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August 12, 2021
Via Registered Mail

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

ONTARIO HERITAGE TRUST
AUG 17 2021
RECEIVED

Dear Jim Leonard:

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

The Council of the City 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:

Thomas Frisby Jr. House
3151 Elgin Mills Road East
Markham, ON

Notice of objections will be received **on or before 4:30 p.m. on September 10, 2021** at the following address:

Clerk's Department, City of Markham
Attention: Mary-Jane Courchesne
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, ON L3R 9W3
Email: mcourchesne@markham.ca

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, City Clerk
Encl.

c. Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Thomas Frisby Jr. House

3151 Elgin Mills Road East

c.1915

The Thomas Frisby Jr. 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 following Statement of Significance.

Description of Property

The Thomas Frisby Jr. House is a two and a half storey red brick dwelling located on the south side of Elgin Mills Road East, east of Victoria Square Boulevard and the historic crossroads community of Victoria Square. The house faces north.

Design and Physical Value

The Thomas Frisby Jr. House is a good example of the spacious, simply-detailed farmhouses built in Markham in the first quarter of the 20th century, often constructed to replace older dwellings as the Township's farmers enjoyed a period of prosperity. The architectural detailing of the Frisby House reflects the Edwardian Classicism that was popular in North America from the 1900s through the 1920s. The house was constructed in the form of an American Foursquare, with a functional, compact, near-cubic form, pyramidal roof and deep verandas. The red pressed-brick cladding and two and a half storey massing of the house are representative of up-to-date farm and village residences that were locally built in the early part of the 20th century.

Historical and Associative Value

The Thomas Frisby Jr. House has historical and associative value as a property owned by Thomas Frisby Jr., a member of a prominent local family that came to this vicinity from England in the early 19th century. Thomas Frisby Jr. was the son of Thomas Frisby and Jane (Newlove) Frisby, and the grandson of John and Lucy Frisby. Thomas Jr. and his wife, Amelia "Millie" (Mapes) Frisby were members of the Methodist Church. Thomas Jr. was a member of the Free Masons, based on the Masonic symbol on his headstone at the west cemetery of Victoria Square United Church. He was a farmer for most of his life, except for a period of time in the early 1880s when he worked as a carriage and wagon maker, likely in association with John Rowbotham and his uncle, William Frisby, blacksmith. Between 1895 and 1914 he served as Victoria Square's postmaster in addition to his main occupation as a farmer.

Contextual Value

The Thomas Frisby Jr. House is of contextual value as a former farmhouse that reflects the agricultural community that has surrounded the hamlet of Victoria Square for generations, but is now in the process of being transformed from rural to urban. The house represents the transition of Victorian Markham Township into the 20th century and the sweeping social, political, and technological changes to come as the new century unfolded. It is one of three existing heritage buildings that are associated with the locally important Frisby family, which also include Lucy Frisby's c.1873 village residence at 15 Victoria Street, and the c.1860 Schell-Frisby House at 3575 Elgin Mills Road East, once the home of Richard Frisby, a younger brother of Thomas Jr.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Thomas Frisby Jr. House include:

- Overall form of the two and a half storey, cubic-plan building;
- Red brick walls with brick arches over door and window openings;
- Medium pitched truncated hipped roof with hipped roofed dormers;
- Single-stack brick chimney;
- Wooden doors on the north and south walls;
- Flat-headed window openings with wooden sash-style windows with 1/1 glazing and concrete lugsills;
- Hipped roofed front veranda with gable-roofed projection, supported on Classical wood columns resting on brick and concrete pedestals, simple wooden railings;
- Hipped roofed rear porch with balcony, supported on slender wooden posts.