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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 LOT 30, PLAN 65M-2761,
KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 10 ALEXANDER HUNTER PLACE, TOWN OF
MARKHAM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE


TO: The Ontario Heritage Foundation
Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation
77 Bloor Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9
Attention: Ms. Nancy Smith, Sr. Administrative Clerk

RECEIVED
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Heritage and Libraries Branch
Heritage Operations

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 10 Alexander Hunter Place, Markham, as a property of architectural and/or historic interest or value under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18.

A Statement of the Reasons for the Proposed Designation of The Jonathan Irving Calvert House is attached.

NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served on the Acting Town Clerk within thirty (30) days of July 20, 1999.



The Clerk's Department
Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, Ontario
L3R 9W3

July 20, 1999

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The Jonathan Irving Calvert House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical and architectural significance.

Historical Reasons

The Jonathan Irving Calvert House was built c.1877 for the Calvert family.

The house was the home of the Calvert Family for over 100 years. The Calvert family came to Markham Township in 1842 from Dumfriesshire, Scotland. At the time, the family consisted of the parents, John Calvert (1795-1843) and his wife, Elizabeth (Wilson) (1801-1887) and seven children. They later had one additional child. An unusual fact about the family is that four of the five sons were blacksmiths.

It is believed that the Calvert House was built by William Calvert, a farmer (1836-1913) who was married to Mary Walker (1843-1926). Together they had eight children: Jonathan Irving (1882-1944), Elizabeth (1870-1891), Mary (1879-1882), William James (1872-1948), Rachel (1877-1942), John (b.1879), Sarah (b.1884) and Sadie.

After the death of William Calvert, the house was lived in for many years by his son Jonathan Irving Calvert who was married to the former Rena Ash. It was later owned by their son Jonathan Ashton Calvert (born 1921). His son, Richard Ashton Calvert (born 1956), lived in the house until the early 1990s. During their years in the house and nearly 140 years in the community, the Calverts were one of the most prominent families in Buttonville. The continuous occupation of the house for more than 100 years by this single family is one of the longest of any family in Markham Township.

Architectural Reasons

The Jonathan Irving Calvert House, built c.1877, is an excellent example of 1½ storey, brick centre gabled farmhouse. The masonry dwelling was constructed using buff brick with red details, created by dying the yellow brick red.

The house is built on a T-shaped plan, with a central gothic gable defining the front elevation. A brick tail is located to the rear of the dwelling, which is contemporary with the front section of the house. The house originally had a shed roofed, vertical wood clad addition.

The windows are segmental arched with 2/2 pane division, and were originally framed with rounded top, louvered wood shutters. The shutters, window frames and sash were originally painted a dark colour.

As was typical for the period, the doors on the house were likely of a traditional 19th Century four panelled variety. A transom window is located above the front door.

The original veranda was of an elaborate, late 19th Century design, with decorative brackets, circle trim and substantial, decorative turned posts.

The house originally had decoratively corbelled chimneys on the gable ends. The chimneys were built with a yellow brick base, red brick mid section and yellow brick cap.

The house is accentuated by a projecting red brick plinth.

The original side porch was partially enclosed for what was probably a storage shed or early privy.

A significant feature of the house is the multi-coloured decorative brick work, seen in the quoins, brick banding, voussoirs and in the distinctive cross features in the gables.

An historic photograph of the house exists, taken circa 1900, which provides a good indication of how the house originally appeared.

The roof of the house and verandas were originally clad in wood shingles. These were probably 3/8 taper-sawn, shingles with a 3 1/2" weather.

The foundation was originally built of local fieldstone.