



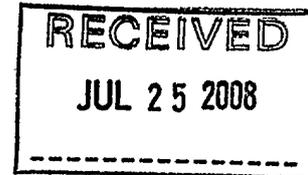
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REGISTERED MAIL

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

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LAND AND PREMISES IN , KNOWN
MUNICIPALLY AS 5933 14TH AVENUE, TOWN OF MARKHAM, IN THE
PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Ontario Heritage Trust
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3
Attn: Catherine Axford, Chairman's Executive Assistant

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 5933 14th Avenue, 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
George R Cowie House, is attached.

NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served on the
Town Clerk within thirty (30) days, or before 4:30 p.m. on August
25, 2008

Sheila Birrell, Town Clerk
The Town of Markham
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, ON L3R 9W3

July 24, 2008

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

George R. Cowie House

5933 Fourteenth Avenue
Part Lot 5, Concession 7

c.1925

The George R. Cowie House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance:

Description of Property

The George R. Cowie House is a two and a half storey red brick farmhouse located on the south side of Fourteenth Avenue, just west of Markham Road. The property is situated within the Armadale community of Markham.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Historical Value

The Cowie House, c.1925, is located on east half of Township Lot 5, in the 7th Concession. It has associative value as a remnant of the area's agricultural community. This property was originally a Crown Reserve, transferred to King's College (the forerunner of the University of Toronto) in 1828. In 1913, the property was purchased by George R. Cowie (1880-1944), a farmer. He was a son of John W. Cowie and his wife, Mary Jane (Dolphin) Cowie, who lived on Wellington Street East in Markham Village. Cowie's children owned the property until 1951. It is possible that the present house incorporates the earlier brick house noted in the census records and shown in this approximate location on Township maps of 1860 and 1878. During the early 20th century period in Markham's history, many older farmhouses were remodelled or replaced with more modern structures as the Township's agricultural community prospered with mixed farming and in particular, dairy production. The Cowie House is an excellent example of this trend of farm improvement, and of its early 20th century period of construction.

Architectural Value

The Cowie House is typical of the spacious, simply detailed farmhouses built in Markham in the first quarter of the 20th century. Its architectural detailing reflects the Edwardian Classicism that was popular from the 1910s through the 1920s. The house was constructed in the form of an American Foursquare, with its functional, basically cubic shape ornamented with a spacious wrap-around verandah that features a curved corner and gables centred on both the north and east sides. The red pressed brick cladding and two storey form of the house, with a broad hipped roof and gabled attic dormers, is representative of up-to-date farm residences that were locally built in the early part of the 20th century.

Contextual Value

The Cowie House is one of a small number of heritage buildings remaining in Armadale that still exist in the midst of modern development, a tangible reminder of the community's past as a prosperous agricultural area. The house illustrates the trend of farm improvement over time, and is a good example of an early 20th century farmhouse exhibiting features typical of Edwardian Classicism in Southern Ontario. The curving, wrap-around verandah is a noteworthy embellishment, uncommon in Markham.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the heritage value of the George R. Cowie House include:

- Overall form of the building;
- Fieldstone foundation;
- Red brick walls with stone lintels over openings;
- Medium pitched hipped roof with gabled dormers and wide, boxed eaves;
- Curved wrap-around verandah with its closed concrete balustrade, tapered wood columns, wood lintel and decorative gables;
- Flat-arched one over one wood sash windows with projecting stone sills;