

Appendix C

Summary of Properties



John B. Miller House
c.1855
West Half Lot 21, Concession 9
7134 Major Mackenzie Drive East

Historical Background:

- Lot 21, Concession 9 was originally a Crown reserve lot, patented by King's College (forerunner of the U. of T.) in 1828.
- The east 150 acres were purchased by John Miller in 1838, which includes centre section of Lot 21, where this house stands.
- John Miller was a son of Jacob Miller and Phoebe Gould, American immigrants from Erie County, New York, who arrived in Markham Township in 1796, settling on Lots 21 and 22, Concession 9.
- The family were founding members of the Ninth Line Baptist Church, relocated to the Markham Museum.
- In 1848, John Miller and his wife sold the centre 64 acres of Lot 21 to their son, John B. Miller.
- The 1851 census records show that John B. Miller, a farmer born in Canada, his wife Bethany (Boyles) and their three children resided in a 1 ½ storey log house.
- By the time of the 1861 census, the family were living in a 2 storey stone house, therefore a construction date of c.1855 is proposed for 7134 Major Mackenzie Drive East.

- It should be noted the research report prepared on behalf of Transport Canada attributes this house to Jacob Miller. Staff research indicates that this was the home of John B. Miller, and that Jacob Miller lived in another house, a frame dwelling noted in the 1861 census, on another part of Lot 21, to the east.

Architectural Description and Style:

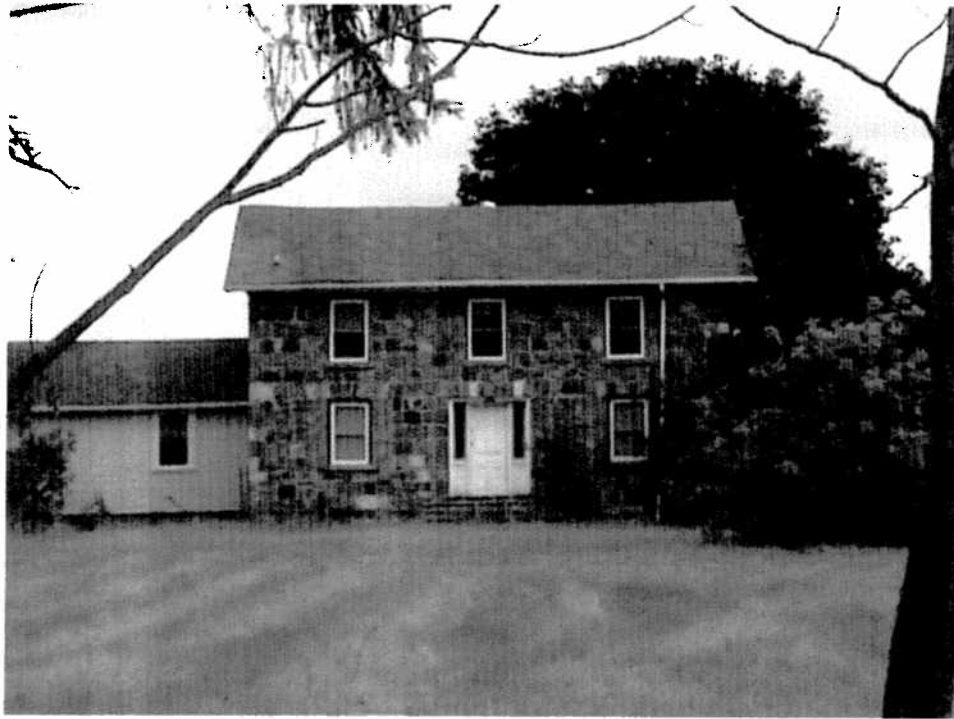
- Fieldstone house in the Georgian architectural tradition, built into a natural slope so that from the front, it appears to be 1 ½ storeys with a raised basement, and from the rear, 2 storeys.
- Rectangular plan, relatively recent side wing, medium pitched gable roof with modern dormers added. The house likely had a basement kitchen.
- Four bay front, with off-centre entrance with sidelights, 6/6 windows, presently boarded up.
- White brick trim around door and window openings, in the Scottish manner.

