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CORPORATE SERVICES COMMISSION Clerk's Department'

May 31, 2001

Grand Life Boulevard Corporation 17700 Langstaff Road Concord, Ontario L4K 3S3

Dear Sirs:

Re:

By-Law #2001-120 - To Designate Property as being of

Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest

The William Wonch House - 10077 Woodbine Avenue

This will advise that Council at its meeting held on May 22, 2001 passed By-law 2001-120, to designate "The William Wonch House", 10077 Woodbine Avenue, as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest.

A registered copy of the by-law is attached for your information.

Yours truly,

Sheila Birrell Town Clerk

Encl.

SB/jik

C:

The Ontario Heritage Foundation

Mr. R. Hutcheson, Heritage Planner





2001-120

A by-law to designate a certain property as being of Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest The William Wonch House

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:

> GRAND LIFE BOULEVARD CORPORATION 17700 Langstaff Road. Concord, Ontario L4K 3S3

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate The William Wonch House, located at 10077 Woodbine Avenue, Markham, 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 TOWN OF MARKHAM HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

THAT the following real property, more particularly described in Schedule 1. "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest:

The William Wonch House 10077 Woodbine Avenue Town of Markham The Regional Municipality of York

THAT the Town Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law 2. to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 8TH DAY OF MAY, 2001.

READ A THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 22ND DAY OF MAY, 2001.

SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK

I, SHEILA BIRRELL. TOWN CLERK OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM, CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A PHOTOCOPY OF THE ORIGINAL

DON COUSENS, MAYOR

SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2001-120

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

PART LOTS 21 & 22, CONCESSION 4 PART 12 & 13, 66R-3426 TOWN OF MARKHAM REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2001-120

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

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

Historical Reasons

The William Wonch House is a substantially proportioned 1½ storey brick residence, with a three bay facade, built in the Gothic Revival Style, c.1850-1880 by one of Markham's longest established families.

The property at Lot 21, Concession 4 was originally settled by John George Wunsch (Wonch) and his wife Mary, who came to Markham in 1794 with William Berczy. John George Wunsch was 58 years old in the 1804 Census, his wife Mary was 50, son John was 18, Anthony was 12 and May Ann was also 12. The older John drew Lot 21, Concession 4 (the subject property) which he patented in 1816. Anthony Wonch

was listed on a muster role of the 1st Regiment of York Militia" dated September 9, 1813 and may have seen action in the War of 1812.

The 1851 Census shows the property occupied by 64 year-old farmer John Wonch, residing on the property in a log house with his wife Ann, aged 58, and a child (or grandchild) Wesley, aged 15.

Also residing on the property was William Wonch, a farmer, aged 35, who was the son of John. He is listed as residing in a frame house with his wife Christine (Quantz), to whom he was married on Dec.11, 1838, a son George E, aged 11 and a number of others (possibly farm workers): Elizabeth Clark, aged 6; Dorothy Burk (Shaw) aged 55; David Burk, a farmer, aged 59; John Shoults, a farmer, aged 51; and Richard Shaw, aged 18. All of the Wonch family and residents on the property were listed as members of the Methodist faith, with the exception of David Burk who was identified as a disciple. Richard Shaw and his mother, (Dorothy Burk) are identified under the house category as (Darlington) whereas John Shoults is identified under the house category as (McGilvary). It is possible that the primary residence for these individuals was elsewhere.

The 1856 and 1860 Maps of Markham Township show a William Wonch as the owner of the property. The 1861 Census indicates that William Wonch, a farmer, aged 45 and born in the USA was living on the property in a brick, one storey house with his wife Christina (Quantz), aged 42 and born in Markham and son, George E., a student, aged 19. Also living in the household is Philip Quantz, aged 13. The Quantz family were also descended from the original Berczy settlers.

Also residing on the property in a log house were John Wonch, with his wife Ann, then aged 73 and 67 respectively, along with Christina Hilts (possibly a servant)

The 1871 Census shows that at that time the property was owned by William Lawson, aged 53 and born in England. He was living there with his wife Sarah (Hill) and children: William, aged 21, listed as a Student; Thomas, aged 19, listed as a blacksmith; Charles, age 16; and Margaret, aged 13. Also residing on the property was William Henry Lever, aged 7. The Lawson family were all members of the Wesleyan Methodist faith.

William's father, is believed to have been William Lawson who came to Upper Canada in 1829 from Cumberland England and helped to establish the Primitive Methodist Church in the colony.

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The 1878 Map of the Township of Markham shows a House on the property in the location of the present dwelling, with a William Lawson identified as the Owner.

The 1881 Census shows that by that time the property was occupied by Ann Nichols (Grundy), a widow of George Nichols, aged 55. She was living there with her daughter Mary, aged 28, son William F., aged 19 and daughter Elizabeth, aged 12. Evidently, William took over the operation of the farm at an early age, as he is listed as "Farmer" in the census. The Nichols are all listed as being of English origin.

The 1919 map of Markham shows the owner as being a W.F. (William Franklin) Nichols, while a map from the early 1920s shows a Mr. Glover residing on the south half of the property at Lot 21, Concession 4, whereas W.F. Nichols was residing on the northern half. W.F. Nichols was married to a Mary-Ann Lundy.

Architectural Reasons

The Wonch House is a good example of a Gothic Revival Style farmhouse of brick construction from the 3rd quarter of the 19th Century. The house has a three bay facade with a detail window in a central peaked gable. The original windows were wood, double hung of a 2/2 pane division.

The house is T-Shaped in form, and there is evidence to believe that the earliest part of the house was the Kitchen wing.

The interior of the front part of the house features elaborate 3rd quarter 19th Century woodwork,

which provides some indication of the level of prosperity of the occupants.

The house sits on a stone Foundation, and at one time likely had chimneys on the gable ends, and a wood shingle roof.

The masonry on the house is a yellow brick which has been painted white. It is believed that above the windows and doors and at the corners of the building, a red or dyed red accent brick was used. The relatively broad form of the house compared with that which is typical of the Gothic Revival Style and the stretcher bond pattern of the brick provide a strong indication that the William Wonch house may actually be the frame house mentioned in the 1851 Census, which was later bricked over and remodelled at some point after 1870.

Contextual Reasons

The William Wonch House is of contextual significance as an excellent example of a 19th Century farmstead, with historical connections to the community of Victoria Square