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cc: Tamarie Anson-Carling

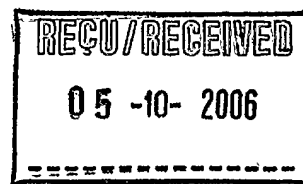


261 ✓ York

Clerk's Department  
Corporate Services Commission

October 3, 2006

Town of Markham  
c/o Frank Edwards Manager, Administration  
Manager, Administration  
101 Town Centre Boulevard  
Markham, ON  
L3R 9W3



Dear Town of Markham:

Re: By-law 2006-259- To designate certain properties as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest (Buttonville Cemetery - 9171 Woodbine Avenue)

This will advise that Council at its meeting held on September 12, 2006, passed By-law 2006-259, which designated "Buttonville Cemetery", 9171 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.

cc: The Ontario Heritage Trust  
R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

RC



## BY-LAW 2006-259

A by-law to designate a property as being of  
Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest  
Buttonville Cemetery

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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:

Town of Markham  
c/o Frank Edwards Manager, Administration  
Manager, Administration  
101 Town Centre Boulevard  
Markham, ON  
L3R 9W3

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate Buttonville Cemetery, 9171 Woodbine Avenue 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 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:

Buttonville Cemetery  
9171 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 properties described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

READ A FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS  
12<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2006.

"Sheila Birrell"

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SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK

"Don Cousens"

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DON COUSENS, MAYOR

**SCHEDULE 'A' TO  
BY-LAW 2006-259**

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

Part Lot 15, Concession 4, Part 2, 64R7703

TOWN OF MARKHAM  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

## **SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2006-259**

### **REASONS FOR DESIGNATION – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

#### **Buttonville Cemetery** 9171 Woodbine Avenue

**Established c.1817**

The Buttonville Cemetery is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance:

#### **Description of Property**

The Buttonville Cemetery is an historic burying ground located on the east side of Woodbine Avenue, just north of the hamlet of Buttonville and the Rouge River bridge. The cemetery is visible from Woodbine Avenue and contains both standing and flat grave markers.

#### **Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest**

##### **Historical Value**

It is said that Egerton Ryerson, the father of public education in Ontario, was the first Methodist preacher to visit Buttonville as the guest of Major John Button. Button donated one quarter of an acre of land for the construction of a Wesleyan Methodist chapel on the site in 1830, which was known for a time as "Button's Chapel". As with many rural churches throughout Ontario, a burying ground was associated with the church site. The earliest marker is dated 1817, so the cemetery must pre-date the establishment of the chapel. Additional land was acquired in the 1850s, and the early log chapel was replaced with a frame church. In 1890, a substantial red brick church was built to replace the frame church, but in spite of its grandeur, its days were numbered after Church Union in 1925. The Methodists of Buttonville joined with the Presbyterians of Brown's Corners to form the Brown's Corners United Church, rendering the Buttonville church building redundant.

In 1934, the Buttonville Wesleyan Methodist Church was demolished, however the cemetery remains as a memorial to the contribution of the Button family and other early residents of the community. Major John Button and his son, Captain Francis Button, were both laid to rest here, and their monuments may be seen in the front row of the Buttonville Cemetery.

##### **Architectural Value**

The Buttonville Cemetery contains numerous grave markers dating from 1817 to recent times, as the cemetery continues in active use. The markers are arranged in orderly rows oriented north-south. Most face Woodbine Avenue, or west, in terms of their inscriptions. The oldest grave markers are made of white marble, and are typically of the traditional upright slab or obelisk style. A number of the marble markers exhibit decorative carving, shaped tops, and Bible verses or other appropriate memorials to the deceased in addition to the usual, valuable genealogical information. Markers dating from the 20<sup>th</sup> century are typically made of more durable grey, red or black granite, or are in the form of bronze plaques that lie flat on the ground. The change in the style and materials of the grave markers provides distinct visual clues to the location of the earlier burials.

**Contextual Value**

The Buttonville Cemetery is a significant cultural heritage landscape that speaks of the commemorative practices of past and present generations of mourners, and is a tangible remnant of the rural community and Wesleyan Methodist congregation of people that lived, worked and worshipped locally when Buttonville was a mill village.

**Significant Attributes**

The physical attributes of the Buttonville Cemetery that are its character-defining elements include:

- Grave markers in marble, granite and metal, including their decorative elements and inscriptions;
- The park-like setting of the cemetery defined by mowed lawn, trees and shrubs;
- The sign facing Woodbine Avenue that identifies the cemetery.