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CULTURAL PROGRAMS
HERITAGE & MUSEUMS UNIT

CORPORATE SERVICES COMMISSION
Clerk's Department

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 IN LOT 21, PLAN
65M-2761, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 16 DAVID GOHN CIRCLE,
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

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 16 David
Gohn Circle, 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 Jacob Size House is attached.

NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served
on the Town Clerk within thirty (30) days of December 24,
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 Jacob Size House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical and architectural significance.

Historical Reasons

The house at 16 David Gohn Circle, was originally located at 248 Main Street Unionville, where it is believed to have been built c.1850 as the home for Thomas Cameron and his family. Thomas Cameron was a carpenter by trade, and as a result, it can be assumed that it was he who built the house.

The property on which the house originally stood was granted to John Daniel Frederick Busch of Kingston in 1804. In 1817, the lot was sold to John Size, who was at that time operating an inn and tavern in Kingston. John Size was born in Germany in 1768 (possibly with the surname of Seitz) and arrived in North America sometime prior to 1793. After his arrival he served from 1793 until 1796 with His Majesty's Marine Department on Lake Ontario. He was discharged from service on October 19, 1796. In 1800, he was married to Miss Elizabeth Vanderheyden, daughter of Joachim Gersham (Georshom) Vanderheyden and Elizabeth Smith at Schenactady Dutch Reformed Church in New York State.

By 1822, John Size, his wife Elizabeth and their children, John Jr., Sophia, Anthony, Jacob, Anna Maria, Margaret, Florentz, Peter, Eliza, William and James (a daughter Nanei Juliana was born in 1825) moved to their land in Markham Township. In 1820, John Size had also purchased the adjoining property on Lot 14, Concession 5.

The property on Lot 13, Concession 5 remained in the ownership of John Size until the time of his death in 1845. In the previous year, the northwest corner of the property had been sold to his son, Jacob Size. Jacob Size eventually purchased the southwest corner of the property in 1850, a total land holding of 100 acres. In the year following the death of John Size, all but 1/4 acre of the eastern half of the property was sold to Ira White, the pioneer mill owner and builder who built the Union Mills after which the village was named. The 1/4 acre that was retained by Elizabeth Size was eventually sold in 1847 to her son-in-law Thomas Cameron, the husband of her youngest daughter Nanei Juliana. John Size, a dedicated Lutheran all his life, was buried in the Bethesda Lutheran Cemetery, Markham Township.

The Census of 1851 shows that Thomas Cameron was a carpenter (age 31) who lived on the property with his wife Juliana (age 25) with their son Peter (7) and daughter Marian (1). The family were members of the Presbyterian Church. In the Census it shows that the Cameron's were residing in a 1 1/2 storey frame house. It is believed that this is the house which stood at 248 Main Street Unionville, prior to relocation to the Markham Heritage Estates.

The Cameron's did not live long on the property as in May 1851 it was sold to the brother of Juliana Cameron, Jacob Size who was both a carpenter and blacksmith by trade. Little is known of the lives of the Cameron's after this sale. As was stated previously, Jacob Size also owned the

property to the west of the house which he farmed. As he is described most frequently as a "Blacksmith" or "Carpenter" in Unionville Village, most evidence suggests, that the family moved to the house at 248 Main Street Unionville after 1851 and Jacob Size carried on his business activities in a separate building, behind the house.

Jacob Size was born in 1805 to John and Elizabeth Size in New York State, likely in Schenactady. He married first on 2 March 1831 to Sarah Van Horne, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth (Hendrick) Van Horne of Markham Township. The couple had one son, Elisha, who died as an infant and Elizabeth died September 26, 1859. In 1860 Jacob married secondly to Elizabeth McDowell, born in 1835. Jacob died in 1887 and Elizabeth died on 11 November 1913. Their children were Sarah, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Ruth, J.G. (Gee), Lydia and Gersham. Throughout their lives Jacob and Sarah Size were active members of the Central United Church in Unionville.

Gersham Size never married and continued to live in the family home on Main Street Unionville with his mother. In business, Gersham operated a Harness shop at the rear of his house and also served as a driver for Brown's Bakery. His sister Ruth, a dressmaker, also never married and it is believed that she lived in the house with her brother into their later years.

The last owners of the house in its original location in Unionville were a Mr. and Mrs. Dyke who made 248 Main Street their home for over 40 years.

In 1996, the house was threatened with demolition and was relocated to the Markham Heritage Estates subdivision by [REDACTED], where it was restored.

Architectural Reasons

The Size house is a good example of a vernacular 1 1/2 storey workers cottage with influences of the Gothic Revival Style. The house has a 3 bay facade with a central peaked gable. An interesting feature of the house is the fact that all of the windows on the south, north and east facades are intact as are a number of the storms. The original windows are 2/2 double hung with a Gothic peaked four pane window in the central gable. The second floor windows are unusually small, and are possibly evidence of an early date of construction for the house.

The original form of the original front part of the house has been largely unchanged. A large addition, clad in board and batten was constructed at the rear of the house in the Markham Heritage Estates subdivision.

Prior to its relocation, the building was clad in aluminium siding. This was clad over insul-brick which was installed over the original narrow clapboard siding. The original siding was exposed and restored during the restoration at the Markham Heritage Estates Subdivision.

The house had a stone foundation in its original location, half of which was a full height cellar. An interesting feature that was visible in the cellar part of the house was the fact that a number of the original beams are complete logs covered in bark.

In its original location, a coal stove was evidently the main source of heating in this house for a number of years and there was evidence of the old coal chute and storage area.

A historic photograph, c. 1940 indicates that the windows on the house were originally flanked by louvered wood shutters. Each of these was $\frac{1}{2}$ the width of the window and attached to the window frame with hinges. The c.1940 photograph also shows evidence of original corbelled, red and yellow brick gable end chimneys, which are to be reconstructed as part of the restoration plan at the Markham Heritage Estates subdivision.

The c.1940 photograph of the house shows a stoop porch above the main entrance. This is believed to have dated from early in the 20th Century. A full width veranda has been constructed across the front of the house.

Contextual Reasons

In its original location at 248 Main Street Unionville, the Size house was a significant contributor to the streetscape of Main Street Unionville, north of Carleton Road. It was particularly important from an historic contextual perspective, since it was one of the last reminders of the time when the centre activity in Unionville was further north than it is today. The roots of Unionville were set in this area in the early 1800s, but gradually over the years, as the economic impact of the railway and Highway 7 were felt, the centre of the village moved southward.

IDENTIFICATION

Property: The Jacob Size House
16 David Gohn Circle
Lot 21, Plan 65M-2716
Markham Heritage Estates

Original Property: Lot 13, Concession 5

Owners: [REDACTED]
16 David Gohn Circle
Markham, ON

Inventory No.: G4-5v
E5-48 (original location)

Date of Construction: c.1850

Style of Architecture: Vernacular with Gothic Revival influence

Type of Structure: Residence

Number of Storeys: 1½

Exterior Wall Material: Horizontal Clapboard

Special Features: Gothic Revival form
Wood, double hung, 2/2 windows
Gothic centre gable window
Horizontal wood siding
Wood shingled roof
Gable end chimneys