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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 PART OF LOT 3,
CONCESSION 9, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 7447 9TH LINE, TOWN OF MARKHAM,
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TO: Heritage Policy and Program Development Unit
Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation
400 University Avenue, 4th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9

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 7447 9th Line, 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 Josephus Reesor Tenant House, is attached.

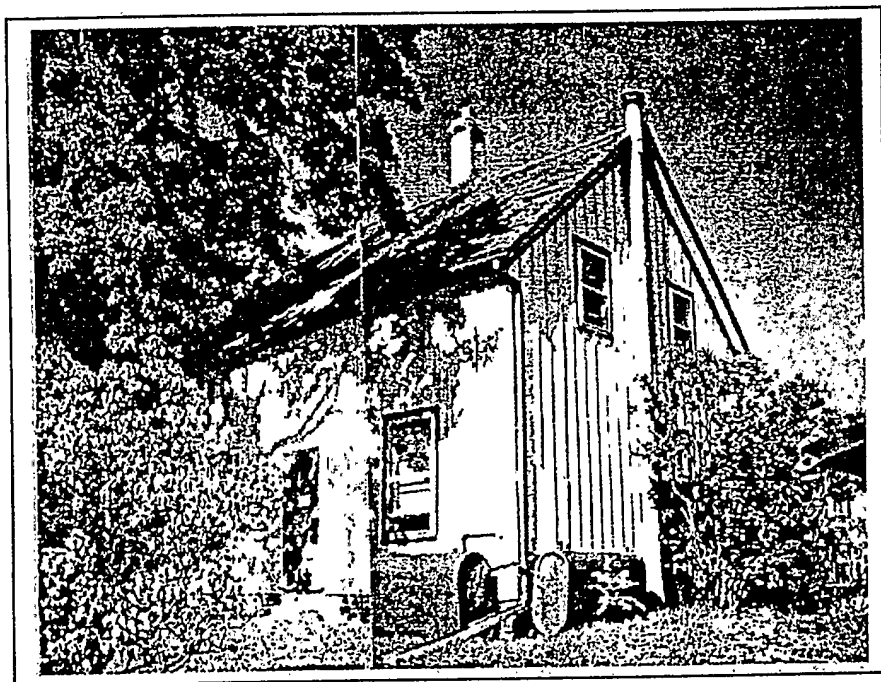
NOTICE OF OBJECTION to the designation may be served on the Town Clerk within thirty (30) days, or before 4:30 p.m. on the 17th day of January, 2003.

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

December 17, 2002

objection received
Mar. 10/03
CRB
✓ RC
Hemings

DESIGNATION PROPOSAL



THE JOSEPHUS REESOR TENANT HOUSE
7447 9TH Line
Part Lot 3, Concession 9
Markham

Prepared For: Heritage Markham

Prepared By: Marie Jones

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The Josephus Reesor Tenant House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its historical, architectural and contextual significance.

Historical Reasons

The house located at 7447 Ninth Line was built c.1875 on land that had originally been granted to Colin Drummond on Nov. 8, 1804. Colin Drummond sold the full 200 acre parcel to Peter Reesor in 1805. It appears that his father, Christian Reesor, was the actual owner of several properties throughout the eastern part of the township although all the deeds in the first few years were drawn in Peter's name.

Peter Reesor, the eldest son of Christian, came to Upper Canada from Pennsylvania in 1802 as the envoy of his father. He made his way through the town of York and on to the Little Rouge River area in Markham alone on horseback. Finding this area suitable for his needs and those of his family he returned to York and made the necessary arrangements for securing these tracts of land. He would later divide these properties among his family members. While in York he traded his horse and saddle to Frederick, Baron de Hoen for 400 acres of land in Whitchurch, which was later divided and awarded to his daughters.

