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JUN 11 2003  
CONSERVATION REVIEW  
BOARD

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 4,  
CONCESSION 9, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 7273 14TH AVENUE, TOWN OF  
MARKHAM, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Ontario Heritage Foundation  
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 7273 14th Avenue, 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  
Peter Reesor Homestead, 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 3rd  
day of July 2003.

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

June 3, 2003

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DESIGNATION REPORT



**THE PETER REESOR HOMESTEAD**  
7273 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Lot 4, Concession 9, Markham

Prepared For: Heritage Markham

Prepared By: Michael Seaman &  
Marie Jones

## STATEMENTS OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

The Peter Reesor Homestead is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value and interest containing the following heritage attributes:

### Historical Attributes

The Peter Reesor Homestead was built c.1831 by the first Peter Reesor. The house is located on Lot 4, Concession 9, Markham and accessed through a lane south from 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This lane was part of a 'given' road that crossed the Rouge River at Peter's mill and came out to Reesor Road by the Cedar Grove Mennonite Church (Rouge Valley Mennonite Church).

Peter Reesor (1755-1854) and his wife Ester Eby (1774-1826) arrived from Franklin County, Pennsylvania with his father Christian and family in 1804. Peter selected this site because of the rich soil and water power available from the Little Rouge River. He built two mills along the river. Ester and their oldest son, Christian, journeyed back to Pennsylvania in 1826 and on their return trip died of typhoid fever in Lewiston, New York. That winter Peter journeyed to Lewiston and brought back their bodies for burial in Cedar Grove cemetery. Peter built this house in 1831 for his family and second wife, Elizabeth Ramer Koch (1794-1875). A very traditional Pennsylvania German barn was also built in 1831. It was destroyed by fire in August 1960. The farm was sold in 1940.

### Architectural Attributes

The Peter Reesor Homestead is a two storey, Georgian house, built of stone with a five bay façade. The front of the house has been covered in stucco for over 100 years.

The front façade of the house has wood, double hung, 2/2 windows in all openings. The windows appear in a c.1900 photograph of the house and are therefore of sufficient age to be considered historic.

The doorway remains in its original place on the front façade. On the west elevation, the façade has been covered in stucco. On the c.1900 photograph the fieldstone on the façade remains exposed. Another feature of the west façade which is now hidden are two small square windows at the roof level.

The c.1900 photograph shows a ½ storey stone wing on the side of the house. This feature has since been removed and replaced with a frame barn feature in the same location.

On the north elevation, the stone façade of the house is exposed. The stone is rough cast fieldstone, fully dressed. Some windows appear to be capped in stone some in wood;

A small frame addition exists on the east side of the house.

Originally, the house would have had wood shingles on the roof.

#### Contextual Attributes

The Peter Reesor House is of contextual significance as a significant architectural landmark of the community of cedar grove. The house sits on a now abandoned roadway which was once a major thoroughfare in the community until the dam was removed across the Rouge River.

#### Significant Heritage Attributes

1. All wood double hung windows on all elevations (2/2 and 6/6 pane division);
2. All original exterior doors and storm doors on the west, east and south elevations;
3. The fieldstone foundation;
4. The original roofline;
5. The original footprint of the front part of the dwelling;
6. The brick chimneys;
7. The stone under the present stucco cladding.

## IDENTIFICATION

<u>Property:</u>	The Peter Reesor House
<u>Legal Description:</u>	Lot 4, Concession 9
<u>Owners:</u>	Ontario Realty Corp
<u>Inventory Number:</u>	J7-12
<u>Assessment Roll Number:</u>	250-654-00
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	c.1831
<u>Style of Construction:</u>	Georgian
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	Farmhouse
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	2
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	Stone, covered in Stucco