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Planning and Urban Design

May 31, 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

**RE: INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY UNDER PART IV OF THE
ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, DAVID AND ESTHER GROVE HOUSE, 12 CELEBRITY PLACE**

To [REDACTED]

This will confirm that at a meeting held on May 29, 2024, Markham Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council state its intention to designate 12 Celebrity Place under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* in recognition of its cultural heritage significance

Please find attached the Statement of Significance which summarizes the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and provides a description of the heritage attributes of the property. Notice of objection to the notice of intention to designate the property may be served on the clerk within 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention on the City's website (May 31, 2024). Refer to 'Ontario Heritage Act Notices' at the link below. The notice of objection must include the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts.

<https://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/home>

Should you have any questions regarding the Statement of Significance or the implications of heritage designation, please contact Evan Manning, Senior Heritage Planner, at emanning@markham.ca

Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk

C. Ontario Heritage Trust

Attachment: Statement of Significance

Received

JUN 04 2024

Ontario Heritage Trust

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

David and Esther Grove House

12 Celebrity Place
c.1915

The David and Esther Grove House is recommended for designation under Part IV, Section 29 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 David and Esther Grove House is a two-and-a-half storey painted brick dwelling visible on the south side of Sixteenth Avenue, but accessed from Celebrity Place,, in the vicinity of the historic community of Mount Joy.

Design Value and Physical Value

The David and Esther Grove House has design and physical value as a representative example of an early twentieth century brick farmhouse in the form of an American Foursquare with Edwardian Classical details. The red brick cladding (now painted), two-and-a-half storey height, full-width front veranda supported on stylized Classical half columns, and steeply-pitched hip roof with a front dormer are representative features of the style. The house is typical of the practical, simply detailed houses built on farms and within villages throughout Markham Township in the early twentieth century. Its architectural detailing reflects the Edwardian Classicism that was popular from the early 1900s through to the 1920s. The enclosure of the front veranda is a reversible alteration.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The David and Esther Grove House has historical value as it is associated with the gradual division of large farms into smaller parcels as Markham's agricultural community matured. The property also has historical and associative value as the home of David and Esther Grove, members of Markham's Pennsylvania German Mennonite community, who owned the property from 1915 to 1951. The house is located on a remnant parcel of a 50-acre farm on the eastern half of Markham Township Lot 15, Concession 8. Joseph Grove, who farmed the centre part of Lot 16, Concession 8, acquired the eastern 100 acres of Lot 15, Concession 8 in two purchases, the first in 1885 and the second in 1893. David Grove, one of his sons, inherited the property in 1915 and built a new farmhouse in the American Foursquare style. The farm was divided between his two sons Louis and Franklin in 1951. The parcel containing the dwelling was on the portion owned by Louis Grove. Jack Russell Grove, his son, was the last of the family to own the property. The main portion of the Grove farm was sold for development in 1969, and the last remnant, containing the old farmhouse, was sold for development in 1975. In the mid-1980s, the Grove House was retained within a small subdivision that created Celebrity Place.

Contextual Value

The David and Esther Grove House has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to its surroundings where it has stood since c.1915 in the vicinity of the historical community of Mount Joy. As a heritage property embedded within a suburban subdivision of the 1970s and 1980s, it illustrates the transition of the area from rural to suburban and helps make legible an earlier land use.

Heritage Attributes

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the David and Esther Grove House are organized by their respective Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria, as amended, below:

Heritage attributes that convey the property's design value and physical value as a representative example of an early twentieth century brick farmhouse in the form of an American Foursquare with Edwardian Classical details:

- Rectangular plan;
- Concrete foundation;
- Red brick veneer (currently painted);
- Two-and-a-half storey height;
- Steeply-pitched hip roof with pedimented front dormer;
- Three-bay configuration of the primary (north) elevation with off-centre, single-leaf door;
- Rectangular window openings with radiating brick arches with a slight camber, and projecting lugsills;
- Hip-roofed full-width front veranda supported on tapered wood half columns resting on brick pedestals with concrete caps.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value and associative value, representing the gradual division of large farms into smaller parcels as Markham's agricultural community matured. The property also has historical and associative value as the home of David and Esther Grove, members of Markham's Pennsylvania German Mennonite community, who owned the property from 1915 to 1951:

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of the long-established farming community that existed in the area prior to suburban development of the 1970s and 1980s, and of the Pennsylvania-German Grove family, long-time owners.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings:

- The location of the former farmhouse on its original site where it has stood since c.1915, with its historic front facing Sixteenth Avenue, in the vicinity of the historic community of Mount Joy.

Attributes of the property that are not considered to be of cultural heritage value, or are otherwise not included in the Statement of Significance:

- Glass enclosure on front veranda;
- Modern windows within old openings;
- Decorative shutters;

- Modern door within old openings;
- Flat-roofed rear addition;
- Detached garage.