



An agency of the Government of Ontario

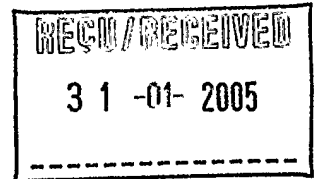


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This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

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REGISTERED MAIL



IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O.
1990, CHAPTER O.18;

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LAND AND PREMISES IN PT LOT 5 CON 9
MARKHAM, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 7651 9TH LINE, TOWN OF
MARKHAM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3
Attn: Catherine Axford, Chairman's Executive Assistant

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town
of Markham intends to designate the property, including land and
building, known municipally as 7651 9th Line, Markham, as a
property of architectural and/or historic interest or value under Part
1V of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18.

A Statement of the Reasons for the Proposed Designation of Box
Grove School House, is attached.

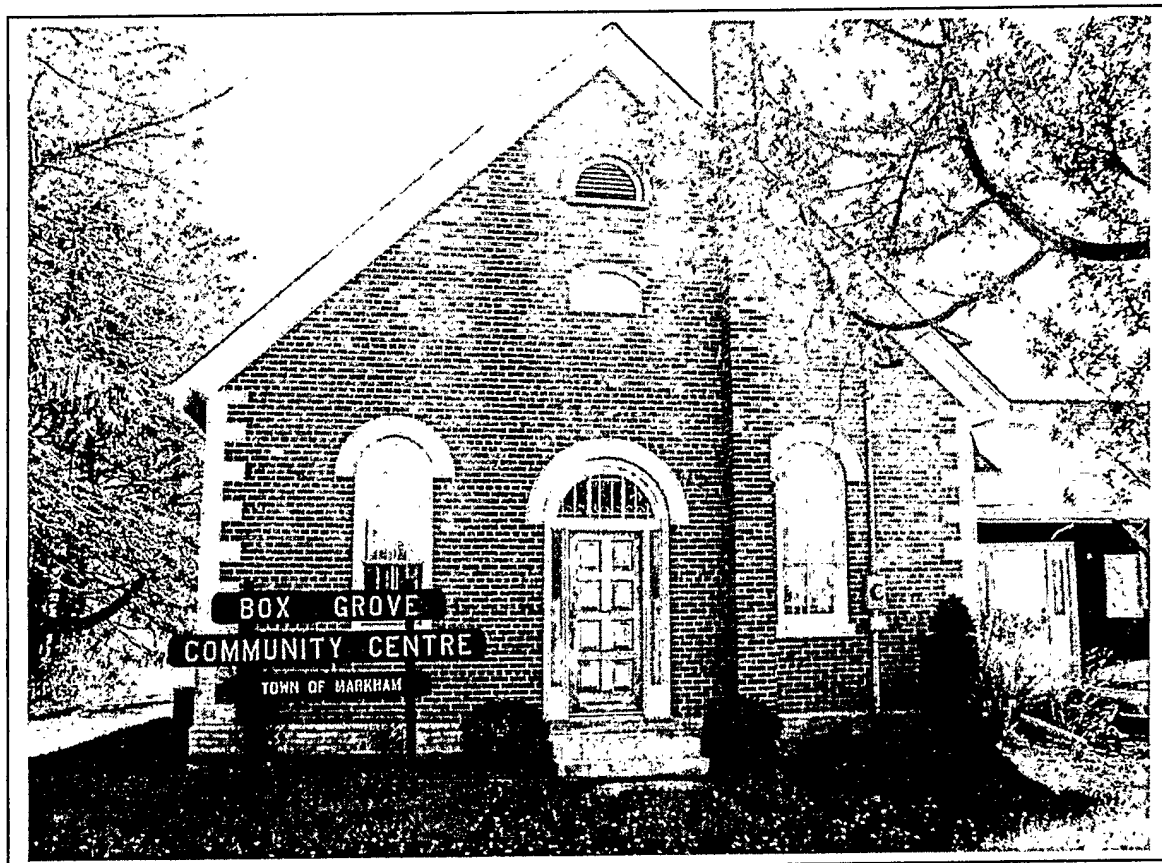
NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served on the
Town Clerk within thirty (30) days, or before 4:30 p.m. on the 24th
day of February 2005

