immigrants, this property was earmarked for a doctor. In 1874, the property was sold to Daniel Burkholder, who was married to Agnes Jenkins, granddaughter of Reverend William Jenkins, the well-known Presbyterian clergyman. The house was named "Fern Cottage." Daniel and Agnes Burkholder's daughter Marein married Charles Howard Stiver, Township clerk and local entrepreneur. They built a new house next door at 202 Main Street. Marein Stiver gifted the house at 206 Main Street to her son Ewart Jenkins Stiver, and it remained in the Stiver family's ownership until 2008. During the time when Unionville was the self-proclaimed "antique capital of Ontario" the Stiver House became a popular retail store selling antiques and other merchandise relating to country decorating.

#### Design or Physical Value

The Eckardt-Stiver House has design or physical value as an excellent example of an Ontario Regency Cottage. It is also of particular note as a rare example of an adobe brick structure. Brick cladding was added to the front and portions of the side walls in the 1850s. The front entrance, with a Neo-classical style wood door surround and sidelights, is a fine example of the style and period. The entrance is flanked by multi-paned Venetian windows. The interior retains early wood trim reminiscent of the designs of American architect Asher Benjamin, who published architectural pattern books that were widely distributed throughout the 1820s and 1830s.

#### Contextual Value

The Eckardt-Jenkins House has contextual value as one of a grouping of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings that define the character of Unionville's historic commercial core. Some of these buildings were constructed as commercial structures. Others, such as the Eckardt-Stiver House, are former residences converted to commercial use.

### Significant Architectural Attributes to be Conserved

Exterior, character-defining elements that embody the cultural heritage value of the Eckardt-Stiver House include:

- One-storey form, rectangular plan, on a raised fieldstone foundation;
- Adobe brick construction with brick and stucco cladding;
- Low-pitched hipped roof with wide overhanging eaves, wood soffits and trim;
- Brick chimney on the south wall;
- Front doorcase with its Neo-classic style wood surround, sidelights, and modified 8-panelled wood door;
- Six-panelled south side wood door.
- Front three-part Venetian windows with multi-paned wood sash;
- Side windows with multi-paned wood sash.

Interior, character-defining elements that embody the cultural heritage value of the Eckardt-Stiver House include:

- Early pine moulded wood trim around door and window openings;
- Early pine moulded baseboards;
- Early pine fireplace mantel and brick fireplace in the south room;
- Early pine panelled wainscoting in the south room;
- Early pine plank floors underlying modern floor coverings.