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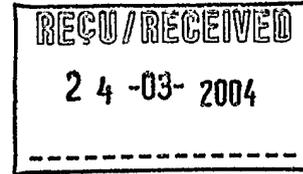
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*York*

March 23, 2004



Ontario Heritage Foundation  
10 Adelaide Street East  
Toronto, ON M5C 1J3

Re: By-law 2003-157- To designate certain properties as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest – The George Henry Sommerfeldt Sr. House

This will advise that Council passed By-law 2003-157, which designated "The George Henry Sommerfeldt House", 10411 Kennedy Road, as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest.

A copy of the by-law, with the pertinent registration data, is attached for your information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sheila Birrell".

Sheila Birrell  
Town Clerk

*10/19/04*  
*✓*  
*RC*



## BY-LAW 2003-157

A by-law to designate a property as being of  
Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest  
The George Henry Sommerfeldt Sr. House

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WHEREAS Pursuant to Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, the council of a municipality is authorized to enact by-laws to designate a real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of historic and/or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Markham has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises at:

MINOTAR HOLDINGS INC.  
C/O MR. STANLEY LIEBEL, DIRECTOR  
11 HEADDON GATE, UNIT 5  
RICHMOND HILL, ON L4C 9W9

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate The George Henry Sommerfeldt Sr. House, 10411 Kennedy Road having a general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designations are set out in Schedule "B" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM HEREBY ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THAT the following real properties, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law is hereby designated as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest:

The George Henry Sommerfeldt Sr. House  
10411 Kennedy Road  
Town of Markham  
The Regional Municipality of York

2. THAT the Town Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the properties described in Schedule "A" attached hereto in the property Land Registry Office.

READ A FIRST, SECOND, AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS  
27<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2003.

"Sheila Birrell"

\_\_\_\_\_  
SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK

"Don Cousens"

\_\_\_\_\_  
DON COUSENS, MAYOR

## **SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2003-157**

In the Town of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, property descriptions as follows:

PART LOT 23 CONCESSION 6 MARKHAM AS IN MA107023, EXCEPT PART 5  
EXPROP PL MA110018

TOWN OF MARKHAM  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

## SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2003-157

### STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION:

The George Henry Sommerfeldt Sr. House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value and interest containing the following heritage attributes:

#### **Historical Attributes**

The house located at 10411 Kennedy Road was built c.1856 by George Henry Sommerfeldt. Although George's father, John Henry Sommerfeldt, drew Lot 23, Concession 9 in 1794, he did not officially receive the patent to the property until Feb. 11, 1831. Five days later, on Feb. 16, 1831, George Henry purchased the full 200 acre property from his father for 150 pounds.

John Henry Sommerfeldt, listed as 28 years old, was a passenger along with his wife and two children on the ship Catharina, which arrived in Philadelphia, after spending nearly three months at sea. The ship which carried some of the families of the original Berczy settlers left Hamburg in the spring of 1792. A baker by trade, it appears that John Henry played a prominent role in the organization of the settlers during their two year journey to Markham Township. Sommerfeldt had been a soldier with a unit of the Hanoverian troops employed by the British in India and had learned to converse in English, which made him an important asset to Berczy. It appears that he became a sort of quartermaster to Berczy, providing provisions to the immigrants who set out initially for the Genesee Tract in Upper New York State. It was John Henry who kept a fairly detailed diary, which is still in print, of his adventures on board ship and during his trek to Markham as part of Berczy's original group.

The Berczy Census of 1803 lists John Henry Sommerfeldt (1761-1832) with his wife Margaretha, (aged 42 years) and three children, Frederic, (14 years), George Henry (10 years) and Fredrica (6 years) as residing on Lot 23, Concession 6. In 1807, when relations between Great Britain and the U.S. had again become strained, men were recruited for the militia. John Henry Sommerfeldt was commissioned as Captain to organize and train a group of individuals within Markham Township.

