



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

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**.

Ce document est tiré du registre aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **www.heritagetrust.on.ca**.

York

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 PART OF LOT 14,
CONCESSION 4, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 8971 WOODBINE AVENUE, HAMLET
OF BUTTONVILLE, TOWN OF MARKHAM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Heritage Policy and Program Development Unit
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation
400 University Avenue, 4th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9

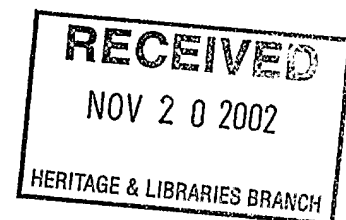
TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Markham intends to designate the property, including land and building, known municipally as 8971 Woodbine Avenue, Markham, as a property of architectural and/or historic interest or value under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18.

A Statement of the Reasons for the Proposed Designation of The Buttonville General Store and Post Office and the Hood House, is attached.

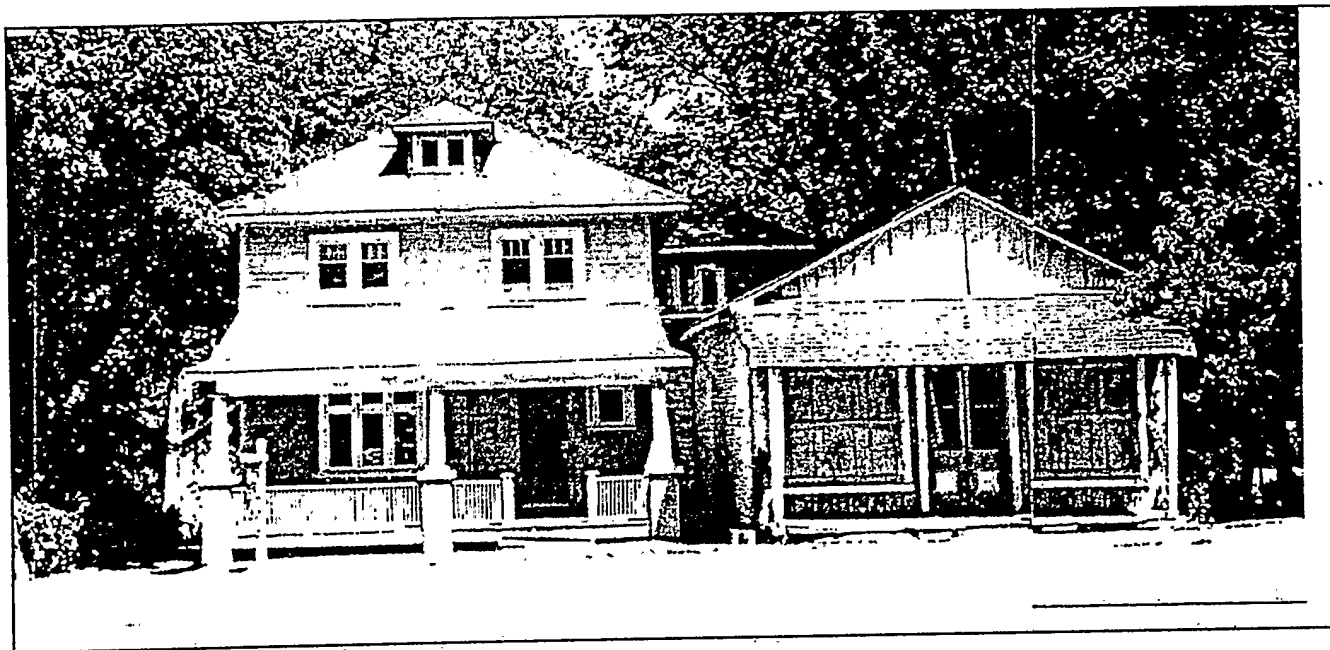
NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served on the Town Clerk within thirty (30) days, or before 4:30 p.m. on the 13th day of December, 2002.