Context:

- Located in a rural setting, not readily associated with any hamlet, but closest to Milnesville.
- The house is not visible from the road. Accessed via a long driveway.
- The house has been vacant and boarded up for some time but appears to be in good condition.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. Included in the Markham Heritage Estates Study 2004, where it is listed among the most significant and threatened heritage buildings. (Group 1).



David Burke House
c.1850
North Half, Lot 24, Concession 10
10531 Reesor Road

Historical Background:

- David Burke, a farmer of Irish birth, received the Crown patent for 63 acres on the north half Lot 24, Concession 10, in 1838. This property was not the typical 200 acre Township lot, as it was on the far eastern boundary of Markham where the 10th Line (Reesor Road) does not run parallel to the Markham-Pickering Town Line.
- According to the 1851 census, David Burke was a 'Yeoman', living in a two storey stone house with his wife, Jane L. (Campbell) and their eight children.
- In 1881, one year after the death of David Burke, his executors sold the property to Rachel Bowers.
- The Markham Township map of 1918 shows James Williams as the owner.

Architectural Description and Style:

- The David Burke House is an exceptionally fine example of fieldstone construction. The large, squared multi-coloured fieldstone on the front wall is a rare treatment in Markham. The full two storey height is also noteworthy. On the rear and side walls, the rubblework is more informal.
- Stylistically, the house was designed in the Georgian architectural tradition.

- The façade exhibits a formal symmetry, with a 7-panelled centre front door with sidelights.
- The ground floor window opening were originally wider, to accommodate Venetian windows (windows with sidelights).
- The windows have been replaced with modern windows. Likely, the original glazing was multipaned, perhaps 12/12 on the ground floor and 12 over 8 on the upper floor.
- The medium-pitched gable roof has eave returns and Classical mouldings. No historic chimneys remain.
- There is a one storey frame siding with a fieldstone foundation, suggesting a construction date in the 19th century.
- The research report prepared on behalf of Transport Canada notes the presence of panelled window aprons, high baseboards and other original woodwork.

Context:

- This property is close to the crossroads of the historic hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.
- The house is in a rural setting, and is one of several buildings remaining in the vicinity of the hamlet.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. Included in the Markham Heritage Estates Study 2004, where it is listed among the most significant and threatened heritage buildings. (Group 1).



Wellington Wideman House

c.1910

Lot 28, Concession 10

11201 Reesor Road

Historical Background:

- This farmhouse was built on the west part of Lot 28, Concession 10, just north of the crossroads community of Mongolia.
- The history of ownership of this lot is fairly complex. William Hamilton was the owner of the largest part of the lot from 1836. Many small parcels were sold off the lot during William Hamilton's period of ownership.
- Peter Hamilton (a son?) assigned 92 acres to Alexander Lee in 1864. In 1867, George H. Hamilton (another son of William?) had an agreement to sell 96 acres to Alexander Lee.
- A number of land transactions involving the Lee family occurred from 1870 to 1889.
- In 1890, Christian Wideman, a member of a Pennsylvania-German family that came to Markham in the early 19th century, purchased the property upon which the current farmhouse stands.
- Wellington Wideman owned the property from 1907 to 1951, and based on the design and materials of the house, it was likely constructed early in his period of ownership.
- Wellington Wideman was a great-grandson of the Reverend Henry Wideman, who came to Markham from Pennsylvania in 1803. Henry Wideman was one of the first ordained Mennonite ministers in Upper Canada.
- The Markham Township map of 1918 shows Wellington Wideman as the owner.