Sheila Birrell, Town Clerk
The Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, ON L3R 9W3

January 25, 2005

Re

DESIGNATION PROPOSAL



SCHOOL SECTION # 18

1877

7651 9th Line

Community of Box Grove
Markham

Prepared For: Heritage Markham

Prepared By: Michael Seaman
Town of Markham

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The Schoolhouse, located at 7651 9th Line, is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical, architectural and contextual significance.

Historical Reasons

The first recorded schoolhouse serving School Section No. 18 was believed to have been a frame building located on the northwest corner of what is now 9th Line and 14th Avenue. Presumably because the building could not accommodate the increasing number of students from the prosperous hamlet, originally known as Sparta, it was decided in the 1870s to build a new, brick schoolhouse on the east side of 9th Line, south of the village centre.

According to local records, a local mason by the name of Richards obtained the contract to construct the new building.

School Section No.18 included lots one to ten, on both the east and west sides of the 9th Line. Some children from Scarborough, along the south side of Steeles, also often attended Box Grove because of the remoteness of the schools to the south of them. Mr. Fredrick K. Reesor was an early teacher at the school. He was described as a large man and a strict disciplinarian by local historians. When he was away on business, his brother Soloman Reesor also taught at the school.

Over the years, local records stat that many fine teachers served the school and the community of Box Grove. This building it is said was the place that gave the people of Box Grove their start in life for almost 90 years.

With educational reform in the 1960s, the Box Grove School House was closed. In an early effort to preserve local heritage, the building was acquired by the then Township of Markham and converted into a community centre.

Architectural Reasons

The Schoolhouse located at 7651 9th Line is a typical example of the classic one-room schoolhouse form. The rounded-arch windows on the front add a touch of Romanesque Revival and Italianate styles to an otherwise utilitarian structure. Instead of the typical separate girls and boys entrances seen on many examples of rural schools, S.S. No.18 has a central door on its front façade, which originally contained comparatively modern double doors. Also, the belfry one would expect to see on a rural school is absent, but is known from historic photographs have existed at one time. The large, upright round headed window openings on the sidewalls are still visible on the north side of the building, however on the south side they have been obscured by an addition. Decorative features include original wood windows, yellow brick voussoirs and quoins, a date stone and a decorative vent feature, visible on the front façade. Although the building has

undergone some renovations to be incorporated into a community centre, the historic form and many of the historic features remain intact

Contextual Reasons

Schoolhouse #18 exhibits contextual significance for its association with the historic agricultural community surrounding the hamlet of Box Grove. The one room schoolhouse supported the educational needs of children living on the farms in this vicinity for many generations, until the advent of central schools and bussing in the 1960s.

Significant Heritage Attributes:

1. Rectangular plan;
2. Red brick walls with arched top voussoirs over openings;
3. Fieldstone foundation;
4. Date stone in front gable;
5. Front door opening for double leaf door;
6. Front and north side Romanesque/Italianate Revival window openings with multi-paned wood sash;
7. Projecting window sills;
8. Gable roof with projecting eaves, wood soffits and fascias, and bed-mould;

IDENTIFICATION

<u>Property:</u>	Schoolhouse #18
<u>Legal Description:</u>	
<u>Owners:</u>	Town of Markham
<u>Inventory Number:</u>	J7-6
<u>Assessment Roll No.:</u>	
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	1877
<u>Style of Construction:</u>	Classic one-room rural schoolhouse with Romanesque Revival and Italianate Accents
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	Originally institutional
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	1
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	Red brick with yellow quoins and voussoirs