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ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

March 20, 2013

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RECEIVED

Frank Principe  
Greenpark  
8700 Dufferin Street  
Concord, ON L4K 4S6

Re: By-law 2013-15 - To designate certain property as being of  
cultural heritage value or interest (Reesor-Grove Farmhouse – 6330  
Sixteenth Avenue)

This will advise that Council at its meeting held on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
passed By-law 2013-15, which designated the "Reesor Grove Farmhouse", 6330  
Sixteenth Avenue, as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

A copy of the by-law, with the pertinent registration data, is attached for your  
information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martha Pettit'.

Martha Pettit  
Acting City Clerk

Encl.

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



## BY-LAW 2013-15

A by-law to designate a property as being of  
Cultural Heritage Value or Interest  
Reesor-Grove Farmhouse

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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 cultural heritage value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the City of Markham has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

Anthony Martelli  
Stargrande Custom Homes Corp  
8700 Dufferin Street  
Concord, ON L4K 4S6

and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, notice of intention to designate the Reesor-Grove Farmhouse, 6330 Sixteenth 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 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 CITY 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 cultural heritage value or interest:

Reesor-Grove Farmhouse  
6330 Sixteenth Avenue  
Markham, ON

2. THAT the City 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> AND 13<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2013.

"Martha Pettit"

MARTHA PETTIT  
ACTING CITY CLERK

"Frank Scarpitti"

FRANK SCARPITTI  
MAYOR

## **SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 2013-15**

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

PT OF CENTRE 80 ACRES LOT 16 CON 8 MKM PT 1, 65R31385; MARKHAM

CITY OF MARKHAM  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

## SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW 2013- 15

For Heritage Designation By-Law for 6330 Sixteenth Avenue

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

#### Reesor-Grove Farmhouse

c.1850

6330 Sixteenth Avenue

The Reesor-Grove Farmhouse 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 Reesor-Grove Farmhouse is a two storey brick building located on the north side of Sixteenth Avenue, approximately half way between Highway 48 and Ninth Line. It is a former farmhouse located to the east of the historical community of Mount Joy.

#### Design or Physical Value

The Reesor-Grove House is an excellent example of a Pennsylvania-German Mennonite farmhouse with a *gross doddy* addition. The style of the house is representative of the vernacular Georgian architectural tradition, but illustrates its Pennsylvania-German cultural influence in the asymmetrical four-bay front of the first phase of the house, being the larger eastern portion. Eave returns with Classical mouldings add a touch of refinement to the otherwise simple architectural character of the building.

Constructed c.1850, with its *gross doddy* added c.1870, it is a substantial, two storey brick house with fine Flemish bond brickwork on the front. An early 20<sup>th</sup> century veranda, which replaced a smaller mid-19<sup>th</sup> century veranda, represents a third phase of construction on the building. It is likely that the original multi-paned windows were updated with 2/2 glazing when the *gross doddy* was added.

#### Historical or Associative Value

The Reesor-Grove Farmhouse has historical and associative value as the former home of John L. Reesor, a farmer who was a member of a prominent Pennsylvania-German Mennonite family. The Reesors, who trace their roots back to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, settled in the south-eastern part of Markham Township in 1804. John Reesor married Martha Ramer in 1845, and it is believed that the first phase of the house was constructed a short time after that. The Ramer family were also Pennsylvania-German Mennonites and among the earliest settlers in the vicinity of Markham Village-Mount Joy.

The original 80 acre farm at the centre of Lot 16, Concession 8 was owned by Martha Ramer's father, Peter Ramer, who deeded the property to her in 1879. John and Martha Reesor's daughter, Diana, married Joseph Grove in 1870. Following the Mennonite tradition, a *gross doddy* was constructed at the west end of the farmhouse to accommodate John and Martha when the next generation took over the farm and moved into the main part of the house. Diana (Reesor) Grove was deeded the property by her mother in 1883, one year after the death of her father. The farmhouse, and a remnant of the original farm property, remained in the ownership of the Grove family until the mid 2000s.



### **Contextual Value**

The Reesor-Grove Farmhouse has contextual value as a farmhouse on its original site within an evolving urban landscape. Its large size and architectural character contribute to the building's landmark status on Sixteenth Avenue.

### **Significant Architectural Attributes**

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Reesor-Grove Farmhouse include:

- The form and volume of the original building, with its rectangular plan, *gross* *doddy* addition and two storey height;
- Fieldstone foundation;
- Red brick walls, with Flemish bond brickwork on the front;
- Panelled wood east front door, glazed and panelled wood west front door, with transom and sidelights;
- Original, flat-headed window openings with 2/2 windows, radiating brick arches, projecting wood sills, and wood brickmouldings;
- Attic windows on the gable ends;
- Low-pitched gable roof with overhanging eaves and eave returns with Classical wood mouldings;
- Reconstructed gable-end brick chimneys;
- Front veranda with its low-pitched hipped roof supported on tapered, square wood columns resting on brick and concrete-capped piers, and the simple wood railing;