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ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST

FEB 11 2011

RECEIVED

February 10, 2011

Jim Leonard  
Registrar, Ontario Heritage Trust  
Heritage Programs and Operation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Dear Jim Leonard,

**Re: Notice of Intention to Designate a Property, Ontario Heritage Act**

The Council of the Town of Markham intends to designate the following property for reasons of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O.18, Part IV*:

Joshua Miller House  
10 Heritage Corners Lane  
Markham, ON

Notice of objections will be received **on or before 4:30 p.m. on Monday, March 14, 2011** at the following address:

Clerk's Department, Town of Markham  
Attention: Judy Carroll  
101 Town Centre Boulevard  
Markham, ON L3R 9W3  
Fax, 905-905-479-7771

A statement of significance/reasons for the designation is attached.

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberley Kitteringham'.

Kimberley Kitteringham  
Town Clerk

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE/REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

**Joshua Miller House**

c.1825

10 Heritage Corners Lane

The Joshua Miller House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance.

**Description of Property**

The Joshua Miller House is a one and a half storey clapboarded dwelling facing east, fronting onto Heritage Corners Lane. The house is part of the Markham Heritage Estates Subdivision of relocated heritage houses.

**Statement of Reasons for Identification**

**Historical Value**

Dating from c.1825, the Joshua Miller House has historical value as an original dwelling from Markham's early settlement period. It is one of the Town's oldest remaining heritage buildings. The house has associative value as the former home of a significant family of American immigrants who played a role in the historical development of agriculture in the eastern part of Markham Township through clearing the land, establishing a farm, and building a home upon the east half of Lot 22, Concession 8. Joshua Miller and his wife, Rachel, came to Canada from Saratoga, New York in 1801, receiving the Crown patent for their property in 1807. The Miller family were founding members and committed supporters of the 9<sup>th</sup> Line Baptist Church. The house also has associative value for its late 19<sup>th</sup> century history as one of the properties owned by Senator David Reesor, a prominent civic and business leader who resided in Markham Village.

**Architectural Value**

In its restored state, the Joshua Miller House is an excellent example of a vernacular, late Georgian farmhouse displaying the saltbox form and heavy centre chimney typical of early American domestic architecture. The balanced 5-bay arrangement of the simple façade, with its centre door framed by sidelights and small, multi-paned windows, is representative of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Upper Canada, but also recalls the vernacular farmhouses of late 18<sup>th</sup> century eastern United States that its original inhabitants would have left behind. Given the prosperity of Markham Township as it developed into a mature agricultural community, resulting in the replacement of houses dating from the early settlement period, the survival of an early frame house of this simple form is noteworthy and rare.

### **Contextual Value**

The Joshua Miller House has contextual value as a restored building dating from Markham's early settlement period, relocated in 2006 from its original site to Markham Heritage Estates, to save it from demolition. In its present context, the house helps illustrate the range of architectural styles, building materials, and cultural backgrounds of the Town's heritage buildings.

### **Significant Architectural Attributes**

**Exterior** Character-defining attributes that embody the heritage value of the Joshua Miller include:

- Overall form of the building;
- Fieldstone-faced foundation;
- Wood clapboard siding, with its associated trim, window frames and door frames;
- Low- pitched, saltbox-form gable roof with tight eaves and associated wood trim;
- Single stack, red brick, central chimney;
- Flat-arched 6 over 6 wood sash windows with projecting wood sills;
- Front doorcase with flush-panelled 4-panelled wood door and multi-paned sidelights with 4-paned glazing and wood panels below;
- Wood plank south side door;
- 6-paned basement windows;
- Hip-roofed side porch on simple wood posts, with wood-shingled enclosed portion, on the south wall;
- Original interior door and window trim, baseboards and beaded wall and ceiling panelling.