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Planning and Urban Design

Received

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Ontario Heritage Trust

October 1, 2024



RE: INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY UNDER PART IV OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, ABRAM AND MARGARET RAYMER HOUSE, 7530 NINTH LINE

То

This will confirm that at a meeting held on September 25, 2024, Markham Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council state its intention to designate 7530 Ninth Line 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 (publication will occur on October 7, 2024).

Click on the 'Ontario Heritage Act Notices' icon on the City's landing page to find your address (https://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/home)

The notice of objection must include the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts.







City of Markham, Anthony Roman Centre, 101 Town Centre Blvd., Markham, ON L3R 9W3 905.477.5530 | markham.ca





Planning and Urban Design

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



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Abram and Margaret Raymer House

7530 Ninth Line c.1889

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House is recommended for designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the <u>Ontario Heritage Act</u> as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance.

Description of Property

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House is a one-and-a-half storey brick dwelling located on the west side of Ninth Line, south of the historic crossroads hamlet of Box Grove. The house faces east.

Design Value and Physical Value

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House has design and physical value as a good representative example of a brick dwelling rendered in the vernacular Queen Anne Revival style. The Queen Anne Revival style was popular in late nineteenth century Markham, particularly in the eastern portion of the former Township for frame and brick houses in both villages and in rural areas. It was the most eclectic style of domestic architecture in the nineteenth century. The American version of Queen Anne Revival influenced domestic architecture in Canada. This example combines the L-shaped form and steep centre gable typical of vernacular Gothic Revival with elements of the High Victorian Queen Anne Revival style in the treatment of the front projecting gable with its two-storey canted bay window and fretwork ornamentation. The front veranda with its distinctive decorative detailing and enclosed vestibule is an extant element dating from the building's late 1880s period of construction.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House has historical value for its association with the early cultural and religious diversity of Markham Township, namely Markham's Pennsylvania German Mennonite community, and more specifically for its association with Abram Raymer. He was a member of a locally important early Pennsylvania German Mennonite family that are considered the founders of Mount Joy which is located immediately north of Markham Village. This ornate brick dwelling was constructed c.1889 on a 25-acre parcel of Markham Township Lot 3, Concession 8 that was purchased by Abraham Raymer in two parts (1854 and 1868). Abraham Raymer lived on an adjacent property to the north where he farmed and owned a sawmill. This property was the home of his son Abram Raymer and his wife, Margaret (Legeer) Raymer, who married in 1889. In addition to farming, Abram Raymer contributed to a religious revival in the Box Grove community by leading Bible study groups and prayer meetings at the old Stone Jug hotel after the business closed. The property remained in the ownership of the Raymer family until 1939.

Contextual Value

The Abram and Margaret Raymer House is of contextual value as one of several nineteenth century dwellings that remain in the vicinity of the historic crossroads community of Box Grove, and because it is physically, functionally, visually and historically linked to the site where it has stood since c.1889.

Heritage Attributes

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

Heritage attributes that convey the property's design and physical value as a good representative example of a brick dwelling rendered in the vernacular Queen Anne Revival style:

- L-shaped plan of brick dwelling;
- One-and-a-half storey height;
- Fieldstone foundation;
- Buff brick walls with projecting plinth and radiating arches over door and window openings;
- External fireplace chimney on the north elevation;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with projecting, open eaves and steep gable-roofed wall dormer;
- Decorative fretwork on the primary (east) elevation gable;
- Flat-headed 1/1 single hung wood windows with projecting lugsills;
- Two-storey canted bay windows with large, fixed plate glass windows topped with leaded glass transom lights;
- Shed-roofed front veranda supported on chamfered wood posts and decorated with fretwork brackets and brick-patterned woodwork on the south gable end:
- Frame front vestibule sided in narrow tongue- and groove wood with diamond-shaped four-paned window.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value for its association with the early cultural and religious diversity of Markham Township, namely Markham's Pennsylvania German Mennonite community, and more specifically for its association with Abram Raymer:

• The dwelling is a tangible reminder of Abram Raymer, a member of a locally prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family considered to be the founders of Mount Joy, north of Markham Village.

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 building on its original site, facing east, south of the historic crossroads hamlet of Box Grove where it has stood since c.1889.

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

- Wooden railing on the front veranda;
- Modern principal door with sidelight on the south wall of vestibule;

- French doors on second floor of the south gable end;
- Frame rear addition;
- Accessory buildings.