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6/24

TOWN OF VAUGHAN

In the Matter of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337;

-and-

In the Matter of The Lands and Premises at the Following Municipal Address in the Province of Ontario.

To: Ontario Heritage Foundation--REGISTERED MAIL  
77 Bloor Street West  
2nd Floor  
Toronto, Ontario  
M7A 2R9

**NOTICE OF PASSING OF BY-LAW**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Vaughan has passed the following by-law designating the property, including lands and buildings, at the following municipal address, as property of architectural and historical value or interest under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337.

**Isaac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
Part Lot 11, Concession 2  
Concord**

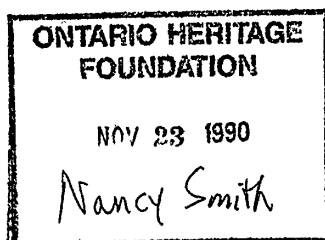
The Isaac Baker Homestead which includes: the Isaac Baker House, Harness Shop and Blacksmith Shop, 1350 Langstaff Road, part of lot 11 in concession 2, is designated under the Ontario Heritage Act for architectural and historical reasons.

The Isaac Baker House built in 1929, is a fine example of a Foursquare house with a rock-faced, cement block exterior. The two-and-one-half-storey house has a square plan with a rear tail addition. The cement blocks cladding the structure were hand-made by Isaac Baker.

The Isaac Baker Harness Shop and Blacksmith Shop built in 1930, are both balloon framed structures with narrow shiplap siding. Plank sheathing can be found on the interior walls of the structures.

The Baker family emigrated from Somerset County, Pennsylvania in 1802 and was one of the early families to settle in Vaughan. The Isaac Baker Harness Shop has provided the community with hand-crafted horse harnesses and other leather goods for the past 60 years.

DATED at the Town of Vaughan  
this 20th day of November 1990.

A handwritten signature of John D. Teach over a circular official seal of the Town of Vaughan. The seal contains the text "TOWN OF VAUGHAN" and "1967".

John D. Teach  
Town Clerk  
Town of Vaughan  
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive  
Maple, Ontario L6A 1T1



RECEIVED  
IN THE OFFICE

*York*

DEC 10 1990

ARCHITECTURE AND  
PLANNING  
HERITAGE BRANCH

# THE TOWN OF VAUGHAN BY-LAW

## BY-LAW NUMBER 374-90

A By-law to designate the Isaac Baker Homestead, 1350 Langstaff Road, Part Lot 11, Concession 2, Concord, in the Town of Vaughan, Regional Municipality of York as being of architectural and historical value or interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural and/or historical value or interest; and,

WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Vaughan has caused to be served on the owner of the lands and premises known as the Isaac Baker Homestead, 1350 Langstaff Road, Part Lot 11, Concession 2, in the Town of Vaughan, in the Regional Municipality of York, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto; and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks; and,

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality:

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Vaughan ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. There is designated as being of architectural and historical value or interest the property known as the Isaac Baker Homestead, 1350 Langstaff Road, Part Lot 11, Concession 2, Concord, in the Town of Vaughan, in the Regional Municipality of York, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto.

ONTARIO HERITAGE  
FOUNDATION

DEC 7 1990

TOWN OF VAUGHAN

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

DATE

*27/90*


J.D. LEACH  
TOWN CLERK

BY-LAW NUMBER 374-90 CONTINUED


2. The reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto.
3. 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 proper land registry office.
4. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served on the Owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in the same newspaper in which notice of intention to so designate was published once for each of three consecutive weeks.

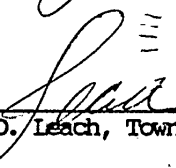
READ a FIRST and SECOND time this 20th day of November, 1990.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
L.D. Jackson, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J.D. Leach, Town Clerk

READ a THIRD time and finally passed this 20th day of November 1990.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
L.D. Jackson, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J.D. Leach, Town Clerk

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 374-90

DESCRIPTION OF LANDS

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate, lying and being in the Town of Vaughan in the County of York, being composed of part of Lot 11 in the Second Concession of the said Town, which said lands are more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING at an iron pipe planted in the southerly limit of the said Lot 11 which said pipe is distant 1249 feet 10 inches measured on a course north 74 degrees east from the southwest angle of the said lot;

THENCE north 14 degrees 36 minutes west along a wire fence 247 feet 2 inches to an iron pipe planted;

THENCE north 74 degrees 15 minutes east along a wire fence 278 feet 3 inches to an iron pipe planted;

THENCE south 16 degrees 39 minutes east along a wire fence 245 feet 10 inches to an iron pipe planted in the southerly limit of said Lot 11;

THENCE South 74 degrees west along the last mentioned limit 287 feet to the place of commencement, which said lands are more particularly set forth on a survey prepared by Ross O. Sturdy bearing date April 2nd, 1953.



