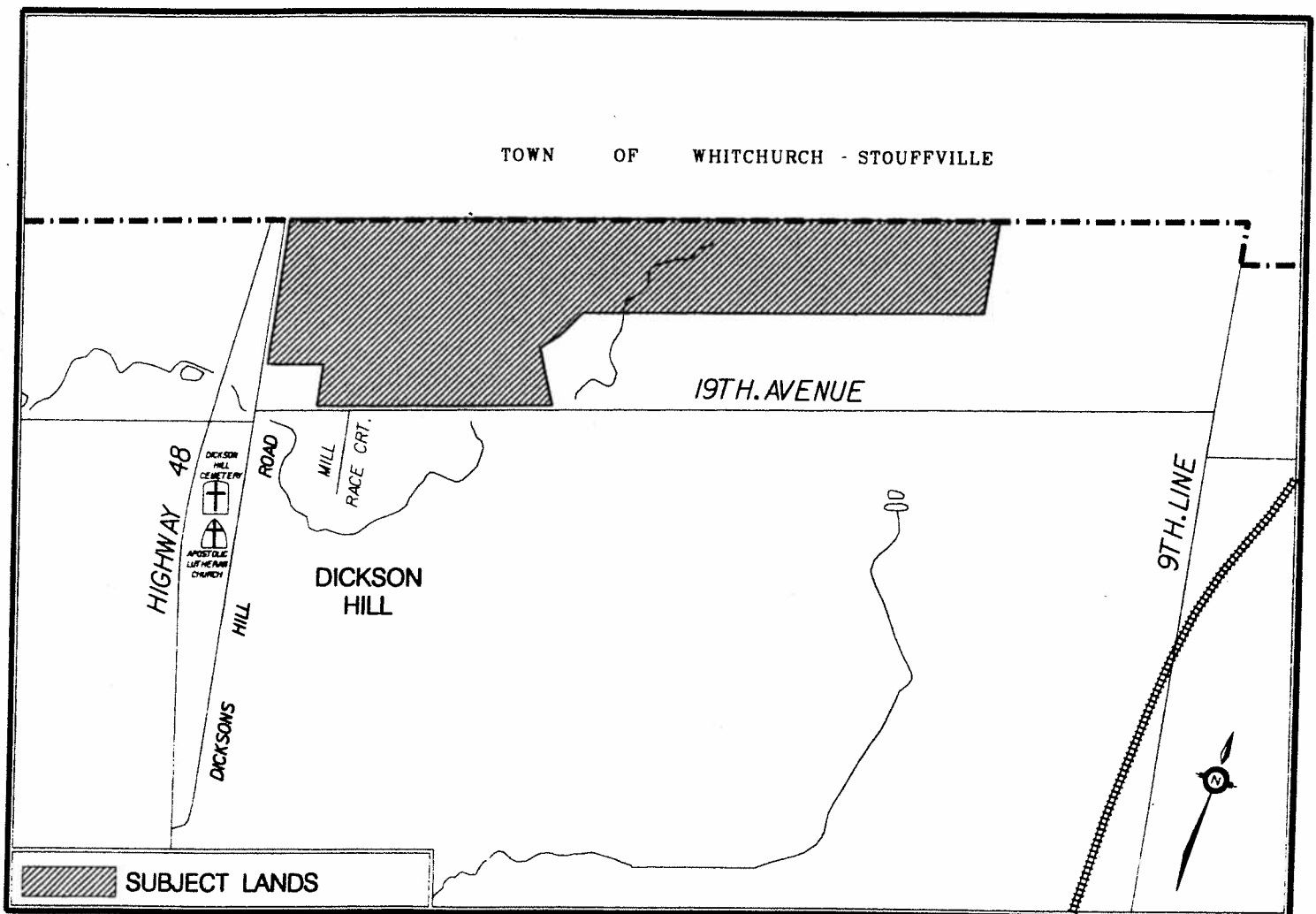


AGENT: Mr. Steve Rupert
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Figure 1 Location Map

