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The Town of Richmond Hill

P.O. Box 300, 10,266 Yonge St.
Richmond Hill, Ontario
Canada L4C 4Y5

Tel: (416) 884-8101 Fax: (416) 884-7491

27 June 1990

REGISTERED MAIL

Ontario Heritage Foundation 77 Bloor Street West Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9

Re: Designation under the Ontario Heritage Act Our File: D12 YO

We are enclosing a copy of By-law No. 205-90 designating a property in the Town of Richmond Hill under the above Act. We trust the contents are self-explanatory.

ONTARIO HERITAGE
FOUNDATION

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Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the writer.

Yours truly,

David R. Melitzer

Deputy Clerk

:sjc C:2234

Encl.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL

BY-LAW NO. 205-90

A By-law to Designate the Property Known Municipally as 10370 Yonge street, Richmond Hill, of Architectural and Historical value or Interest (The Stooks-Langstaff-Atkinson House)

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, authorizes the Council of a Municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of historic or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as 10370 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, Notice of Intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such Notice of Intention to be published in the same newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto;

AND WHEREAS no Notice of Objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality;

NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. That the real property located at 10370 Yonge Street, in the Town of Richmond Hill, being part of Lot 48, Concession 1, and more particularly described as Part 1 on Plan 64R3566, is hereby designated under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O., 1980, as being of architectural and historical value or interest.
- 2. That the Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation, and to cause notice of the passing of this By-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the Municipality once for each of three consecutive weeks.
- 3. That the statements contained in Schedule 'A' hereto are hereby declared to be the reasons for the aforesaid designation.
- 4. Schedule 'A' attached hereto shall form part of this By-law.

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 18TH DAY OF JUNE, 1990.

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS 18TH DAY OF JUNE, 1990.

Mayor

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Clerk

SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NO. 205-90

Reasons for Designation

The Stooks-Langstaff-Atkinson House is recommended for designation for historical and architectural reasons.

Lot 48, Concession 1, Vaughan was patented by Edward Stooks in 1823. In order to fulfill his settlement duties relating to the erection of a minimum dwelling, he is thought to have built the one-storey timber frame structure which forms the dining room of the existing house, circa 1822. This makes 10370 Yonge Street one of the earliest known buildings remaining in Richmond Hill, and the last settlement duty house.

The property was sold to Miles Langstaff in 1830. He was the first son of John Langstaff Sr. and Lucy Miles, whose family name was used to identify the 19th century community of Mile's Hill, later known as Richmond Hill. In 1842, Langstaff took out a mortgage with the Home District Savings Bank, at which time he probably expanded and improved the Stooks House.

The house was rented for a period following Miles Langstaff's apparent financial difficulties, and also served as a grammar school prior to the erection of a school building in 1853.

In 1855, the house and about two acres were purchased by the Reverend James Boyd, who in turn sold to Thomas Peach in 1871.

John F. Atkinson purchased the property in 1904. He later sold a portion of the land to the Village of Richmond Hill to allow for the construction of Hall Street and the new High School.

The property later passed to Atkinson's son Frank, known as "Doc", who was the owner until 1969.

The architecture of 10370 Yonge Street reflects a Loyalist-Georgian tradition, with its balanced five bay front and formal entrance with six panelled door, sidelights and Classical surround. The one and a half storey timber frame building has a saltbox form, and a simple rectangular plan. The raised basement is of fieldstone construction, and once housed a basement kitchen, the last known example in the old village core.

Although the clapboard siding and 6/1 double hung windows are later replacements for the original details, they are in keeping with the architecture of the house and therefore do not detract from its 19th century character. The gable end windows, although resashed, retain their early proportions.

The low pitched gable roof is unbroken by dormers and is an important feature of the building as it exhibits a saltbox configuration, with the short slope to the front and the long slope to the rear.