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Planning and Urban Design

June 18, 2025

2091825 Ontario Ltd.
101 Otonabee Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
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RECEIVED
2025/06/18
(YYYY/MM/DD)
Ontario Heritage Trust

RE: INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY UNDER PART IV OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, JUSTUS AND MARY REYNOLDS HOUSE, 7635 HIGHWAY 7 EAST

To whom it may concern:

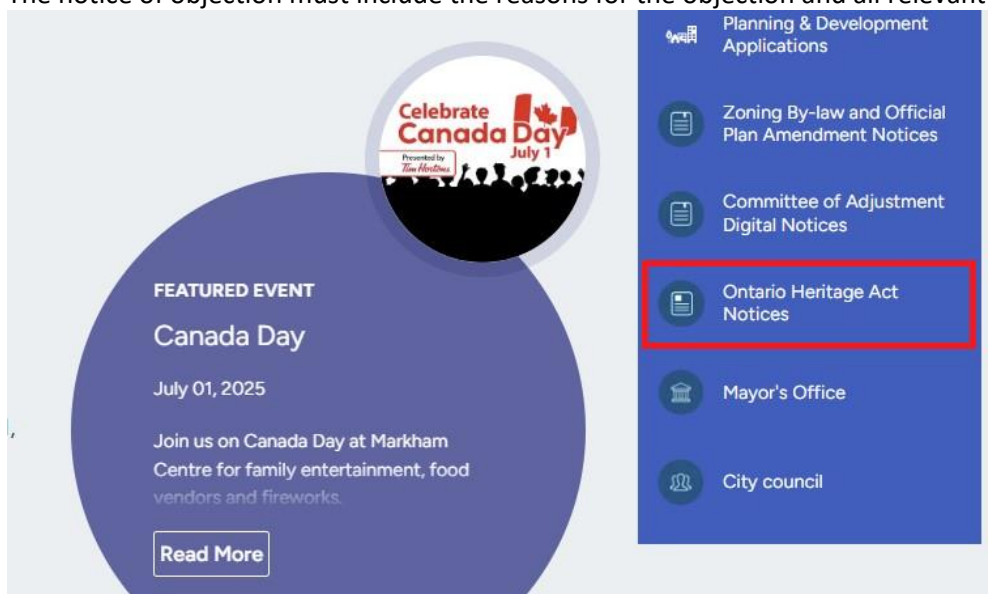
This will confirm that at a meeting held on May 27, 2025, Markham Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council state its intention to designate 7635 Highway 7 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 (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)





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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

Justus and Mary Reynolds House

7635 Highway 7

c.1840

The Justus and Mary Reynolds 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 Justus and Mary Reynolds House is a two-storey frame dwelling located on the south side of Highway 7 on the western edge of the historic hamlet of Locust Hill. The house faces north.

Design Value and Physical Value

The Justus and Mary Reynolds House has design value and physical value as a locally rare example of a two-storey frame farmhouse in the Georgian architectural tradition, dating from the second quarter of the nineteenth century. The dwelling exhibits the formality and symmetry typical of Georgian architecture with the exception of the one-storey eastern addition which is not of nineteenth century construction. The two-storey height is an indication that this was a superior class of residence in its day when the typical Markham farmhouse was one-and-a-half storeys in height. The essential lines and some of the details of the c.1840 dwelling are still discernable despite the mid-twentieth century remodeling. The bracketed canopy over the front entry exhibits an early twentieth century Arts and Crafts Movement aesthetic, an interesting remnant of an intermediate stage in the building's development.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The Justus and Mary Reynolds House has historical value and associative value, representing the theme of immigration to Markham Township, particularly the arrival of the Reynolds family who were United Empire Loyalists fleeing the American Revolution. Samuel Reynolds and his wife, Margaret Van Rensselaer, were from Dutchess County, New York. During the American Revolution, Samuel Reynolds joined the Royal Standard with the Dutchess County Company of New York. As Loyalists, the Reynolds family first went to New York City in 1777, and then to Grand Lake, New Brunswick in 1783, before coming to Markham Township in approximately 1800. They settled on Lot 10, Concession 10, for which they received the Crown patent in 1813. In the 1830s, Samuel Reynolds sold off parcels of the property to his sons. The youngest son, Justus Reynolds, purchased 60 acres of the eastern half of Lot 10 in 1838, and an additional 9 acres in the western half that same year. The dwelling at 7635 Highway 7, thought to date from c.1840, is located in a portion of the 9-acre parcel. The property remained in the ownership of Justus Reynolds until 1877.

Contextual Value

The Justus and Mary Reynolds House has contextual value for being historically linked to its location on the western edge of the historic hamlet of Locust Hill where it has stood since c.1840. The property has additional contextual value for being historically linked to the former site of the Locust Hill Wesleyan Methodist Church, and the remaining cemetery, established on land donated by the Reynolds family in 1855. The property is also historically linked to the William Reynolds House at 7482 Highway 7 which was constructed in the early nineteenth century by Justus Reynold's older brother.

Heritage Attributes

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Justus and Mary Reynolds 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 an altered, but locally rare example of a full two-storey frame farmhouse in the Georgian architectural tradition, dating from the second quarter of the nineteenth century:

- Two-storey height and rectangular plan of the original dwelling;
- Symmetrical placement of altered window openings on the ground floor of the front wall;
- Existing window openings on the second storey of the front wall.
- Existing rectangular window openings on the west gable end wall;
- Existing rectangular window openings on the second storey of the east gable end wall;
- Glazed and paneled front door, and its flanking sidelights;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with overhanging, boxed eaves and wide eave returns;
- Gable-roofed, bracketed canopy over the front entrance.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value and associative value, representing the theme of immigration to Markham Township, particularly the arrival of United Empire Loyalists following the American Revolution, as the former residence of Justus and Mary Reynolds:

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of the Reynolds family that historically resided on this property from c.1800 to 1877.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's contextual value as a building that is historically linked to its surroundings:

- The location of the building facing north, on the western edge of the historic hamlet of Locust Hill, where it has stood since c.1840. Its continued presence helps define the historic extent of Locust Hill 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:

- Board and batten and horizontal vinyl cladding;
- One storey east addition and rear vestibule;
- Concrete foundation;
- Modern windows;

- Brick chimneys;
- Accessory building.