



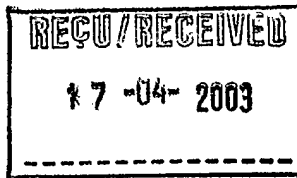
An agency of the Government of Ontario



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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 PART OF LOT 10,
CONCESSION 9, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 6937 HIGHWAY #7, TOWN OF
MARKHAM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO:

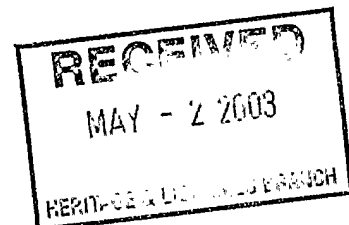
Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5C 1J3
Attention: Catherine Axford, Chairman's Executive Assistant

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 6937 Highway #7, 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 John Reesor 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 the 16th day of May, 2003.

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

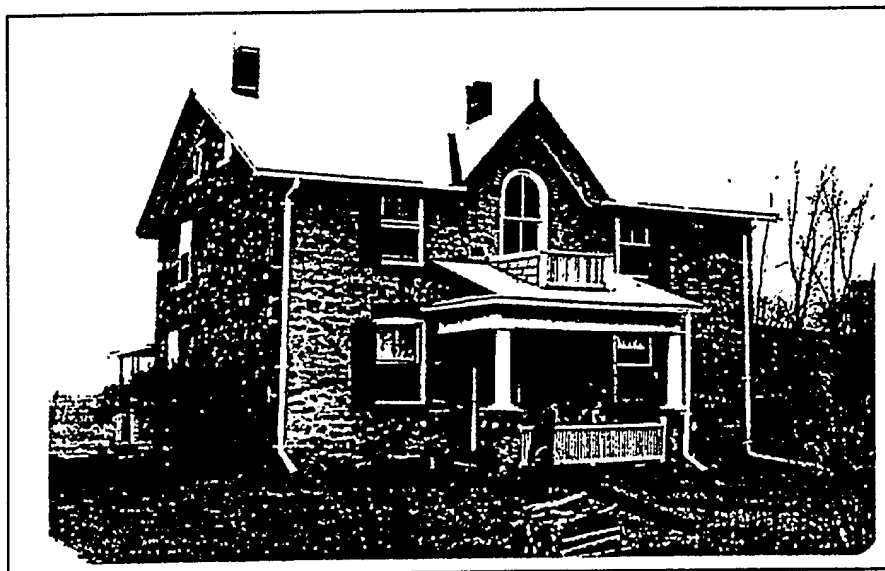


April 15, 2003

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RESEARCH REPORT



THE JOHN REESOR HOUSE
6937 Highway # 7
Part Lot 10, Concession 9
Markham

Prepared For: Heritage Markham

Prepared By: Marie Jones

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The John Reesor House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical, architectural and contextual attributes

Historical Attributes

The house located at 6937 Highway # 7 was built c.1840 on land, which was originally granted by patent to Levi Collier in Oct. of 1801. In 1805 the full 200 acre parcel was sold to Christian Reesor. When Christian Reesor Sr. died in 1806, all his holdings were transferred to his eldest son Peter. By 1807 this lot had become the property of John Reesor (1784-1874), the fourth child of Christian Reesor and Fanny Reiff.

Christian Reesor with his wife Fanny Reiff arrived in Upper Canada in 1804 with their four sons and two daughters, Elizabeth (1774-1835), Peter (1775-1854), Barbara (1777-1852), John (1784-1874), Abraham (1790-1831) and Christian (1794-1877), and their respective families. The Reesor Family acquired 2,500 acres of land in Markham Township. Christian and Fanny settled on Lot 14, Concession 10 near Locust Hill where he resided for only two years before he was accidentally killed by a falling tree. His vast holdings of land were divided among his children after his death.

In 1809 John Reesor married Annie Grove (1794-1869), the oldest daughter of Bishop Abraham Grove of the Mennonite Church and his wife Elizabeth Lehman. The Grove family arrived in Upper Canada in 1808 from Pennsylvania and settled in Markham Township. John and Annie farmed Lot 10, Concession 9 and it was here that they raised their family of 15 children. Their descendants are numerous and many have remained in Markham Township.

The existing stone house on the West ½ of Lot 10, Concession 9 was built c. 1840 by John and Annie Reesor. It appears that this new structure may have replaced an earlier log dwelling on the property. In 1846 the East ½ 100 acres of the lot was sold to John G. Reesor, their son. He built a second stone house on the property, which has since been demolished. The census of 1851 lists both the John Reesor Sr. family and the John Reesor Jr. family as living in separate stone houses on this parcel of property. There appear to be a number of unrelated families also residing on this lot in various buildings. This census makes note of 2 log buildings, a 2 storey frame dwelling and the 2 stone buildings. In 1870, Jesse Reesor, the youngest son, purchased the West ½ from his father. In 1875 the property was sold to William Rolph Jr. of Markham for \$9000.00. It appears that the estate of W. Rolph sold the property in 1880 to Samuel Reesor (1817-1901), son of Peter Reesor and Esther Eby. Samuel was their 15th child. The property passed back and forth among the Reesor children with George E. selling it to Elizabeth, his older sister, and her husband Abraham G. Burkholder in 1891. In 1930 the property was sold

to Harvey and Eva Hoover whose family continued to farm the property until it was purchased in the 1970's as part of the Pickering Airport lands

Architectural Attributes

The house located at 6937 Highway 7 is a good example of a 2 storey fieldstone house constructed in the Gothic Revival Style c. 1840. The substantial house is 3 bays x 2 bays with an off centre (left) round headed doorway entrance. The window in the centre gable is semicircular having a red brick arch above. The remaining windows are segmental with 2/2 pane division. They have plain wood trim with red brick voussoirs and slip sills. There are two small windows present in what would be the attic on the east elevation. The gable roof is of a medium pitch with plain projecting eaves and verges. Although the house is fairly reserved in decorative elements the center gable has bargeboard and a finial. The original open verandah, which ran the length of the front façade, has been replaced by a smaller 2 storey porch with open railing and columns supported by brick piers. The two chimneys are of a more recent construction, one being mid center and the second being mid offset left.

Contextual Attributes

The John Reesor house is of contextual significance for its association with the historic agricultural community in the east part of Markham Township. Together with other farm residences in the vicinity, the area is a reminder of some of Markham's early settlers, the descendants of Christian and Fanny Reesor who cleared heavily forested land in order to produce viable farm land.

Significant Features to be Preserved

- Original stonework
- Original form, roofline and massing
- Original Chimneys
- Original wood, double hung windows;
- Original brickwork above the windows
- Original asymmetrical doorway
- C.1920s Porch and railing
- Original shutters
- Original decorative wood trim work
- Original wooden eaves and soffits
- Original stone foundation
- Semicircular center gable window
- Semicircular front entrance

IDENTIFICATION

1890's Photograph

<u>Property:</u>	The John Reesor House 6937 Highway 7
<u>Legal Description:</u>	Lot 10, Concession 9
<u>Owners:</u>	1440106 Ontario Inc.
<u>Inventory Number:</u>	J6 - 2
<u>Assessment Roll Number:</u>	255-468-00
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	c.1840
<u>Style of Architecture:</u>	Gothic Revival
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	Farm Residence
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	2
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	Fieldstone