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

November 12, 2002



DESIGNATION PROPOSAL



**THE BUTTONVILLE GENERAL STORE AND POST OFFICE
AND THE HOOD RESIDENCE**

8971 Woodbine Avenue
Part lot 14, Concession 4
Hamlet of Buttonville

Prepared For: Heritage Markham

Prepared By: Michael Seaman
Senior Planner:
Heritage and Conservation

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 purchase of the property by the Hood family (circa 1922), 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 organized 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. In the 1940s, the store served as an Imperial Oil gas station. From 1960 to 1983 the store served as an antique shop.

Architectural Reasons

The premises located at 8971 Woodbine Avenue contains three important architectural landmarks of the hamlet of Buttonville and which are also of significance to the Town and 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.

At the rear of the property is a frame Drive shed, clad in barn board which is an excellent example of an early agricultural outbuilding.

Buttonville General Store

The Buttonville General Store is 1 storey in height with a simple, medium pitched gable roof which extends towards the street.

The building is clad in wood siding. On the front and south side of the building, the siding is board and batten. On the north side of the building and at the rear on the south side, and at the rear, the building is clad in narrow, double, clapboard.

The storefront is distinguished by the following features:

- a full width front porch held up by three plain square posts (originally there would have been four)
- a pair of 3/4 wood, glazed and paneled storefront doors. The doors are original and still contain original door hardware;
- a pair of large wooden six-paned storefront windows, with an upper 3-pane sash, and built in wood storm protectors which appear to be early.

The roof of the General Store is believed to have originally been clad in wood shingles.

The Hood House

The Hood House is an outstanding example of a wood frame, two and one half storey, Arts and Crafts dwelling, and is situated to the north of the Buttonville General Store.

The Hood House contains the following significant architectural features:

- A full width veranda on the front facade, with classical columns held up by brick piers;
- The full width veranda has a wood railing with 1"x 2" pickets and a top and bottom rail. The ceiling of the porch is wood;
- Paired, wood 3/1 windows in the upper level of the building and on the rear of the building.
- Three leaded, stained glass windows from the Arts and crafts period on the north and west sides of the building;

- Two box bays on the front and north elevation, containing 3 separate windows with transoms, held up by brackets;
- Wood, double hung 2/2 windows on the rear elevation;
- An original Arts and Crafts Style, wood front door;
- Detail windows in the upper front dormer;
- Narrow, double, wood clapboard siding, with corner boards;
- An asphalt shingle roof (this likely would have originally been wood);
- A brick chimney on the north elevation;
- Wood casement windows on the upper level;

The interior of the hood house features a number of significant architectural features including the following:

- A built in wood Arts and Crafts Cabinet with access from two sides;
- An original Arts and Crafts style wood staircase with side panels;
- Original wood floors;
- Original Arts and Crafts Style wood interior doors with wooden pediments;
- Original Arts and Crafts style window trim;

Drive shed

To the rear of the property is an original historic wood drive shed, with a saltbox roof and barn board cladding.


Contextual Reasons

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

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The owners of the property have agreed to allow the Town of Markham to designate the The Buttonville General Store and Post office and the Hood Residence under the Ontario Heritage Act and register such title against the title of the lands.

IDENTIFICATION

<u>Property:</u>	The Buttonville General Store and Post office and the Hood Residence 8971 Woodbine Avenue
<u>Legal Description:</u>	Lot 14, Concession 4
<u>Owners:</u>	
<u>Inventory No.:</u>	D5-11
<u>Assessment Roll No.:</u>	
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	c.1861 and 1922
<u>Style of Architecture:</u>	Ontario Vernacular Commercial Craftsman/Edwardian style residence
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	Village Store and residence
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	1 for the store and 2 ½ for the house
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	Narrow clapboard for the house Board and batten for the store
<u>Special Features:</u>	Rare commercial storefront Craftsman style residence Original features intact on both buildings Paired storefront doors Storefront windows with solid storms Full width veranda on house Arts and Crafts interior features