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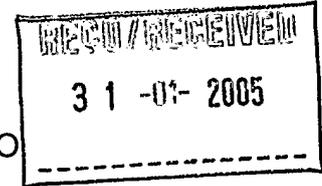


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REGISTERED MAIL



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 PT LT 13, CON 4,
PART 2, 3, 4, 65R12127, KNOWN MUNICIPALLY AS 8931 WOODBINE
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 8931 Woodbine 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.

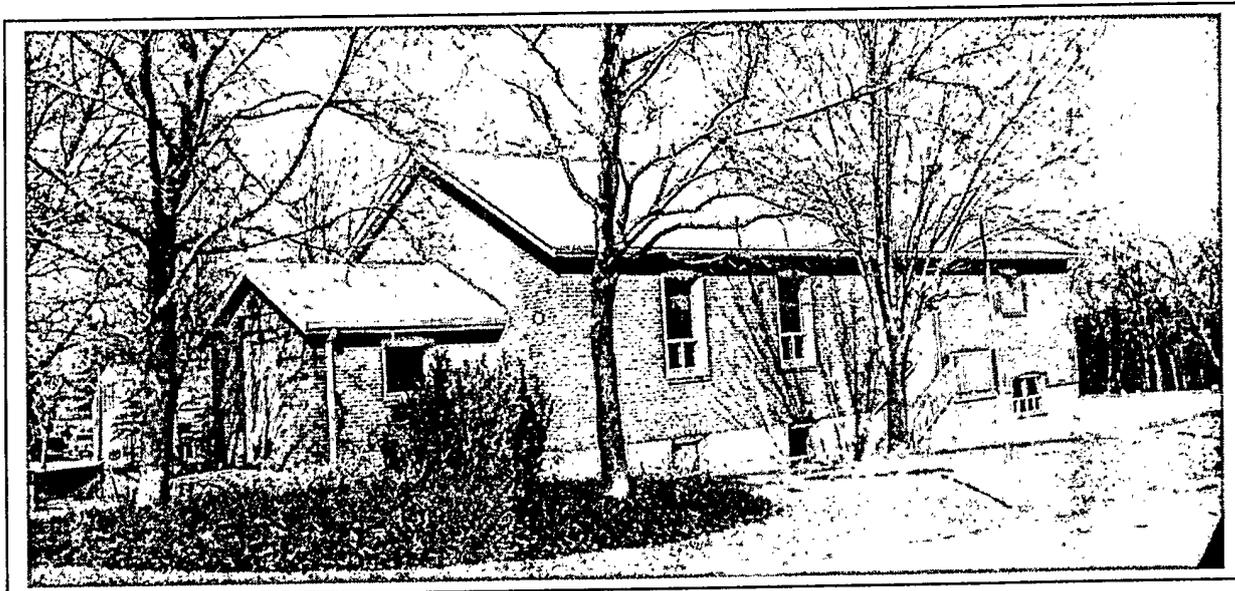
A Statement of the Reasons for the Proposed Designation of
Buttonville Women's Institute Community Hall, is attached.

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 24th
day of February 2005

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

January 25, 2005

DESIGNATION PROPOSAL



BUTTONVILLE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE COMMUNITY HALL
Built 1940

8931 Woodbine Avenue
Community of Buttonville
Markham

Prepared For: Heritage Markham

Prepared By: Michael Seaman
Town of Markham

Source: Buttonville Hall a testament
to Community Involvement
By Sherry Feltham,
Markham Economist & Sun

STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The Buttonville Women's Institute Community Hall at 8953 Woodbine Avenue is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical, architectural and contextual significance.

Historical Reasons

The Buttonville Women's Institute Community Hall was built in 1940 from components of two 19th Century Churches, located elsewhere in York County.

The history of the community hall dates back to 1927 when a fire destroyed Buttonville's original community hall and equipment.

Fortunately, a group called the Buttonville Junior Women's Institute had been organized in April of that same year. The first president was Gertrude Hood. The women decided that their first priority would be to begin raising funds for a new hall. With no hall in Buttonville, many of the events had to be held in Unionville and Victoria Square.

Events included plays, musical numbers, dances the selling of quilts and a vast amount of euchre games. The most popular fundraising events were garden parties.

In a history of the hall published in 1990 by Sherry Feltham, it was noted that Drew Boyington and Alice Brown, fondly remember garden parties held during the Strawberry Season.

By the time George Kelly donated the insurance money from the first hall to purchase the present site from Ernie Walton on April 9, 1940, the Women's Institute and the community of Buttonville had raise a significant amount of money, but still had a long way to go.

A large church was obtained from Bloomington in Whitchurch Township, which was dismantled and re-erected for the main part of the hall. A smaller church from L'Amoureux in Scarborough Township was utilized for the platform. Many donated their time to move and put the two churches together and help with further fundraising events.

Two years later on February 11, 1942, the opening night arrived. The hall was filled with all who contribute. This banquet would be the first of many events to be held in the Buttonville Women's Institute Community Hall.

Although for 40 years, the institute hall was a centre of community life, with the decline in the agricultural community in the vicinity of Buttonville, the Buttonville Women's Institute closed in 1983.

In that year, the property was sold to the Town of Markham by the Institute and the proceeds donated to the Markham Stouffville Hospital Building fund. It has since been rented for various uses including a daycare.

In commemoration of the Women's institute's contribution to the community of Markham and the founding of the hall, a plaque was erected in the hall, which was dedicated to their efforts.

Although a relatively recent structure, the Buttonville Women's institute community hall is of major historical significance as a building which was the centre of activity in Buttonville for over 40 years, and whose very existence is a testament to years of fundraising efforts by the community. It is a lasting reminder to the vibrant agricultural community which once existed in this area.

Architectural Reasons

The Buttonville Women's Institute Community Hall is a significant for architectural reasons as a fine example of reused and restored 19th Century Churches, complete with its overall form, window openings and vestibule.

The structure is also a testament to the community halls which were once common across Ontario as reminders of the efforts of women to form, reinforce and document a sense of community in rural Ontario. In Markham today, the Buttonville Women's Institute community hall is the last of its kind.

The hall originally had wood, double hung windows with a 6/6 pane division, which were believed to have been from the original 19th century churches, however, these have recently been replaced.

Contextual Reasons

The Buttonville Women's Institute Community Hall is of contextual significance as the sole public building within the core community of Buttonville (The nearby schoolhouse was moved here in the 1980s). The building is a landmark in the village and remains a focal point for community meetings and events.

Significant Heritage Attributes:

1. Rectangular plan with flat-rooted north wing;
2. Red brick walls with radiating voussoirs over openings;
3. Window openings projecting sills and brick arches;
4. Front vestibule;
5. Gable;
6. Front doors;
7. Historical plaque to the Women's Institute.

IDENTIFICATION

<u>Property:</u>	Buttonville Women's Institute Community Hall
<u>Legal Description:</u>	
<u>Owners:</u>	Town of Markham
<u>Inventory Number:</u>	
<u>Assessment Roll No.:</u>	
<u>Date of Construction:</u>	1940 (framing two 19 th Century structures)
<u>Style of Construction:</u>	Classic 19 th century church form adapted to a community hall.
<u>Type of Structure:</u>	Institutional
<u>Number of Storeys:</u>	1
<u>Exterior Wall Material:</u>	Red brick