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Planning and Urban Design

June 18, 2025

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2025/06/18
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

RE: INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY UNDER PART IV OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, ROBSON AND AMANDA JEWITT HOUSE, 4180 NINETEENTH AVENUE

To [REDACTED]

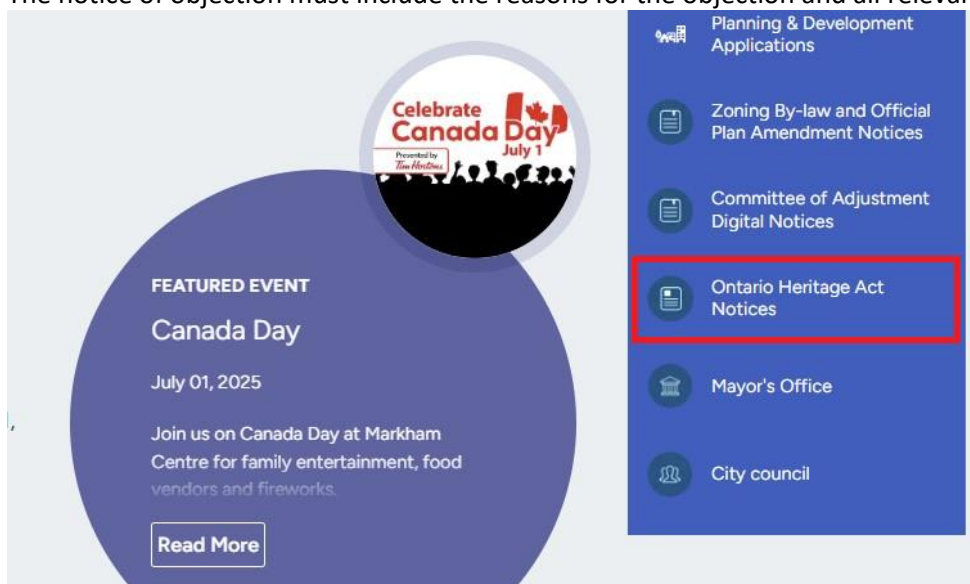
This will confirm that at a meeting held on May 27, 2025, Markham Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council state its intention to designate 4180 Nineteenth Avenue 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 June 23, 2025).

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](https://www.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

Robson and Amanda Jewitt House

4180 Nineteenth Avenue

c.1892

The Robson and Amanda Jewitt 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 Robson and Amanda Jewitt House is a one-and-a-half storey frame and brick dwelling located on the north side of Nineteenth Avenue, on the west side of Bruce Creek, in the historic mill hamlet of Almira. The house faces south.

Design Value and Physical Value

The Robson and Amanda Jewitt House has design value and physical value as a representative example of a village dwelling in the Ontario Classic style. The Ontario Classic is a house form that was popular from the 1860s to the 1890s with many examples constructed on farms and in villages throughout Markham Township. A design for a “cheap country dwelling house” appeared in an edition of the journal *The Canada Farmer* in 1865 which no doubt helped to popularize this style. These vernacular dwellings were often decorated with features associated with the Gothic Revival style. In this case, a pointed-arch window enlivens the steep centre gable of the dwelling’s primary (south) elevation. Although the exterior cladding has been updated and a large addition has been added to the rear, the essential features of the Ontario Classic house form remain prominent and intact.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The Robson and Amanda Jewitt House has historical value and associative value, representing the theme of urban development, specifically the nineteenth century development of the historic mill hamlet of Almira centred around the combined grist mill and woolen mill established by Benjamin Bowman on Bruce Creek in 1844. Amanda (Woodward) Jewitt, the spouse of farm labourer Robson Jewitt, purchased property to the east of the mill complex in 1892. Robson Jewitt was an English immigrant from Yorkshire who came to Canada in 1881. The Jewitt family either remodeled and enlarged a modest millworker’s cottage or built an entirely new dwelling in the early 1890s. Amanda Jewitt moved to Southwestern Ontario to be nearer to her married children several years after the death of Robson Jewitt in 1935. The property was sold out of the family in 1944.

Contextual Value

The Robson and Amanda Jewitt House has contextual value as one of a grouping of older buildings that are important in defining, maintaining and supporting the character and extent of

the historic community of Almira. The property is historically related to the nearby site of the Amira Mills at 4160 Nineteenth Avenue.

Heritage Attributes

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Robson and Amanda Jewitt 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 village dwelling in the Ontario Classic style:

- Rectangular plan;
- One-and-a-half storey height;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with projecting eaves and steep centre gable;
- Three bay configuration of the primary elevation with central principal entrance within an enclosed porch;
- Pointed-arch window opening in steep centre gable;
- Flat-headed rectangular window openings with two-over-two paned windows.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value and associative value, representing the theme of the nineteenth century development of the historic mill hamlet of Almira centred around the combined grist mill and woolen mill established by Benjamin Bowman on Bruce Creek in 1844:

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of the nineteenth century development of the historic mill hamlet of Almira.

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 mill hamlet of Almira:

- The location of the building on its original site, facing south, within the historic mill hamlet of Almira, where it has stood since c.1892. Its continued presence helps define the historic extent of Almira and maintains its legibility as a community dating from the nineteenth century.

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

- Modern wood and brick exterior wall cladding;
- External brick chimney on west gable end;
- Modern windows within old window openings;
- Enclosed front porch;
- Rear addition and carport.