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December 14, 2023

Amtoca Investments Ltd.
2 Wellesley Place
Toronto, Ontario
M4Y 2K4

**RE: INTENTION TO DESIGNATE A PROPERTY UNDER PART IV OF THE
ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, HENRY AND ELIZABETH WIDEMAN HOUSE, 11120 HIGHWAY 48**

To whom it may concern:

This will confirm that at a meeting held on December 13, 2023, Markham Council adopted the following resolution:

That Council state its intention to designate 11120 Highway 48 under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* in recognition of its cultural heritage significance

Please find attached the Statement of Significance which summarizes the cultural heritage value or interest of the property and provides a description of the heritage attributes of the property. Notice of objection to the notice of intention to designate the property may be served on the clerk within 30 days after the date of publication of the notice of intention on the City's website (January 13, 2024). Refer to 'Ontario Heritage Act Notices' at the link below. The notice of objection must include the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts.

<https://www.markham.ca/wps/portal/home>

Should you have any questions regarding the Statement of Significance or the implications of heritage designation, please contact Evan Manning, Senior Heritage Planner, at emanning@markham.ca

Kimberley Kitteringham
City Clerk

C. Ontario Heritage Trust

Attachment: Statement of Significance

Received

DEC 18 2023

Ontario Heritage Trust

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Henry and Elizabeth Wideman House

11120 Highway 48
c.1865

The Henry and Elizabeth Wideman House is recommended for designation under Part IV, Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act as a property of cultural heritage value or interest, as described in the following Statement of Significance.

Description of Property

The Henry and Elizabeth Wideman House is a one-and-a-half storey fieldstone dwelling located on west side of Highway 48, in the historic community of Dickson Hill. The house faces east.

Design Value and Physical Value

The Henry and Elizabeth Wideman House has design and physical value as a representative example of a vernacular fieldstone farmhouse designed in the Georgian architectural tradition. The squared, multi-coloured fieldstone of the façade, and the cut stone voussoirs above the main entrance and window openings contrast with the less sophisticated coursed random rubblework of the other walls, speaking to the original owner's concern about construction costs. The small, square knee wall windows on the second storey of the facade are uncommon in Markham and are a feature sometimes associated with the Classic Revival and Regency architectural styles.

Historical Value and Associative Value

The Henry and Elizabeth Wideman House has historical and associative value, representing the locally significant theme of Pennsylvania German Mennonites being attracted to Markham Township in the early nineteenth century. Further, it is representative of the nineteenth trend whereby farmsteads were improved as the agricultural community progressed past the early settlement phase. Henry Wideman Jr. was an American-born son of Reverend Henry Wideman (originally spelled 'Weidman') and Catherine Van Hoben who came to Markham from Buck's County, Pennsylvania in 1803. The Reverend Henry Wideman was one of the first ordained Mennonite ministers in Upper Canada and the first in Markham Township. Henry Wideman Jr. purchased the eastern half of Markham Township Lot 28, Concession 7 from King's College in 1837. The family initially resided in a frame dwelling on the property and later replaced it with a new farmhouse of local fieldstone sometime after the 1861 census. An estimated date of construction is c.1865. The farm remained in the ownership of the descendants of Henry Wideman Jr. and Elizabeth (Hoover) Wideman until 1954.

Contextual Value

The Henry and Elizabeth Wideman House has contextual value as one of a number of nineteenth century farmhouses located in the general vicinity of the historic rural community of Dickson Hill, and is historically linked to the farm property where it has stood since c.1865.

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Heritage Attributes

Character-defining attributes that embody the cultural heritage value of the Henry and Elizabeth Wideman House are organized by their respective Ontario Regulation 9/06 criteria, as amended, below:

Heritage attributes that convey the property's design value and physical value as a representative example of a vernacular fieldstone farmhouse designed in the the Georgian architectural tradition:

- T-shaped plan;
- One-and-a-half storey height;
- Fieldstone walls with squared stone front wall, coursed random rubblework on side and rear walls, and cut stone voussoirs over door and window openings;
- Medium-pitched gable roof with projecting, open eaves;
- Three-bay facade;
- Flat-headed front door opening with rectangular transom light;
- Flat-headed, rectangular window openings.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's historical value and associative value, representing the locally significant theme of Pennsylvania German Mennonites being attracted to Markham Township in the early nineteenth century, and the trend whereby improvements were made to nineteenth century farmsteads as the agricultural community progressed past the early settlement phase:

- The dwelling is a tangible reminder of the three generations of the Wideman family that historically resided on this property and invested in its improvement.

Heritage attributes that convey the property's contextual value as being physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings:

- The location of the building facing south within the historic rural community of Dickson Hill where it has stood since c.1865.

Attributes of the property that are not considered to be of cultural heritage value, or are otherwise not included in the Statement of Significance:

- Modern doors and windows within original openings;
- Brick chimney;
- Accessory buildings.