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YORK /

Clerk's Department Corporate Services Commission



October 3, 2006

REÇU/RECEIVED 0 5 -10- 2006

Temara Developments Inc. 7050 Weston Road, Suite 303 Woodbridge, ON L4L 8G7

Dear Temara Developments Inc.:

Re: By-law 2006-256- To designate certain properties as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest (Abraham Strickler House - 6297 Major Mackenzie Drive East)

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This will advise that Council at its meeting held on September 12, 2006, passed By-law 2006-256, which designated "Abraham Strickler House", 6297 Major Mackenzie Drive East, as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest.

A copy of the by-law, with the pertinent registration data, is attached for your information.

Sincerely,

> Build Sheila Birrell

Town Clerk

Encl.

cc: The Ontario Heritage Trust R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

#### CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY "Sheila Birrell" c/s SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM



# **BY-LAW 2006-256**

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

Temara Developments Inc. 7050 Weston Road, Suite 303 Woodbridge, ON L4L 8G7

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate Abraham Strickler House, 6297 Major Mackenzie Drive East 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:

Abraham Strickler House 6297 Major Mackenzie Drive East 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 $12^{\text{TH}}$ DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2006.

"Sheila Birrell"

"Don Cousens"

SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK

DON COUSENS, MAYOR

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# SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2006-256

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

Part Lot 20 Concession 8 as in R424648 save and except Part 9 on 65R23101

TOWN OF MARKHAM REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK By-law 2006-256 Page 3

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## SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2006-256

### **REASONS FOR DESIGNATION - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

## **Abraham Strickler House**

**6297 Major Mackenzie Drive East** circa 1850

The Abraham Strickler House is recommended for designation under part IV of the <u>Ontario Heritage Act</u> as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance:

### **Description of Property**

The Abraham Strickler House is a one and a half storey solid brick farmhouse located on the south side of major Mackenzie Drive, east of Highway 48 and west of Ninth Line. The property is located near the community of Mount Joy, located immediately north of Markham Village.

#### Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

#### **Historical Value**

Abraham Strickler Jr. arrived in Markham Township as a boy with his mother Barbara Ramer Strickler, his uncle and aunt and three of his siblings in 1825. Making the trek north from Pennsylvania in a Conestoga wagon, Barbara left her husband and two older children behind to reunite with the rest of her family who had arrived in Markham with Barbara's father, Abraham Ramer in 1809. The Ramer's are a prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family considered to be the founders of the Mount Joy community, so named for their original farm in Pennsylvania.

By the 1851 Census, Abraham Strickler now age 32 is listed as living in the brick house we see today with his second wife Mary. Abraham and Mary never had any children, but for a time looked after Abraham's aging mother Barbara in their house. Judging from the sophistication of construction and detail of the farmhouse, Abraham was a prosperous farmer. He remained in this house and continued framing until his death in 1877.

#### **Architectural Value**

The Abraham Strickler House is a classic example of a mid nineteenth century Georgian Tradition farmhouse. With its symmetrically arranged facades, moderately pitched roof and characteristic eave returns it exhibits the crisp lines and proportions of classical architecture favoured by Canada's first European settlers in response to the wilderness and isolation of life in Upper Canada. The Georgian and Classical Revival styles were a comforting reminder of the lives that many settlers had left behind either in Europe or the Untied States. Despite the traditional form of the Abraham Strickler house, the exuberant dichromatic brickwork foreshadows the fanciful architectural decoration and picturesque styles that would flourish in Ontario in the last half of the nineteenth century. By-law 2006-256 Page 4

#### **Contextual Value**

The Abraham Strickler House is of contextual significance for its association with the historic farming communities of Mount Joy and Milnesville. Set far back from the road it reflects the pragmatic choice of siting the farmhouse in a central location on the land that allowed easy access to the surrounding fields. When looked at in conjuction with the other remaining farmhouses in the vicinity, the Abraham Strickler house remains as a testament to the prosperity attained by the early settlers who worked the fertile soil of Markham.

#### Significant Architectural Attributes

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

- The overall 1 1/2 storey form, T-shaped plan with one storey kitchen tail;
- Symmetrical arrangement of window and door openings;
- Solid brick construction and dichromatic decorative details;
- Moderately pitched roofs and classical eave returns;
- The original wooden fascias, soffits and eaves;
- The original 6 over 6 wooden windows with wooden lugsills;
- The original brick chimneys;
- The frame construction and horizontal wooden siding of the kitchen wing;
- The original front entrance and design details;
- The fieldstone foundation;