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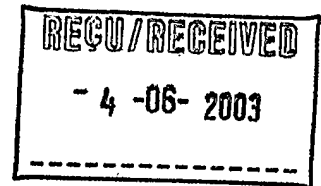
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REGISTERED MAIL

RECEIVED
JUN 11 2003
CONSERVATION REVIEW
BOARD



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 10,
CONCESSION 3, WEST ½, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 7373 REESOR ROAD,
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 7373 Reesor Road, 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
Cedarena, is attached.

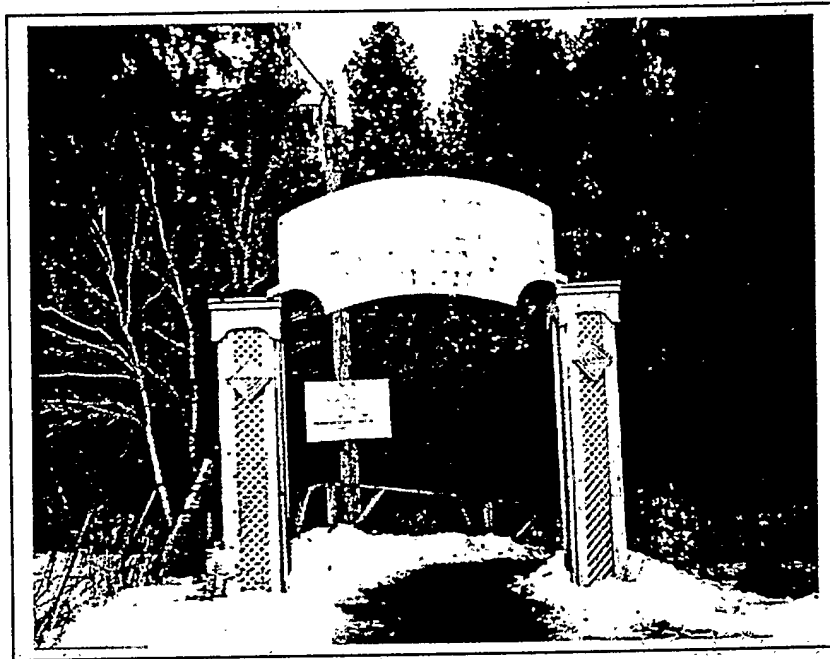
NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served on the
Town Clerk within thirty (30) days, or before 4:30 p.m. on the 3rd
day of July 2003.

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



CEDARENA
7373 Reesor Road, Markham
Lot 10, Concession 3, west ½

Prepared For: Heritage Markham

Prepared By: Michael Seaman &
Marie Jones

STATEMENTS OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES

Cedarena 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

Built in 1926 by the people of the hamlet of Cedar Grove in the Town Markham, the charming Cedarena provides a glimpse of what skating rinks were like decades ago. It's a natural ice rink that is cleaned and re-flooded nightly. The first Cedar Grove rink was located at the South East corner of Steeles and Reesor Road on property owned by the Reesor family. In 1926 the decision was made to relocate it to another location. Authur Lapp owned property at Lot 3 where the rink would be moved to. Constructed on the flats near the river The original small building was relocated to the new site to become part of the present pavilion where skaters go for hot chocolate and to change their skates. Austin Reesor approached his friend Authur Lapp with the idea and on a handshake the property was allowed to become part of the Cedar Grove Community Club who continue to operate it today..

Cedarena is a unique cultural landscape feature in Markham. It has been described as a "a step back in time as soon as you begin the short trek down a dirt trail leading to a cottage-like dwelling nestled between trees".

The natural ice arena features an early to mid 20th Century frame pavilion, set over against the natural ice surface. Visitors pay a admission at the pavilion, which also serves as a changing room and refreshment counter. The architecture and character of the building are typical of early to mid 20th Century récreational facilities. the well-aged walls.

Outside the pavilion is the oval hockey-sized rink encircled by boards. It lies in the cedar-encircled hollow of the Rouge River Valley, just where it was established back in 1927. A wooded trail leads down to it from the grass field that serves as a parking lot.

Anna Rodrigues a reporter for Travel Notes describes the experience in 2003 as follows:

"Skaters leisurely skate to gentle tunes from the 30's to 50's, as well as the occasional waltz. Couples of all ages are seen skating hand-in-hand as if in a romantic trance. Children are left to skate on their own without fear of getting lost or being trampled.

Along with the hot chocolate, a concession sells coffee, donuts and steaming hot apple cider that was made to sip slowly on the large deck facing the rink."

Another description of the arena is as follows:

"The wooden chalet that fronts the rink is original. It's draped in twinkling green and white lights and is heated by a wood-burning stove. Most names scrawled on the walls inside date back to rink's early days. I found "Walter Reesor, 1935"; the access road is named after the Reesor family. The thick wooden benches are well-worn and scuffed from 75 years of use

Nothing ever changes at Cedarena. It is, as it ever was, a simple skating rink with natural ice, music and lights. That's what makes it special.

Outside, a fanfare of waltzes and music from the 30s and 40s pumps from loudspeakers hung on trees. The rink is wider and longer than a standard hockey rink, encircled by white boards with a green trim".

Architectural and Cultural Landscape Attributes

The Cedarena, established in 1926 by the Cedar Community Club for the use of area residents, remains an excellent example of the community spirit which thrives in the Village of Cedar Grove. Not only does it attract Markham residents, but those from the suburbs of Pickering and Toronto come to skate on this natural outdoor rink. Part of its natural beauty is the landscape surrounding the rink. The "Cedarena" sign at the entrance leads visitors down a winding path to the flats beside the river where tall cedars, willows and pines surround the rink. The rink is complete with the traditional wood horizontal boards around the outside, the skate house which incorporates the original building from the original site, and the layout beside the Little Rouge River add to the charm of its setting.

Contextual Attributes

The Cedarena is one of Markham's most significant cultural heritage resources. Based in the community of Cedar Grove and operated by a local community group of volunteers, it is an outstanding example of the preservation of a natural ice rink and surrounding landscape.

Significant Heritage Attributes

1. Natural ice rink form with horizontal boarding;
2. Natural landscape of the surrounding area;
3. Skate house incorporating the earlier relocated structure.

IDENTIFICATION

<u>Property:</u>	Cedarena
<u>Legal Description:</u>	Lot 3, Concession 10 7373 Reesor Road
<u>Owners:</u>	
<u>Inventory Number:</u>	
<u>Assessment Roll Number:</u>	
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	1926
<u>Style of Construction:</u>	
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	

Bibliography Cedarena- Anna Rodrigues -- Travel Notes, 2003