



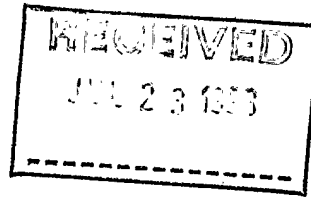
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REGISTERED MAIL

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990,
CHAPTER O.18;

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LAND AND PREMISES ON LOT 113,
PLAN 65M-2528, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 1 MILLBROOK GATE,
TOWN OF MARKHAM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: The Ontario Heritage Foundation
77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

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 1 Millbrook
Gate, 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 John Stiver House is attached.

NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served
on the Town Clerk within thirty (30) days of July 25, 1998.

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

Historical Reasons

The John Stiver House located at 1 Millbrook Gate, with frontage on Woodbine Avenue was originally located further south in the Hamlet of Buttonville, on Lot 13, Concession 4, and was built c.1850 by John Stiver.

The Stiver House, is a compact rectangular house with Georgian characteristics. The Stivers were members of the Berczy settlers who made their difficult journey to Upper Canada in 1794.

John Nicholas Stiver arrived in Markham in the autumn of 1794. The 'Stiver' name is derived from the name 'Stoeber'. John Nicholas's youngest son Josiah (John) was the first child of European origin to be born in Markham. In a manuscript dictated in his later years, John Stiver Jr. asserts this claim as well as mentioning other anecdotes about his life.

Also mentioned in the manuscript is John Stiver's participation in the War of 1812 when he was 17 years of age, and the hardships he suffered in his childhood. Due to the scarcity of food and other necessities, his parents were unable to care for him and thus, an elder sister who resided in Niagara took care of him as a young child. When he was old enough, he began work with his brother chopping wood and clearing forests.

During the war of 1812, John Stiver was a volunteer in the artillery and fought at Queenston and Niagara. He was captured at one point by the Americans, but escaped to return to Markham. After the war, John Stiver married Mary Anne Schuetze, whose father Captain G. Schuetze owned part of Lot 13, Concession 4, which was granted to him by the Crown in 1803.

When he married Mary Anne, part of the lot was given to Stiver and here he lived and raised a family of twelve children. He dedicated part of the land for St. John's Lutheran Church and cemetery in 1825 where he was buried after he died in 1879. The Georgian cottage which was John Stiver's house was believed to be built at some point between 1840 and 1859. Prior to this house being built, the family lived in a log farm house on the site.

After John Stiver's death, the Stiver family continued to farm this property but the land was divided among the sons and each eventually sold his lot in impending years.

In the late 1980s, the land on which the John Stiver House stood was redeveloped as residential subdivisions. Although not retained on its original site, the house was relocated to a lot further north in the Hamlet, adjacent to the historic Burr House in 1988. There it was restored by David Wylie, the son of former Heritage Markham Chair, William Wylie, and his wife Vickie. The rear part of the current house is another relocated dwelling from a property in the Buttonville vicinity on Lot 16, Con. 4, built c.1880s. This was originally used by farm workers.

Architectural Reasons

The building located at 1 Millbrook Gate is an excellent example 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 Stiver 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. At the time of relocation in the late 1980s, the gable ends were covered with wooden shingles and the side walls were covered in shiplap. Both of these materials were added in the early 20th century. The front facade was covered with narrow, feather-edge clapboard. This was affixed with round headed nails of an early 20th century vintage, however, based on local architectural precedent, it is believed that the house was originally clad in this type of siding. Clapboard siding, reminiscent of what the original would have been, has now been restored on all elevations of the house. The corners of the building are structurally and visually reinforced by vertical square timbers painted a darker colour than the siding.

At the time the house was relocated, the body of the house was white, while the trim was dark brown. Currently the house has been painted a light yellow with a blue/grey trim.

The main entrance is a rectangular opening with a prominent contrasting exterior trim. It is capped with an entablature and decorative moulding. The original door has been lost, however it is believed that it was originally a simple 6 or 4 panel solid wood door.

The typical window is of simple construction. It is composed of a rectangular opening with plain trim and a single hung window. There are two sashes in a two over two pane arrangement. The other windows on the building are identical in their construction and vary only in their dimensions. The history of the Stiver House as proposed by Susan Casella states that the existing windows with two sashes and four lights replace the original six over six pane arrangement when the house was modernised in the early 1900's.

