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IN THE MATTER of
THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

and

IN THE MATTER of
THE LANDS AND PREMISES
MUNICIPALLY KNOWN AS
NORTH PART OF LOT 19, CONCESSION 8
CLAREMONT
IN THE TOWN OF PICKERING
IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Pickering intends to designate the property, including lands and buildings on North Part of Lot 19, Concession 8, Claremont as a property of architectural and historical value or interest under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, Chapter 337.

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

The Thompson House is of very simple origins. It was constructed as a dwelling for/by tenants since the occupants, until the 1870s, did not own the property. The front half of the house was constructed between 1845-1855, in a very unusual method. It is of vertical plank construction, with no framework or support posts. Planks approximately 2-1/2 inches thick and averaging 16-20 inches wide were fitted into a groove notched out of the sill. They run to the top plate where they are fitted in the same manner. (A more thorough explanation of this method is attached taken from John Rempel's "Building with Wood".) Both the inside and outside of the house were fitted with baton strips over the cracks between planks.

Some time between construction and the later addition, clapboard siding was applied to the front half of the house. This siding is still intact underneath the present board and baton style aluminum siding. The back addition, circa 1870, is of a more prosperous era. The windows are Italianate, there is a single dormer on the south side and the back addition is clad in a type of "V" groove clapboard siding (again under the present aluminum siding).

The original posts are still in place on the side porch, although they have been bolted into place into a poured cement porch floor. The entire house is built on a coursed stone foundation but only the original (front half) of the house has a basement.

The front half of the house has one remaining original 6 over 6 window. The other four were replaced circa 1890 with 2 over 2 windows. The front entrance trim is of a Georgian style with the upper portion covered by the porch ceiling, the porch being a later addition.

All of the doors inside the house are original and still have their original hardware. The pine plank floors are intact and in good condition. The original floor joists in the basement are in need of repair due to dry/brown rot.

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Upon removal of the lath and plaster, which had been added circa 1870, the original wall paper was discovered applied directly to the rough planks, baton strips still underneath. The wallpaper was examined by Peter Stokes of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario who is of the opinion that it dates back to 1860 and was the first "fast" blue colour to be produced.

A Moffat porcelain cookstove remains in place in the kitchen, circa 1910-20. Original light fixtures remain upstairs in the hall and south bedroom.

The Thompson House is one of the oldest remaining homes in Claremont. It is unique in its architecture/construction, yet represents the type of home typical of early rural settlers of modest means.

TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal this Notice by filing with the Clerk of the Corporation of the Town of Pickering a statement outlining the reasons for the objection within 30 days of the date of this Notice of Intention to Designate.

DATED at the Town of Pickering this

Kathryn McKay, A.M.C.T.
Deputy Clerk
Town of Pickering
One The Esplanade
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