Isaac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
Lot 11, Concession 2  
Concord

Angela Pacchiarotti  
June 1990

**Short Reasons  
for Designation:**

The Isaac Baker Homestead which includes: the Isaac Baker House, Harness Shop and Blacksmith Shop, 1350 Langstaff Road, part of lot 11 in concession 2, are recommended for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act for architectural and historical reasons.

The Isaac Baker House built in 1929, is a fine example of a Foursquare house with a rock-faced, cement block exterior. The two-and-one-half-storey house has a square plan with a rear tail addition. The cement blocks cladding the structure were hand-made by Isaac Baker.

The Isaac Baker Harness Shop and Blacksmith Shop built in 1930, are both balloon framed structures with narrow shiplap siding. Plank sheathing can be found on the interior walls of the structures.

The Baker family emigrated from Somerset County, Pennsylvania in 1802 and was one of the early families to settle in Vaughan. The Isaac Baker Harness Shop has provided the community with hand-crafted horse harnesses and other leather goods for the past 60 years.

Isaac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
Lot 11, Concession 2  
Concord

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#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Jacob and Mary Baker (née Breck) emigrated from Somerset County, Pennsylvania to Upper Canada in 1800 with eight children and sixteen grandchildren. During their trip, the Baker family stopped near Niagara Falls where Jacob Baker is believed to have been abducted by Indians. In 1802, Mary Baker with six of her children and a number of grandchildren, continued their journey to Upper Canada to finally settle in the County of York.

In 1816, Jonathan Baker, a grandchild of Mary Baker, bought Lot 11 in concession 2 and occupied the property with his family. In 1801, the 200-acre property was granted by the Crown to Captain Daniel Cozens, a British officer in the American Revolutionary War. Shortly thereafter, in November of 1801, Daniel Cozens sold the property to William Rymel. In June of 1815, the 200-acre lot passed from William Rymel to Nicholas Johnson. In January of 1816, Nicholas Johnson sold the same property to Christian Troyer for 175 pounds sterling. In May of 1816, Christian Troyer sold the 200-acre property for 225 pounds sterling to Jonathan Baker.

Jonathan married Elizabeth Cober, daughter of Nicholas Cober. Jonathan and Elizabeth had no children of their own. In 1847, Jonathan's brother Michael Baker sent his son Jonathan Jr., to live with his uncle to assist him on the farm. Jonathan Jr. received title to lot 11 in concession 2 in 1860 after his uncle's death. Elizabeth lived with her nephew and his family until her death.

Jonathan Jr. married Mary Heise of Markham. Jesse Baker their son, received title to the land from his father in 1912. Jesse married Sophia Smith of Edgeley, in 1896 and had four children.

Isaac Baker, Jesse's eldest son married Annie Reesor in 1928 and lived for a few years in a the adjoining "grandfather" section of the Jonathan Baker House on the east side of Lot 11, Concession 2. Isaac Baker kept a harness shop in the lower storey of the "plank on plank" on the Jonathan Baker Homestead.

In 1929, Isaac Baker began building a cement block house on the west-half of Lot 11 in concession 2. The buildings on the property include a harness shop and a former blacksmith shop.



Isaac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
Lot 11, Concession 2  
Concord

In 1954, Sophia Baker as the executrix of Jesse Baker's will granted Isaac Baker the west-half of lot 11 in concession 2, the parcel of land on which Isaac Baker began building his home on in 1929. The remainder of lot 11 was granted to Amos Baker that same year. The parcel of land inherited by Amos Baker was incorporated in 1964 to become Baker Farms Limited.

The blacksmith shop located on the property was originally built and used as a blacksmith shop, although not for shoeing horses. Excess space in the shop was used for storage.

The Isaac Baker Harness Shop has provided the Vaughan community with hand-crafted horse harnesses and other leather goods for the past 60 years.

#### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The enclave of the buildings on the Isaac Baker homestead includes, the Isaac Baker House, a harness shop and a former blacksmith shop. All structures were built between 1929-1931.

The Isaac Baker House is a fine example of a Foursquare house with a rock-faced cement block exterior. 1 The two-and-one-half-storey house has a square plan with a one-storey rear addition. The tail addition, used as a summer kitchen and storage facility, is clad in tongue-and-groove cedar. 2 The personal diaries of Isaac Baker reveal that the cement blocks were hand-made by him with the help of Amos, his brother and Peter Cober a cousin and neighbour.

The cement blocks are bound in a very unique pattern; the blocks are moulded to resemble a horizontal stretcher laid above two rolock blocks. This block as a whole, is laid between single rolock blocks.

