

## **NOTICE**

In accordance with procedure By-law 160-2004, and in the matter of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18, and the matter of the lands and premises located at 6461 Mayfield Road in the City of Brampton, in the Province of Ontario:

### **NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE**

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the City of Brampton intends to designate property situated at 6461 Mayfield Road in the City of Brampton, in the Province of Ontario, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. c. O. 18.

### **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY**

6461 Mayfield Road is located on the southwest corner of Mayfield Road and Goreway Drive, in the former Toronto Gore Township, now the City of Brampton. The 4.32 acre lot currently contains a one-and-a-half storey stone farmhouse and an ancillary structure. The house is set back from Mayfield Road and screened by a growth of mature trees and flanked by vacant fields. A portion of Salt Creek also runs through the property.

### **SHORT STATEMENT OF THE REASON FOR THE DESIGNATION**

The property at 6461 Mayfield Road is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value. The property meets the criteria for designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design or physical value, historical value and contextual value.

The property at 6461 Mayfield Road is the earliest example of a vernacular stone farmhouse built in the Toronto Gore Township. The earliest stone masons in Ontario were French Canadians sent to Kingston to assist in government construction in preparation for the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists in the 1780s. Their building materials consisted of the local rubble stone found in bits and chunks near limestone quarries. Fieldstone, however, is the general term for construction using stone that was collected from fields or streams, rather than being quarried from bedrock outcrops. In southern Ontario, its use was most common in the mid-nineteenth century in regions where the bedrock is covered by a thick layer of glacial debris, left behind by the retreating ice sheets, some 10,000 years ago.

When it came to stone construction, materials and labour were harder to come by than other types, which meant that stone buildings were no bigger than they had to be. They were equally modest in terms of detailing. Very few of these houses were built in the area and the structure is relatively unaltered. So few structures were built due to the time and efforts required to gather fieldstones, transport them to the construction site and organize them according to appropriate shapes and dimensions for placement. A great deal of technical innovation and foresight was required to build this house, further strengthening its uniqueness in Brampton.

Stone was used in two common styles: Scottish immigrants preferred to refashion the stone into regular, rectangular blocks; other immigrants, largely of German origin, split the stones, but otherwise did not refashion their shape. In this second case, a large amount of mortar was generally required. 6461 Mayfield Road is representative of the second style as the house was constructed of irregularly shaped stones and mortar is heavily applied in locations where the stones are not flush. It appears that some of the fieldstones have not been split but have been integrated into the cladding as large support members at corners or over window and door openings.

The farmhouse is a well-designed one-and-a-half-storey fieldstone clad structure with an offset one-storey wing extending from the rear elevation. The house features a square plan with three bays and a side gable roof. The front door is centred on the façade with a simple transom. The fenestration is modest with 1/1 windows flanking the front door on the façade, and two 1/1 windows in each gable end of the side elevations. The windows feature stone lintels and larger stones are laid at the building's corners. Each stone in the structure was strategically placed to serve a purpose.

The farmhouse also has historical or associative value. Francis Foster received the patent from the Crown for Lot 17 Concession 7 on November 30, 1832. On November 27, 1832, three days before he had the patent, Foster sold 50 of the 200 acres to Thomas Thompson. 6461 Mayfield Road has been associated with the Thompson family for over a century. Thomas Thompson, an early settler and farmer in the former Toronto Gore Township, purchased the property in 1844 after having immigrated to Upper Canada from England with his wife Frances. The area at the time was known as the Hamlet of Tullamore, an area named and settled by Irish immigrants. Thomas built the stone farmhouse sometime in the mid-to-late 1840s for his growing family. As most houses listed in the local enumeration district for 1852 were constructed of log, the Thompson house is considered to be an early example of stone construction in the Toronto Gore Township.

Following Thomas Thompson's death in 1871, his son Thomas took over the family farmstead. The rear one-storey wing was likely added during Thomas' ownership in the 1890s to house the kitchen. The property continued to be passed down through the Thompson family until the 1960s.

## **DESCRIPTION OF HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES**

To ensure that the cultural heritage value of this property is conserved, certain heritage attributes that contribute to its value have been identified. They include:

- One-and-a-half storey construction
- Square plan
- Fieldstone cladding
- Three bays
- One-storey wing projecting from rear elevation
- Side gable roof
- Two 1/1 windows in each gable end
- 1/1 windows flanking front door
- Centred front door with transom
- Large fieldstones at corners
- Stone lintels
- Rural residential character and agricultural setting
- Frontage screened by a planting of mature trees

The short statement of reason for the designation, including a description of the heritage attributes along with all other components of the detailed Heritage Report: Statement of Reason for Heritage Designation, constitute the "reason for heritage designation" required under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Please contact Stavroula Kassaris, Heritage Coordinator, at (905) 874-3925 to view this document, and for further information. Any objections to this proposed designation must be filed with the City Clerk no later than 4:30 p.m. on May 29, 2013 (within 30 days of the publication of this notice).

Date: April 29, 2013

Peter Fay, City Clerk  
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