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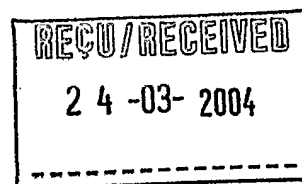


Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

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March 23, 2004



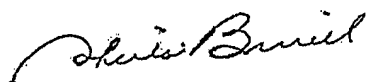
Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Re: By-law 2004-42- To designate certain properties as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest – The Captain Robert Reesor House

This will advise that Council passed By-law 2004-42, which designated "The Captain Robert Reesor House", 8042 Reesor Road, 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,



Sheila Birrell
Town Clerk

11/05/04
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BY-LAW 2004-42

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

Gail Sussman
Manager, Heritage Assessments
Ontario Realty Corporation
Ferguson Block, 11th Floor
77 Wellesley Street West
Toronto, ON M7A 2G3

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate The Captain Robert Reesor House, 8042 Reesor Road 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 Captain Robert Reesor House
8042 Reesor Road
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
24TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2004.

"Sheila Birrell"

SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK

"Frank Scarpitti"

FRANK SCARPITTI, DEPUTY MAYOR

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2004-42

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

Lot 8, Concession 9

TOWN OF MARKHAM
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK



SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2004-42

STATEMENTS OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

The Robert Reesor House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value and interest containing the following heritage attributes:

Historical Attributes

The Robert Reesor house is located on the east ½ of Lot 8, Concession 9, which was originally a Clergy Reserve. The full 200 acre lot was divided into ¼'s of 50 acre parcels. John Reesor purchased the NE ¼ in 1836 and William Johnston the W ¼ in 1846. It was not until 1876 that the SE ¼ of 50 acres and the E ½ of the W ½, 50 acres, were purchased by Robert Reesor (1842-1945) the son of Christopher Reesor and Margaret Armstrong. It appears that these 100 acres had been leased up until this time by Christopher Reesor who owned the property to the south. The house was constructed in 1867 on the SE ¼ of Lot 8, prior to Robert Reesor obtaining title to the property. A historic map of Markham from 1878 clearly illustrates the house at its present location.

Robert Reesor was born in Cedar Grove and died in Cedar Grove. He received military training in 1871-1872 at the Toronto and Kingston Military Schools. He attained the rank of Captain in the 12th York Rangers and was called to duty during the Fenian Raids. In the late 1870's Robert and his brother David followed the popular trek of many young men of this time, to venture to Canada's west. By 1881 Robert had acquired extensive acreage in Southern Manitoba near the present town of Mount Pilot. The two brothers imported livestock from Britain driving them overland from the steamship dock at Pembina on the Red River. Robert was appointed the first Warden of the Louise Municipality and was the first to request a post office, which was granted under the name of Silver Springs. (named after his father's farm in Markham where he had been raised) The Reesor brothers were unsuccessful in attracting both the C.P.R. and a U.S. railroad to this area in Manitoba and so after 1885 they returned home to Markham.

Robert was married in 1889 to Sarah Jane Barr, the daughter of Rev. William Barr of Brantford. They had three children Mary, Robert Jr. and Helen. Robert also owned property to the south, Lot 7, which he had inherited from his father and mother. In 1891, Robert deeded the property to the south of Lot 8 to his wife Sarah. Although the house was expropriated in the 1970's as part of the future airport lands, the house continues to be lived in by descendants of Robert Reesor.

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Architectural Attributes

The Robert Reesor House, built in 1867, is a singular example of a 1 ½ storey Classic Ontario farmhouse that blends elements of Gothic Revival and Classic Revival detailing to create a picturesque vernacular architectural statement. The house is of frame construction and has a T-shaped plan. The front section has board and batten siding, with moulded battens, is 3 x 2 bays and sits on a fieldstone foundation. The rear wing is clad in wood clapboard and has a more modern 1 storey section, which extends from the rear of this tail, constructed of stone and vertical modern siding. The wood windows on the original part of the house are mostly 6/6 pane division with moulded wood trim topped with a Classical entablature. The roof is a medium pitched gable with a simple boxed cornice and a broad centre gable on the front. The Gothic window within the front gable is in the form of an oversized casement with delicate tracery. It may have originally served as a pair of French doors opening onto a vanished balcony incorporated into a verandah roof. The front entrance is centred on the façade and has a Classical surround with sidelights and transom lights. There is a ¾ width covered verandah with shed roof and metal posts, which appears to be fairly modern and does not contribute to the heritage character of the house. The side entrance has a verandah in the ell with a gable dormer above. There are two chimneys on the building, one is single brick stack externally located at the mid section, left side. A double stone chimney is located on the addition.

Contextual Attributes

The Robert Reesor House is of contextual significance for its association with the rural agricultural community surrounding Locust Hill. Built by a descendant of one of the earliest families to settle and prosper in Markham Township, this farm is a reminder of the Reesors who owned vast areas of land in the east part of town. With its large Gothic window in the front gable, its refined board and batten siding, and its fine Classical Revival detailing, the Robert Reesor House is an outstanding example of the vernacular architecture of old Markham Township.

Significant Heritage Attributes

1. The T-shaped plan;
2. The wood board and batten siding, with its moulded battens, on the front section of the house;
3. The wood clapboard siding on the rear wing;
4. All wood sash windows on all elevations, with their associated wood trim;
5. All louvered wood shutters;
6. The Gothic casement window in the front gable, with its delicate tracery;
7. The Classical door surround on the façade, with its associated wood trim, sidelights, and transom lights;
8. All original exterior wood doors and storm doors on the west, east and south elevations;
9. The fieldstone foundation;
10. The original gable roofline, with its wood soffits, fascia and associated mouldings;
11. The brick chimney on the rear wing.

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