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January 27, 2003



Dear [REDACTED]:

Re: By-law 2003-9 - To designate a certain property as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest - "The Buttonville General Store and Hood House" - 8971 Woodbine Avenue

This will advise that Council at its meeting held on January 14th, 2003, passed By-law 2003-9, which designated the "Buttonville General Store and Hood House", 8971 Woodbine Avenue, 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

Encl.

SB/jik

c: The Ontario Heritage Foundation
Mr. R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning





BY-LAW 2003-9

A by-law to designate a certain property as being of
Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest
The Buttonville General Store and Hood 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:



and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate The Buttonville General Store and Hood House, located at 8971 Woodbine Avenue, Markham, 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 designation 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 property, 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 Buttonville General Store and Hood House
8971 Woodbine Avenue
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 property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

READ A FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS
14TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2003.

"Sheila Birrell"

SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK

"Don Cousens"

DON COUSENS, MAYOR

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2003-9

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

PT LT 14, CON 4, AS IN MA22617, AS IN MA22008 EXCEPT MA22020
TOWN OF MARKHAM
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2003-9

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The Buttonville General Store and Post office and the Hood Residence is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical, architectural and contextual significance.

Historical Reasons

The Buttonville General Store and Post office located at 8971 Woodbine Avenue was built c.1861 on land that had originally been granted to Major John Button in 1810, and is one of the earliest structures in the hamlet. As the only remaining historic commercial building in Buttonville, the Buttonville General Store and Post Office is a major contributor to the character of the hamlet of Buttonville. Originally the general store was attached to a small frame, Georgian style residence, similar in style to the house at 8977 Woodbine Avenue. Upon the ownership of the property by the hood family (circa 1922), however, the smaller house was demolished and a large frame Edwardian style residence was built in its place.

The property at 8971 Woodbine avenue was first settled by John Button who came to Canada in 1797 from Pennsylvania, U.S.A. with his wife Elizabeth Williams. He settled in the Buttonville area in the Fourth Concession in 1808 and soon acquired more than 200 acres on Lot 13, Concession 4, Markham Township. Captured by the Americans at York in 1813, Button had organised the first Regiment of the York Militia in 1811 and it became known as Captain Button's Troop of Markham Dragoons. A leading Tory, he was active during the Rebellion of 1837 and was appointed a magistrate.

The future hamlet of Buttonville was created in 1842 when Button subdivided the south-west corner of lot 14 into quarter-acre lots arranged along the 4th line and a back street (Buttonville Crescent East), with nine lots in all sold. Button discussed this project with his colleague, the Hon. Robert Baldwin in a letter dated September 4, 1842, giving as a fair price \$50.00 for the front lots and \$40.00 for those along the back street.

Originally called Millbrook, the hamlet's name was changed to Buttonville in 1851 when a post office was established and the prior existence of Millbrook in Cavan Township was discovered. By the 1850s, the hamlet consisted of at least fourteen homes, the majority of which were 1½ storey frame Georgian cottages, similar to that which originally stood at 8971 Woodbine Avenue.

The store part of the premises served as the Buttonville general store from c.1861 to 1958 (possibly as early as 1854). Early owners included John Button (1854) and James De Geer. Original early uses for the store include a dwelling, boot and shoe makers shop and general store. From 1867 to 1914 the premises served as the home of the Buttonville post office. From 1960 to 1983 the store served as an antique shop.

Architectural Reasons

The premises located at 8971 Woodbine Avenue contains two important architectural landmarks of the hamlet of Buttonville and which are also of significance to the Town if not the Region. The commercial part of the building is an important and rare example of early Markham commercial architecture. Features include the front porch, large paired storefront windows, paired central doors.

The Hood House is an equally excellent example and rare (for Markham) example of post WW1 frame, craftsman style architecture.

Contextual Reasons

The Buttonville General Store and Post office and the Hood Residence are important contributors to the character of the community of Buttonville. Together with the other frame houses in the vicinity, the house provides a sense of the former rural hamlet of Buttonville.