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RECEIVED

MAR 31 1998

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMISSION
Clerk's Department

**CONSERVATION REVIEW
BOARD**

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 9001 WOODBINE AVENUE, TOWN OF
MARKHAM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: The Ontario Heritage Foundation
Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation
77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9
Attention: Ms. Nancy Smith, Sr. Administrative Clerk

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 9001 Woodbine Avenue, (Buttonville), 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 The Jackson Willmott 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 21st day of April, 1999.

Bob Panizza,
Town Clerk
The Corporation of the Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario
L3R 9W3



STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The Jackson Willmott House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical, architectural and contextual significance.

Historical Reasons

The house at 9001 Woodbine Avenue was built c.1865 on land that had originally been granted to Major John Button in 1810, and is one of the earliest houses in the hamlet.

John Button 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 9001 Woodbine Avenue.

According to the Abstract Index of Deeds, John Button sold the subject property to Jackson Willmott for 10 Pounds in 1856. Nathaniel Willmott, presumably a brother, had also purchased a property in the village in the same year. On September 25, 1865 Jackson Willmott took a mortgage on the riverbank lot for \$107.00 and probably built the house at this time. The mortgage was paid off August 10, 1870.

On March 30, 1876, Jackson Willmott's estate sold both ¼ acre lots in the Willmott family to William Craig for \$350.00.

William Craig (1829-1894) and wife Catherine Kerr (1821-1902) emigrated from Scotland some time after 1851. They had a 50 acre farm on Lot 13, Concession 4, north of Catherine's sister, Margaret Young.

William Jr. went to Ellsmere, Ontario to apprentice as a blacksmith. When he married, he returned to Buttonville with his wife Janet Dick of Bolton. It appears William Jr. and Janet lived with William's parents and operated a blacksmith shop on the south ¼ acre lot across the lane.

William and Janet purchased their own house in Buttonville in 1893 and relocated the shop on the new property.

When Catherine Craig died in 1901, the property (house and both ¼ acre Lots) was left to an unmarried daughter Catherine, known as Kate. Kate moved to Toronto and became the housekeeper at Moulton College for girls. She kept the house in Buttonville for living in the summer and holidays. Kate died in May 1938. The properties were sold for \$425.00 to a niece, Arabella Glendinning (Mrs. J.) who rented it for several years.

In 1955, Arabella Glendinning sold the house to Doris L. Tribbling for \$5,000.000 (She had a bungalow built on the south lot c.1950, on the site of the Craig blacksmith shop).

Doris lived in the bungalow house with her two daughters and a son Richard, until her death.

Richard and wife Jean Brumwell sold the property to William and Nellie Tooren in October 1961 for \$6,500.00. They operated an antique shop called "The Little Antique House". William died in 1967 and Nellie operated the small business until the late 1980s with the help of neighbours. She died in 1992.

Architectural Reasons

Although altered in recent years, the building located at 9001 Woodbine Avenue, continues to exhibit characteristics of a vernacular Georgian frame cottage from early in this century and represents the simple, functional tastes of the earliest European pioneers in Markham.

The house is a 1½ storey frame cottage built on a rectangular long facade plan. It has a medium pitched gable end roof and is of wooden framed construction. According to an historic photograph, c.1920, the house was originally clad with narrow, feather-edge clapboard. The corners of the building were structurally and visually reinforced by vertical square timbers.

The earliest photographs of the house from the 1920s show that the house was left as weathered wood. It is possible that the occupants used whitewash as colour. Currently the house is clad in insulbrick siding, which was applied c.1950s.

The original main entrance has been covered over, but was a rectangular opening, which possibly exhibited traditional vernacular Georgian features, such as a simple entablature, similar to that on 8977 Woodbine. The original door would have been a simple 6 or 4 panel solid wood door.

The original windows were removed c.1950s. The original windows were typical of simple rural vernacular construction. They were composed of rectangular openings with plain trim and a single hung window. The main sashes were 8/8, while the upper sash in the gable was of a narrow, fixed, vertical 6 pane variety.

The medium pitch gable roof was originally covered with wood shingles. Unlike other buildings in the vicinity, the cornice on the building had no returns. The verges and eaves had plain soffits and fascias.

