



An agency of the Government of Ontario



Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

This document was retrieved from the Ontario Heritage Act e-Register, which is accessible through the website of the Ontario Heritage Trust at **[www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.

---

Ce document est tiré du registre électronique, tenu aux fins de la *Loi sur le patrimoine de l'Ontario*, accessible à partir du site Web de la Fiducie du patrimoine ontarien sur **[www.heritagetrust.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca)**.



February 8, 2024

1360302 Ontario Limited Trustee  
411 Richmond Street East – Suite 302  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5A 3S5

**RE: INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY UNDER PART IV OF THE  
ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, SAMUEL AND MARY HOOVER HOUSE, 6325 ELGIN MILLS ROAD EAST**

To whom it may concern:

This will confirm that at a meeting held on January 31, 2024, Markham Council adopted the following resolution:

**That Council state its intention to designate 6325 Elgin Mills Road 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 (February 8, 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](mailto:emanning@markham.ca)

Kimberley Kitteringham  
City Clerk

C. Ontario Heritage Trust

Attachment: Statement of Significance

Received

FEB 14 2024

Ontario Heritage Trust

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Samuel and Mary Hoover House

6325 Elgin Mills Road East

c.1890

The Samuel and Mary Hoover 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 Samuel and Mary Hoover House is a two-storey aluminum siding clad dwelling located on the south side of Elgin Mills Road East, east of the historic community of Milnesville. The house faces north.

#### **Design Value and Physical Value**

The Samuel and Mary Hoover House has design and physical value as a representative example of a vernacular Pennsylvania German Mennonite farmhouse. It is a vernacular dwelling which is difficult to place in any particular stylistic category. Superficially the design displays some Georgian elements as evidenced in its blocky rectangular form, but the asymmetrical distribution of openings on the primary (north) elevation is not characteristic of Georgian architecture. The presence of two entrances may be an indication of a “doddy house” or separate dwelling unit for the older generation of the family in the Pennsylvania German Mennonite tradition. The veranda brackets, in the style of the 1860s to 1880s, suggest that this is an older dwelling that was expanded and remodelled into its current form c.1890.

#### **Historical Value and Associative Value**

The Samuel and Mary Hoover House has historical value as it associated with the Pennsylvania German Mennonite community who were among the earliest European communities to arrive in Markham Township in the nineteenth century. It also makes legible the nineteenth century trend whereby farmsteads were improved as the local agricultural community progressed past the early settlement phase. Further, the property has historical value for its association with Samuel Reesor Hoover, a farmer and minister of the Widman Mennonite Church. Markham Township Lot 25, Concession 8 was purchased by Daniel Huber, originally of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1808. The family were Pennsylvania German Mennonites. The centre and eastern portion of the farm passed to Daniel Huber’s grandson, Samuel Reesor Hoover, in 1881. Samuel R. Hoover, a farmer and minister of the Wideman Mennonite Church in Milnesville, established a separate household on the Hoover homestead by the late 1860s when he married Mary Elizabeth Barkey. In 1890, their frame farmhouse was expanded, remodeled or replaced with the new frame dwelling that stands at 6325 Elgin Mills Road East. By that time, the farm was operated by their son Simeon Hoover and his wife Josephine (Stouffer) Hoover.

### **Contextual Value**

The Samuel and Mary Hoover House has contextual value as one of a number of nineteenth century farmhouses located in the general vicinity of the historic rural communities of Milnesville and Dickson Hill, and because it is historically linked to the farm property where it has stood since the mid/late nineteenth century.

### **Heritage Attributes**

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Samuel and Mary Hoover 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 a vernacular Pennsylvania German Mennonite farmhouse:*

- Rectangular plan of the main block;
- Two storey height;
- Medium-pitched hip roof with boxed overhanging eaves and single-stack brick chimney on the roof ridge;
- Five-bay composition of the primary (north) elevation with two single-leaf entrance doors, the easterly of which has a flat-headed transom light;
- Flat-headed rectangular single-hung windows with a two-over-two pane division;
- Hip-roofed front veranda supported on simple slender wooden posts and ornamented with fretwork brackets;
- Shed-roofed east side addition with a bay window on east elevation.

*Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value for its association with the Pennsylvania German Mennonite community of Markham Township, and its association with the nineteenth century trend whereby farmsteads were improved by successive generations as the agricultural community progressed past the early settlement phase:*

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of the several generations of the Pennsylvania German Mennonite Hoover family that resided on this property.

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

- The location of the building facing north, east of the historic community of Milnesville.

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

- Aluminum siding;
- Garage and other accessory buildings.