



## By-law 2021-87

A by-law to amend By-law 2003-159 being a by-law to designate  
The John Reesor House, 6937 Highway 7


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WHEREAS by By-law No. 2003-159, "The John Reesor House" was designated as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest.

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

1. THAT By-law 2003-159 be amended by removing the municipal address and legal description as shown in Schedule "A" and replacing it with the revised legal description of land shown in Schedule "A" attached hereto; AND
2. THAT By-law 2003-159, Schedule "B" be amended by inserting a property description as shown in Schedule "B" attached hereto.

Read a first, second, and third time and passed October 13, 2021.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberley Kitteringham  
City Clerk  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank Scarpitti  
Mayor

**SCHEDULE “A” TO  
BY-LAW 2021-87**

**REVISED LEGAL DESCRIPTION OF LAND**

**The John Reesor House**

In the City of Markham in the Regional Municipality of York, property description as follows:

PLAN 65M3840 LOT 217, CITY OF MARKHAM, REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

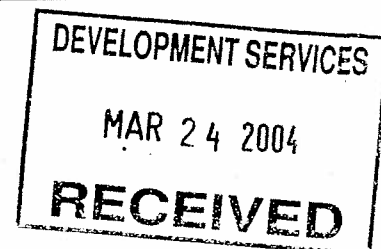
**SCHEDULE “B” TO  
BY-LAW 2021-87**

**REASONS FOR DESIGNATION – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

**John Reesor House**  
1 Kalvinster Drive

Description of Property

The John Reesor House is a two-storey fieldstone dwelling located on the south side of Kalvinster Drive bordered by Stoney Stanton Road to the east, and West Normandy Drive to the south. The property, situated in a residential subdivision, is located between the communities historically-known as Box Grove to the south, and Locust Hill to the north/east. The nearest major intersection is Highway 7 and Nine Line.



March 23, 2004

LINDVEST PROPERTIES (CORNELL) LIMITED  
3625 Dufferin Street, Ste. 500  
Toronto, ON  
M3K 1N4

Dear Sirs:

Re: By-law 2003-159 - Heritage Designation  
The John Reesor House, 6937 Highway #7

This will advise that Council at its meeting held on May 27, 2003, passed By-law 2003-159, which designated The John Reesor House, 6937 Highway #7, as being of historic and/or architectural value or interest.

The reason for the delay in the registration of this by-law was the requirement that a plan of subdivision must be approved for the immediate area that would establish the correct property description for the heritage property. This has now been finalized, and a copy of the by-law with the pertinent registration data is attached for your information.

If you should have any questions, please contact Mr. Regan Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning at 905-477-7000, Ext. 2080.

Sincerely,



Sheila Birrell  
Town Clerk

Encls.

c: Ontario Heritage Foundation  
Mr. R. Hutcheson, Manager, Heritage Planning



## BY-LAW 2003-159

A by-law to designate a property as being of  
Historic and/or Architectural Value or Interest  
The John Reesor 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:

1440102 ONTARIO INC. (JENNORA LTD)  
255 DUNCAN MILLS ROAD, SUITE 503  
DON MILLS, ON M3B 3H9

and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to designate The John Reesor House, 6937 Highway #7 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 John Reesor House,  
6937 Highway #7  
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"

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SHEILA BIRRELL, TOWN CLERK

"Don Cousens"

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DON COUSENS, MAYOR

## **SCHEDULE 'A' TO BY-LAW 2003-159**

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

PT LOTS 9 & 10, CON 9 PT 1 65R16111 EXCEPT PTS 11 & 14, 65R18847 & PT 1,  
65R22686; MARKHAM

TOWN OF MARKHAM  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK

## SCHEDULE 'B' TO BY-LAW 2003-159

### STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR DESIGNATION:

The John Reesor House is recommended for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act because of its historical, architectural and contextual attributes

#### Historical Attributes

The house located at 6937 Highway # 7 was built c.1840 on land, which was originally granted by patent to Levi Collier in Oct. of 1801. In 1805 the full 200 acre parcel was sold to Christian Reesor. When Christian Reesor Sr. died in 1806, all his holdings were transferred to his eldest son Peter. By 1807 this lot had become the property of John Reesor (1784-1874), the fourth child of Christian Reesor and Fanny Reiff.