Christian Reesor with his wife Fanny Reiff arrived in Upper Canada in 1804 with their four sons, two daughters and their respective families. Elizabeth 1774-1835, Peter 1775-1854, Barbara 1777-1852, John 1784-1874, Abraham 1790-1831 and Christian 1794-1877. The Reesor family acquired 2,500 acres of land in Markham Township. Christian 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. Peter settled on Lots 3 and 4, Concession 9 where the Little Rouge River takes a turn to the west and then flows south (east part alongside the 10th Concession) As such it was an excellent location for a mill, of which the family built two, a Saw Mill and a Grist Mill. He built his large stone house on the east part of Lot 4. The property on Lot 3 was most likely farmed in conjunction with the adjoining lots they owned. It would seem the land, although quite fertile, involved a great deal of work to clear with its heavy growth of trees and also the many large boulders, which were located on the property, evidenced by the number of stone dwellings constructed over time on Lots 3 and 4.

Peter and his wife, Esther Eby, had ten children together Veronica (Fanny) 1800-1833, Elizabeth 1802-1852, Christian 1804-1826, John Eby 1806-1864, Esther 1808-1878, Peter 1810-1887, Anna 1812-1902, Abraham 1815-1855, Samuel 1817-1901 and Josephus 1820-1916.

In 1849 Peter Reesor Senior gave his son Samuel, a gift of the east part of Lot 3, Concession 9. Prior to his death, Peter divided Lot 3 further for two of his sons. The western part was sold in 1853 to Josephus Reesor for 750 pounds and in 1852 the middle section was sold to Peter Reesor Junior for 1575 pounds (it appears that Peter Jr. never

actually lived on this parcel, he continued to live at the family home on Lot 4) Research indicates that it was about 1853 that Josephus Reesor built the large 2 storey, stone house. It is not until the 1875 Assessment Roll that there seems to be two distinct buildings, one where Josephus lived and the other where Watson Collinson resided as a Tenant. It is quite likely that the 1 ½ storey frame dwelling was constructed at about this time for the family of the hired man. The new dwelling was located on the south side of the laneway, across from the main farm residence. Josephus was married first to Susannah Baker and then to Elizabeth Pike Hoover (1824-1910) they had no children of their own, which would explain the need to have farm help residing on the property. When Josephus retired from farming he moved into the Village of Box Grove. He spent his last years living with his grandnephew Menno Reesor and died at the age of 96. In January of 1901 Josephus and his wife Elizabeth sold the 145 acres of Lot 3, Concession 9 to Barnet Coakwell for \$8500.

Architectural Reasons

The house located at 7447 9th Line is a good example of a 1 ½ storey frame Georgian Cottage constructed in the mid 1870's. It was most likely built for the tenant workers who laboured on this farm, which belonged to Josephus Reesor. The simple dwelling, which has been well cared for, is rectangular in plan three bays across by one bay deep. There is a small tail addition projecting to the rear from the main part of the house. The house has been altered very little over time.

The house is clad in wood vertical board and batten and has a fieldstone foundation. It has a high pitch gable roof with plain projecting eaves and verges. The single brick chimney is slightly off from being mid center. The window openings are rectangular with 1/1 pane division and the front entrance is centrally located. Plain wood trim surrounds the windows and doors.

Contextual Reasons

The Josephus Reesor Tenant house is of contextual significances for its association with the historic agricultural community surrounding the village of Box Grove. Together with several other farm residences in the vicinity, the area has become a reminder of some of Markham's earliest settlers, the descendants of Christian Reesor and son Peter Reesor who cleared heavily forested land in order to farm the area surrounding this part of the Little Rouge River system.

IDENTIFICATION

<u>Property:</u>	The Josephus Reesor Tenant House 7447 Ninth Line
<u>Legal Description:</u>	Part Lot 3, Concession 9
<u>Owners:</u>	Winter Gardens Estates, Inc.
<u>Inventory No.:</u>	J7 - 4
<u>Assessment Roll No.:</u>	250-654-00
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	c.1875
<u>Style of Architecture:</u>	Georgian Cottage
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	Farm workers Residence
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	1 ½
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	Wood Board and Batten
<u>Special Features:</u>	Form and Structure intact