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April 9, 2024

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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[REDACTED]

**RE: INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY UNDER PART IV OF THE
ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, ISAAC AND EMMA REESOR HOUSE, 6742 STEELES AVENUE EAST**

To [REDACTED]

This will confirm that at a meeting held on April 3, 2024, Markham Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council state its intention to designate 6742 Steeles Avenue East 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 (April 9, 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**

APR 11 2024

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Isaac and Emma Reesor House

6742 Steeles Avenue East
c.1899 & c.1922

The Isaac and Emma Reesor 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 Isaac and Emma Reesor House is a two-and-a-half storey frame dwelling located on the north side of Steeles Avenue East, west of Reesor Road, in the historic community of Cedar Grove. The house faces south.

Design Value and Physical Value

The Isaac and Emma Reesor House has design and physical value as a unique example of an evolved vernacular farmhouse that blends two distinct periods of development, each with its own architectural form and stylistic features. The dominant architectural form is an American Foursquare, typical of the early twentieth century period of its construction. The recessed eastern portion of the house, dating from the late nineteenth century, reflects a restrained version of the vernacular Gothic Revival style. Along with the sunroom and enclosed veranda additions which are more recent additions, the house makes legible the changing needs and tastes of the several generations of the Reesor family that have resided here.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The Isaac and Emma Reesor House has historical value for its association with the Pennsylvania German Mennonite community who formed one of the initial European communities in Markham Township during the early nineteenth century, and for its association with several generations of Reesors, a locally prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family. The first phase of this house was constructed in 1899 as the home of farmer Isaac Reesor and Emma (Rittenhouse) Reesor on the eastern half of Markham Township Lot 1, Concession 9. In addition to farming, Isaac Reesor was a skilled woodworker who followed in the footsteps of his father, Simeon Reesor, owner and operator of a sawmill in Cedar Grove. The original farmhouse was expanded and remodeled in 1922 when Simeon Reesor, a son of Isaac and Emma Reesor, married Annie Wideman. Isaac Reesor's descendants continue to reside here and operate one of the last family-owned farms in Markham.

Contextual Value

The Isaac and Emma Reesor House has contextual value as one of a number of nineteenth and early twentieth century buildings that help to define the character and extent of the historic community of Cedar Grove.

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Heritage Attributes

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

Heritage attributes that convey the property's design value or physical value as a unique example of an evolved vernacular farmhouse that blends two distinct periods of development, each with its own architectural form and stylistic features:

- Front-facing L-shaped plan;
- Fieldstone foundation;
- Vertical tongue and groove wood siding;
- Flat-headed rectangular single-hung windows with a two-over two-pane division;
- Two-and-a-half storey height of the western portion of the dwelling;
- Hipped roof, hip-roofed dormer, and single-stack brick chimney of the western portion of the dwelling;
- Three-bay primary elevation of the western portion of the dwelling, with its off-centre single-leaf door;
- Hip-roofed open veranda supported on square wood posts;
- Gable roof of eastern portion of the dwelling with its steep centre gable;
- Rear kitchen wing and woodshed;
- Sunroom with its grouped rectangular windows;
- Enclosed front veranda with its single-leaf door and bank of three-over-one rectangular windows.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value for its association with the Pennsylvania German Mennonite community who formed one of the initial European communities in Markham Township during the early nineteenth century, and for its association with several generations of Reesors, a locally prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family.:

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of the several generations of the Pennsylvania-German Mennonite Reesor family that have resided here.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's contextual value as a building that is important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character and extent of the historic community of Cedar Grove:

- The location of the building facing south, where it has stood since 1899.

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

- Barn complex and other accessory buildings.