Christian Reesor with his wife Fanny Reiff arrived in Upper Canada in 1804 with their four sons and two daughters, Elizabeth (1774-1835), Peter (1775-1854), Barbara (1777-1852), John (1784-1874), Abraham (1790-1831) and Christian (1794-1877), and their respective families. The Reesor Family acquired 2,500 acres of land in Markham Township. Christian and Fanny settled on Lot 14, Concession 10 near Locust Hill where he resided for only two years before he was accidentally killed by a falling tree. His vast holdings of land were divided among his children after his death.

In 1809 John Reesor married Annie Grove (1794-1869), the oldest daughter of Bishop Abraham Grove of the Mennonite Church and his wife Elizabeth Lehman. The Grove family arrived in Upper Canada in 1808 from Pennsylvania and settled in Markham Township. John and Annie farmed Lot 10, Concession 9 and it was here that they raised their family of 15 children. Their descendants are numerous and many have remained in Markham Township.

The existing stone house on the West ½ of Lot 10, Concession 9 was built c. 1840 by John and Annie Reesor. It appears that this new structure may have replaced an earlier log dwelling on the property. In 1846 the East ½ 100 acres of the lot was sold to John G. Reesor, their son. He built a second stone house on the property, which has since been demolished. The census of 1851 lists both the John Reesor Sr. family and the John Reesor Jr. family as living in separate stone houses on this parcel of property. There appear to be a number of unrelated families also residing on this lot in various buildings. This census makes note of 2 log buildings, a 2 storey frame dwelling and the 2 stone buildings. In 1870, Jesse Reesor, the youngest son, purchased the West ½ from his father. In 1875 the property was sold to William Rolph Jr. of Markham for \$9000.00. It appears that the estate of W. Rolph sold the property in 1880 to Samuel Reesor (1817-1901), son of Peter Reesor and Esther Eby. Samuel was their 15<sup>th</sup> child. The property passed back and forth among the Reesor children with George E. selling it to Elizabeth, his older sister, and her husband Abraham G. Burkholder in 1891. In 1930 the property was sold to Harvey and Eva Hoover whose family continued to farm the property until it was purchased in the 1970's as part of the Pickering Airport lands

#### Architectural Attributes

The house located at 6937 Highway 7 is a good example of a 2 storey fieldstone house constructed in the Gothic Revival Style c. 1840. The substantial house is 3 bays x 2 bays with an off centre (left) round headed doorway entrance.

The window in the centre gable is semicircular having a red brick arch above. The remaining windows are segmental with 2/2 pane division. They have plain wood trim with red brick voussoirs and slip sills. There are two small windows present in what would be the attic on the east elevation. The gable roof is of a medium pitch with plain projecting eaves and verges. Although the house is fairly reserved in decorative elements the center gable has bargeboard and a finial. The original open verandah, which ran the length of the front façade, has been replaced by a smaller 2 storey porch with open railing and columns supported by brick piers. The two chimneys are of a more recent construction, one being mid center and the second being mid offset left.

#### Contextual Attributes

The John Reesor house is of contextual significance for its association with the historic agricultural community in the east part of Markham Township. Together with other farm residences in the vicinity, the area is a reminder of some of Markham's early settlers, the descendants of Christian and Fanny Reesor who cleared heavily forested land in order to produce viable farm land.

#### Significant Features to be Preserved

- ?? Original stonework
- ?? Original form, roofline and massing
- ?? Original Chimneys
- ?? Original wood, double hung windows;
- ?? Original brickwork above the windows
- ?? Original asymmetrical doorway
- ?? C.1920s Porch and railing
- ?? Original shutters
- ?? Original decorative wood trim work
- ?? Original wooden eaves and soffits
- ?? Original stone foundation
- ?? Semicircular center gable window
- ?? Semicircular front entrance