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The Town of Richmond Hill

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Registered Mail

July 20, 1994

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, RSO 1990
CHAPTER 0.18

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE LAND AND PREMISES
IN THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO
HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

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

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill intends to designate the following property, including lands and building, as a property of historic or architectural value or interest, under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter 0.18:

Municipal Address: 10191 Bayview Avenue

Legal Description: In the Town of Richmond Hill, in the Regional Municipality of York, being composed of part of Lot 22 in Concession 2 of the Geographic Township of Markham, designated as Part 1 on Reference Plan 65R-17059

Historical Reference: Lynett-Palmer House

Reasons for the Proposed Designation:

The Lynett-Palmer House is recommended for designation for historical and architectural reasons.

Farmer Nicholas Lynett purchased this property in 1850 and initially occupied an early single-storey frame house. By 1861, he was well enough established to construct the present solid brick dwelling. The date of construction is confirmed by a call to tender which appeared in the York Herald newspaper.

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The farm was later sold to prominent Richmond Hill hotel owner, John Palmer Jr., whose descendants continued to farm the property until recent times.

Architecturally, the Lynett farmhouse is an early example of a patterned brick Classic Ontario farmhouse. The front (west) and north walls are laid in Flemish bond, while the other less visible walls are laid in common bond. In addition to the white brick quoins and voussoirs, the patterned brickwork has diamond and x-shaped motifs on the gable walls, and banding on the north wall. The gables are decorated with delicate curvilinear bargeboards.

The front verandah is an early 20th century replacement for the original, traces of which may still be seen on the brick surface. The verandah shelters the main doorcase, which features a transom and sidelights with a geometric rectilinear glazing pattern.

Notice of objection to the proposed designation, together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts may be served on the Clerk of the Town of Richmond Hill before the **20th day of August, 1994**. Service may be made by delivery personally to the Clerk or by registered mail.

If service is made by registered mail, it is not effective unless and until it is actually received by the Clerk and the responsibility for ensuring it is received within the prescribed time rests with the person filing the objection. If such a notice is actually received after the prescribed time, it will not be accepted by the Clerk as a valid objection.


David M. Calnan
Deputy Clerk

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c. LACAC

Reasons for Designation

Lynett-Palmer House

The Lynett-Palmer House is recommended for designation for architectural and historical reasons.

The house was built for Nicholas Lynett, a farmer from Mayo County, Ireland. He purchased the property from his father-in-law David Eyer in 1850, and initially occupied a single storey plank house. By 1861, he was sufficiently well established to construct the present solid brick dwelling. The date of construction is confirmed by a call to tender which appeared in the York Herald.

The Lynett family has a long association with Richmond Hill. Fred Lynett, a grandson, managed the Richmond Hill Creamery on Arnold Crescent from 1906 to 1912. Russell Lynett, a great-grandson, served the municipality as Town Clerk from 1942 to 1973.

The farm was sold to John Palmer Jr. in 1912. Palmer was Richmond Hill's most successful and longest-established hotel owner during the latter half of the 19th century and early part of this century. His son John Wesley Palmer owned the property from 1928 until 1956, when the 100 acres were sold to a land development company.

Architecturally, the building is an early example of a patterned brick Classic Ontario farmhouse. It is one of only three listed brick examples with original centre gables dating from the 1860s. The house exhibits stylistic characteristics of both the Georgian Tradition and Gothic Revival, and represents a transitional stage between these two architectural styles.

Significant features include the T-shaped plan; patterned brick with white brick quoins, voussoirs, banding and diamond and "X" motifs; untinted natural brick on the east wall of the rear wing; medium-pitched gable roof with centre gable and curvilinear bargeboards; front doorcase with multi-paned transom and sidelights and four-panelled door; and six-over-six windows. Originally a tent-roofed verandah supported on turned posts wrapped around the north, south and west sides.