The medium pitch gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The verges and eaves have plain soffits and fascias. The verges also have plain frieze. Modern metal eavestroughs and drainpipes have been added to the eaves.

Two chimneys were attached at one time to the north elevation. A photograph from the Markham Inventory of Heritage Buildings c.1977 indicate that the chimneys were made of brick.

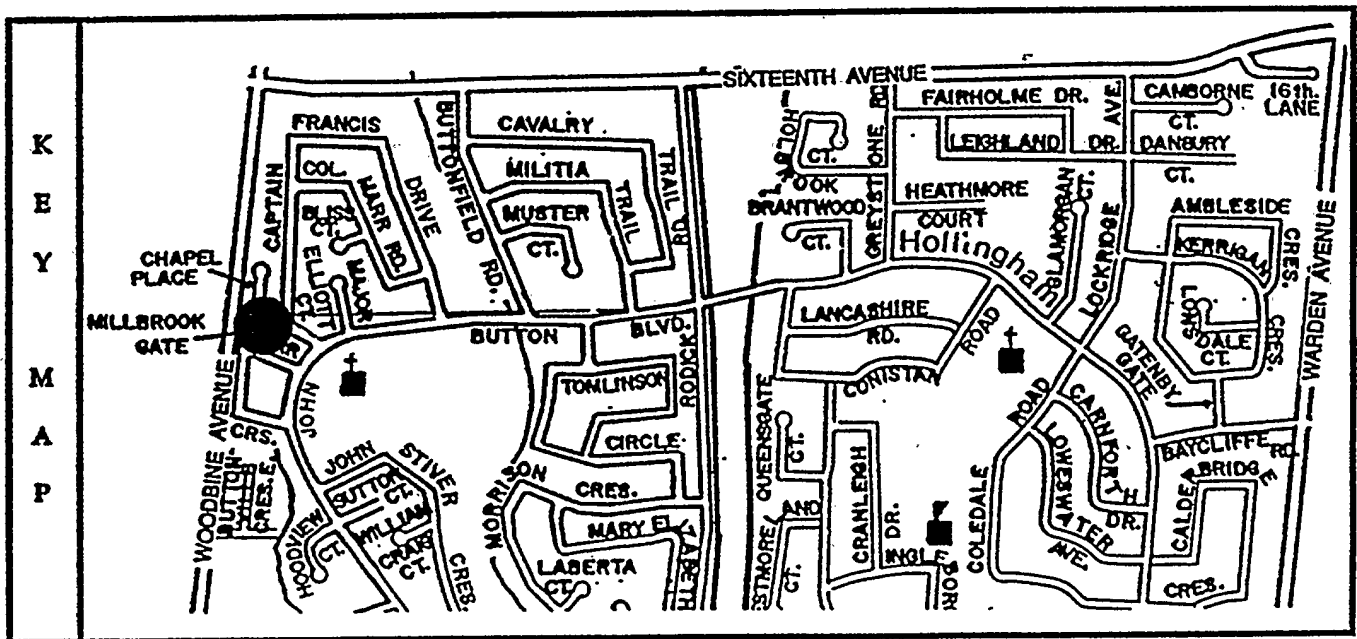
Contextual Reasons

Although relocated from its original site, the Stiver House retains a strong contextual significance as part of the historic hamlet of Buttonville. Together with the Burr House immediately to the south, the Stiver House provides a linkage between the two nodes of the Buttonville Hamlet, around the Crescents and at the intersection of Woodbine Avenue and Sixteenth Avenue. 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 John Stiver House under the Ontario Heritage Act and register such title against the title of the lands.

SITE LOCATION



BUILDING LOCATION

1 Millbrook Gate

IDENTIFICATION

<u>Property:</u>	The John Stiver House, 1 Millbrook Gate Lot 113, Plan 65M-25283
<u>Former Property:</u>	Lot 13, Concession 4
<u>Owners:</u>	<div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em; margin-bottom: 0.2em;"></div> 1 Millbrook Gate Markham, ON
<u>Inventory No.:</u>	D5-6
<u>Assessment Roll No.:</u>	132-885-30
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	c.1850
<u>Style of Architecture:</u>	Georgian Vernacular
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	Farm Residence
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	1.5
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	Narrow clapboard
<u>Special Features:</u>	Georgian Cottage, 3 bay facade Pediment and transom over door 2/2 windows, returned eaves