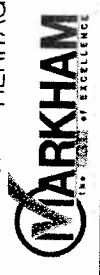




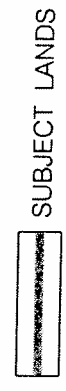
AIR PHOTO 2005

APPLICANT: ARBOR MEMORIAL SERVICES INC.
6278 19TH AVENUE

FILE No: HERITAGE 6278 19TH AVENUE



DEVELOPMENT SERVICES COMMISSION

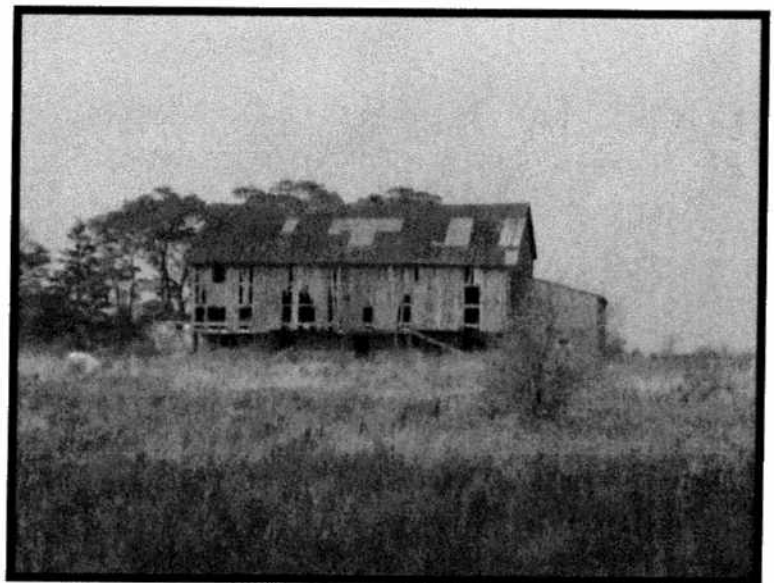
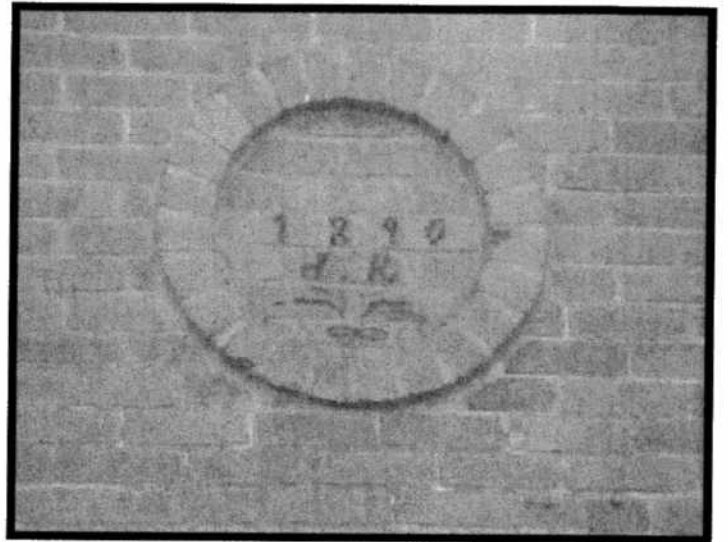


DATE: 06/03/17

DRAWN BY: RK CHECKED BY: PW SCALE 1:

FIGURE No.2

JOHN RAMER
HOUSE AND BARN
6279 19TH AVENUE



REASONS FOR DESIGNATION – STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

John Ramer House

6278 19th Avenue

Built in 1853 with addition in 1890

The John Ramer House is recommended for designation under part IV 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 John Ramer House is a two and a half storey fieldstone, brick, and frame farmhouse located on the north side of 19th Avenue, east of Highway 48. The property is located near the cross roads community of Dickson Hill located in the northeast portion of the Town of Markham.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Historical Value

John Ramer arrived in Markham Township in 1822 at the age of 12 with his father Abraham Ramer Jr. His Grandfather Abraham Ramer had arrived in Markham 13 years earlier in 1809. The Ramers are a prominent Pennsylvania German Mennonite family, considered to be the founders of the Mount Joy community, named after their original farm in Pennsylvania.

In 1832 John Ramer married Elizabeth Sophie Breuls who was born in England in 1812. Together they raised eleven children, farming Lot 31 Concession 8 which was purchased by his father Abraham Jr. in 1825. In 1853, with the death of Abraham Jr., John purchased Lot 31 Concession 8 for 1000 pounds and began construction of the house we see today. The 1871 census indicates the house was home to John, Elizabeth, as well as four unmarried children and their son Phillip and his wife Catherine and his young daughter, Margaret. These crowded conditions may have been the reason for the addition of a third storey in 1890, six years before the deaths of John and Elizabeth Ramer.

The Pennsylvania style bank barn was erected in 1869 for John Ramer as evidenced by his initials J.R. and the date cut into the vertical boards of one of the gable ends.

Architectural Value

The John Ramer House is a unique and fascinating example of a 19th century vernacular farmhouse. It began as a Georgian tradition, three bay, fieldstone farmhouse, with a slightly asymmetrical principal façade, elevated and built on a gently sloping site, so that it had a walk out basement. In 1890, a Gothic Revival inspired third storey built of frame with brick gable ends was added to the house making it 2 ½ storeys, and the formal entrance was moved to the former rear of the house on the basement level

The John Ramer barn was built in 1869. It is a classic example of a Pennsylvania style bank barn which was an early form of barn brought to North America by Dutch and German immigrants. The style consists of a second floor hayloft above a stone first floor used to house livestock. These barns are built into a hill or bank so that the second storey is level and accessible from the top of the hill from the north, while the bottom storey opens to the south protected by an overhanging forebay used to shield the animals from northern winter winds and the summer sun. The John Ramer barn exhibits all these classic features and is further enhanced by the initials of the owner, J.R. and the date 1869 cut out of the vertical boards in the gable end.

Contextual Value

The John Ramer House and barn is of contextual significance for their association with the historic farming community of Dickson Hill. Together with other farm residences and agricultural structures in the vicinity, the Ramer buildings are a reminder of one of Markham's earliest farming families and the distinctive building traditions of the Pennsylvania German settlers that, along with the Berczy group, helped establish Markham Township's prosperous agricultural community.

Significant Architectural Attributes

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the heritage value of the John Ramer House include:

- The rectangular form of the stone house and its setting into a natural slope;
- The fieldstone walls, with radiating red brick voussoirs over door and window openings, and irregular, squared fieldstone quoins;
- The buff brick gable walls, with their 2/2 wood double hung windows and the east gable end date marker surrounded by a circular brick frame;
- The clapboard knee walls and the wall of the front gable;
- The remnants of 6/6 wood double hung windows with their lugsills within the stone portion of the building;
- The smaller window openings in the exposed lower level walls on the north side of the building;
- The sidelighted doorcase on the north wall;
- The door openings on the south wall, including the four panelled wood door within the front gable;
- The medium-pitched gable roof with closed projecting eaves;
- The steep front gable with its closed, projecting eaves;
- The east gable end brick chimney;

Exterior character-defining attributes that embody the heritage value of the John Ramer Barn include:

The medium-pitched gable roof;
The south projecting forebay;
The granite fieldstone foundation;
The vertical board cladding with cut out initials and year of construction