The Summerfeldts were of the Lutheran faith and donated to the building of the first Lutheran Church, which was constructed in 1820 on Lot 17, Concession 6. The Reverend John Petersen arrived in Markham in 1819, by invitation from Pennsylvania, to claim the salary of 100 pounds to act as the minister for this new church building.

In 1831 George Henry, John's eldest son (often referred to as Henry), was living on this property with his wife Clarissa and their six children. The census of 1851 indicates that there are actually three dwellings on Lot 23. A two storey brick house, where George Sr.,

his wife Clarice (Clarissa), and two of their children (George Jr. aged 28 and Asa Henry aged 24), lived, a one storey slat house occupied by tenant Robert Duncan and family, and a log house on the east side of the lot occupied by William Walker. George Sr. and Jr. are both listed as farmers in this census.

By 1856 George Sr. had severed off the south ½, 100 acres and sold it to his son George Jr. for \$2000. It was probably about this date that George Sr. built the red brick house on the N ½ of Lot 24 for his retirement. It appears that George Jr. continued to live in the original farmhouse. Unfortunately his wife Clarissa died in 1857. George Sr. had also acquired the 100 acre property consisting of the E ½ of Lot 24, Concession 6. This parcel was sold, in 1856, to another son Asa Henry, who after his father's death in 1869 assembled a larger parcel of land, which included part of the N ½ of Lot 23. Asa Henry was also an innkeeper at Cashel.



George Tremaines's map of 1860 notes George H Summerfeldt Jr. as owner of the S ½ of Lot 23 and George H. Summerfeldt Sr. as owner of the N ½. The Census of 1861 indicates that George Summerfeldt, a widower, was living here and that George Jr. resided here also with his wife Margaret (Sanderson) and one child, Lemuel. George Sr. was married a second time after 1861 to Esther Davis. They were not married long for George died in 1869. As part of his will Esther seems to have inherited the N ½ of the Lot including the house in which she lived.

The Illustrated Historical Atlas (1878) indicates Mrs. Summerfeldt on the N ½ of Lot 23, (a building is shown at the front near the 6<sup>th</sup> concession) and George Summerfeldt as owner of the S ½, (a building is shown set back from the road). Both buildings are in the approximate location at which they stand today.

During the next 100 years the property passed back and forth between descendants of John Henry Summerfeldt and it was not until sometime in the 1970's that the N ½ eventually passed out of the family.

### **Architectural Attributes**

The George Henry Sommerfeldt Sr. house is a good example of a 2 storey regency style house built c.1856. The front part of the house is rectangular in plan 3 bays x 2 bays with a one storey brick addition at the rear and seems true to its original form. Attached to this rear section is a newer frame structure and another garage addition. The house is of red brick, stretcher bond with buff brick quoins and voussoirs and sits on a fieldstone foundation. The roof is a low pitch hip with plain boxed cornice and frieze. There are two chimneys, one located at the mid rear in buff brick and the other being an interior, red brick chimney located at the mid side right. The front entrance is centrally located with side lights and transom and has plain wood trim. The window openings are rectangular and are of a 6/6 pane division on the lower storey. The windows of the second storey are smaller in both width and height and appear to be of six panes. The rear wall of the main part of the house (East) has a layer of stucco over the brick. A shadow line on the front façade indicates that at one time there was a full width 1 storey verandah. The back addition verandah is currently enclosed.

### **Contextual Attributes**

The George Sommerfeldt Sr. house is of contextual significance for its association with the historic rural farming community in the north of Markham. Together with other residences in the area it is a reminder of some of the original Berczy settlers who cleared this land to produce productive farmland. Together with the Sommerfeldt Homestead, the George Henry Sommerfeldt Sr. House provides an outstanding example of a residential agricultural grouping showing the evolution of the family farm over the years

### **Significant Heritage Attributes**

1. All wood double hung windows on all elevations;
2. All original exterior doors and storm doors on the west and south elevations;
3. The original red and buff brickwork;
4. The fieldstone foundation;
5. The front entrance side lights and transom;
6. The original roofline;
7. The original footprint of the front and rear of the dwelling;
8. Buff brick voussoirs over the windows and door and quoins
9. Two existing chimneys