The structure has a low-pitched pyramidal roof with a similar pyramidal dormer projecting from the top storey of the facade (south elevation). The roofline has an eaves projection of approximately 12 inches. The facade holds a raised verandah with four squared columns acting as supports. The west elevation holds an enclosed porch with a pyramidal roof. These features reiterate the Foursquare's emphasis on horizontal lines and a heavy building mass.

Issac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
Lot 11, Concession 2  
Concord

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The upper storey windows on the facade have a two-over-two pane arrangement. Two windows with a similar pane arrangement are found on either side of the centrally located main entrance. Two upper storey and two lower storey windows, all having a four pane sash are found on the north elevations.

The interior of the house has a small elevator shaft, known as a dumb-waiter, that was used as a portable serving table. An interesting compartment is found in a kitchen cabinet between the dining room and the kitchen. A section inside the east-wall cabinets, slides open creating an aperture to pass objects from one room to the other.

Isaac Baker's harness shop and blacksmith shop are balloon framed structures with narrow shiplap siding. Plank sheathing can be found on the interior walls of the structures. A shed roof addition was built on the west elevation circa 1970. The quality construction of the buildings suggest an earlier construction date, in actuality both structures were built between 1929-1931. 3

#### NOTES

1. Between 1890-1930 the Foursquare house became known as the complete mail-order house. Architectural plans and construction materials were sold as a complete package by the Aladdin Company and Sears, Roebuck & Company.
2. A second tail addition was constructed in the 1970s as a private entrance for the upstairs tenants. A door that opened onto a balcony was situated on the upper storey of the north elevation.
3. Isaac Baker's harness shop survived a fire in 1983 that damaged the north side of the structure.

Isaac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
Lot 11, Concession 2  
Concord

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SOURCES

Abstract Index of Deeds, Registry Office, York (Newmarket).

Baker, Isaac. Personal Diaries, 1929-1934.

Cober-Baker Cemetery Grounds, Dufferin Street.

Decennial Censuses of Canada, 1851, 1861, 1891.

Gowans, Alan. The Comfortable House. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1986.

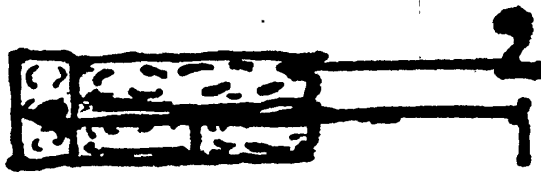
Horne, Henry. "A Brief History of the Early Settlers on This Line". unpublished.

Isaac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
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Concord



South Elevation (facade)

1. Pyramidal roof and dormer.
2. Square-shaped columns.



Cement Block Pattern  
1. Rolock block.  
2. Streachers.

Isaac Baker Homestead  
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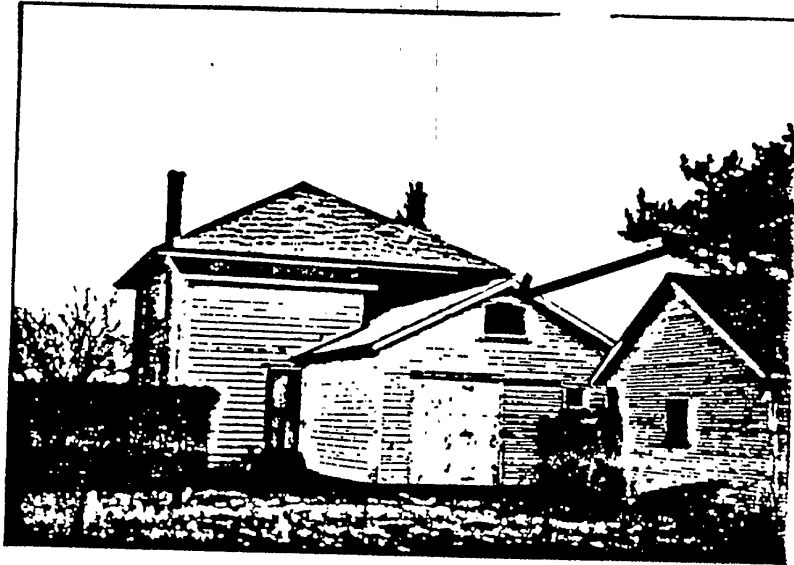


West Elevation

1. Enclosed porch with a pyramidal roof.

Isaac Baker Homestead  
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North Elevation

1. Rear tail addition.

Isaac Baker Homestead  
1350 Langstaff Road  
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Concord



Isaac Baker Harness Shop  
South Elevation (facade)



Isaac Baker Blacksmith Shop