*Based on the historic photograph, it is believed that the house had simple brick chimneys on either side of the gable ends.

Although the house has been significantly altered in the latter half of the 20th Century, the original form and frame remain. The current owner has indicated that he intends to restore the Willmott house to as close to the original appearance as possible.

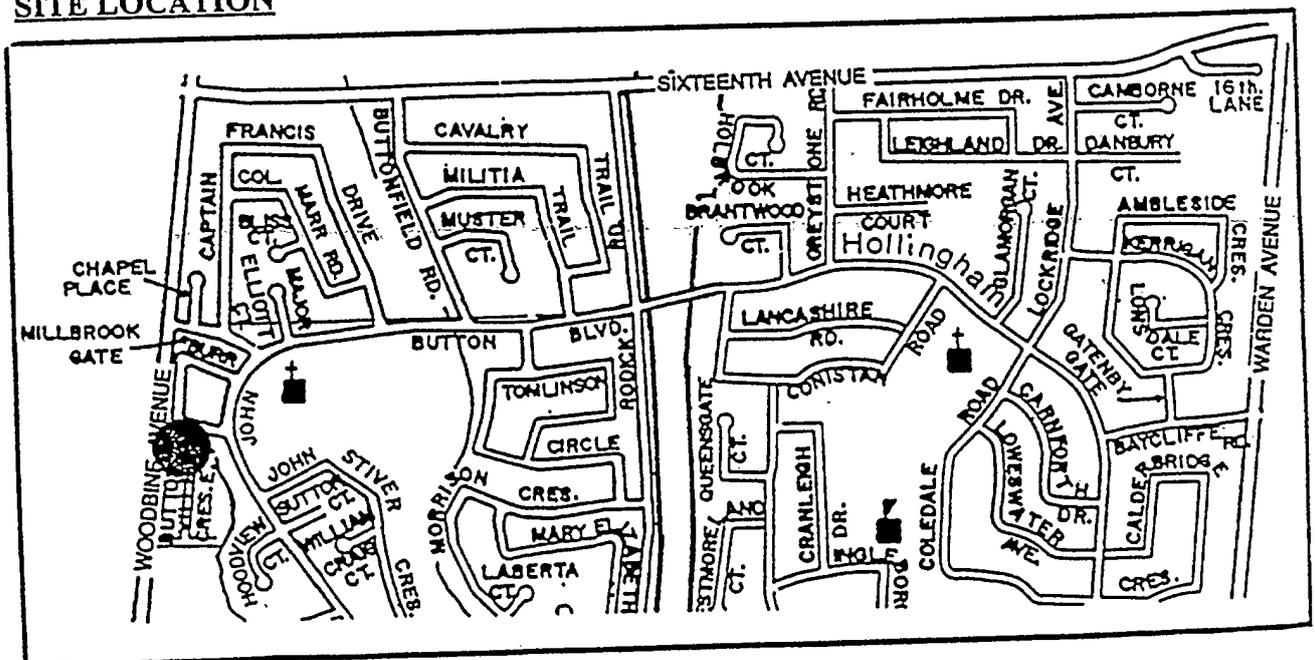
Contextual Reasons

The Jackson House exhibits a strong contextual significance as part of the historic hamlet of Buttonville. Together with the other frame houses in the vicinity, the house provides a sense of the former rural hamlet of Buttonville. The structure is an important contributor to the Buttonville Heritage Conservation District Study Area.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

The owners of the property have agreed to allow the Town of Markham to designate the Jackson Willmott House under the Ontario Heritage Act and register such title against the title of the lands.

SITE LOCATION



BUILDING LOCATION
9001 Woodbine Avenue

IDENTIFICATION

Property: The Jackson Willmott House,
9001 Woodbine Avenue

Legal Description: Lot 14, Concession 4

Owners: [REDACTED]

Inventory No.: D5-14

Assessment Roll No.: 132-855-00

Date of Construction: c.1865

Style of Architecture: Georgian Vernacular

Type of Structure: Farm Residence

Number of Storeys: 1.5

Exterior Wall Material: Originally Narrow clapboard
Presently Insulbrick

Special Features: Georgian Cottage
Form and structure intact