Architectural Description and Style:

- The Wideman House is a good example of an American Foursquare style house.
- The house is 2 ½ storeys in height, faced in red brick, and has a truncated hipped roof with small hipped roof dormers.
- A wrap-around veranda with a shed roof, supported on simple Tuscan columns resting on brick pedestals, is a significant feature. At one time, there was a balcony on the south-facing wall, over the front door.
- There is a modern-era, one storey wing on the east side of the house.
- Plywood covers the door and window openings. Based on the age of the house, the windows, if not replaced, would most likely be of a 1/1 glazing configuration.

Context:

- This property is close to the crossroads of the historic hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.
- The house is in a rural setting, and is one of several buildings remaining in the vicinity of the hamlet.
- The house cannot be seen from the road.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. Included in the Markham Heritage Estates Study 2004, where it is listed among the most significant and threatened heritage buildings. (Group 2).



William F. Johnson Farmhouse

c.1915

West Half Lot 22, Concession 9

10295 Ninth Line

Historical Background:

- Joshua Miller Sr. received the Crown patent for Lot 22, Concession 9, in 1805.
- The west half of Lot 22 was sold to Jacob Miller in 1821.
- Miller sold a 2 acre parcel of the north west corner of the property to Joseph Skinner in 1846. This is the property where 10295 Ninth Line stands. This property went through many owners after being sold by Joseph Skinner in 1853.
- James Miller purchased the north west part of the lot in 1858, less the 2 acres sold to Skinner.
- James Brison Johnson purchased the property in 1914. Further research is required to determine a possible family relationship with Cornelius Johnson, who owned part of the west half of Lot 23, Concession 9, from as early as 1827, and Henry Johnson, who purchased the south west corner of Lot 22 in 1873.
- The property where the present house stands was willed to James B. Johnson's son, William F. Johnson, in 1925.
- William Johnson was a long-time owner, selling in 1967.
- A Markham Township map of 1918 shows W. Johnson as the owner of the west half of Lot 22, Concession 9.

- The present house at 10295 Ninth Line was probably built by the Johnson family some time between 1914 and 1925, and may have replaced an earlier house on this property.

Architectural Description and Style:

- The Johnson Farmhouse is a 2 1/2 storey frame house in the American Foursquare style. It is a typical example of the style, although this type of house was most commonly rendered in brick rather than frame.
- The house presently has vinyl siding, but was originally clad in vertical wood siding, according to the Markham Inventory of Heritage Buildings.
- The house has a cubic plan, a hipped roof with dormers, and a full-width front veranda with light turned posts. Old photos show that the original supports were full-height Tuscan columns. A gable-roofed, one storey siding extends toward the east.
- The house has recent modern windows that replaced the original 1/1 wood windows shown in an archival photo.

Context:

- Located in a rural setting, not readily associated with any hamlet, but closest to Milnesville.
- House has been vacant, but used for Fire Department training. It appears to be in good condition.
- Another heritage house is located on the west half of Lot 22, Concession 9, at 10233 Ninth Line. This house also appears to be an early 20th dwelling in the American Foursquare style, but in this case is faced in brick.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. (Group 2).



James Collins House
c.1850
West Part Lot 29, Concession 10
11223 Reesor Road

Historical Background:

- Lot 29, Concession 10 was patented by John Inman in 1802. The 100 acre property was subsequently sold as a full lot several times between 1805 and the mid-1840s until a 9 acre parcel was sold by William Udel to Almer Vanzant in 1845, 80 acres to John Yake in 1847, and 1 acre to James Collins in 1849.
- Almer Vanzant was a son of Garrett Van Zant and Elizabeth (Lewis). This family, of Dutch descent, came from New York State to Upper Canada c.1800, and purchased Lot 29, Concession 9, in 1806.
- By the 1880s, Almer Vanzant had acquired 40 acres of the south west corner of Lot 29, Concession 10.
- Based on a review of census data and Township directories, the Vanzant family did not reside on the property they owned on Lot 29, Concession 10, but rather lived directly across the road on Lot 29, Concession 9.
- According to the 1851 census, there were two houses on Lot 29, Concession 10 at that time: the 1 ½ storey frame house of James Collins, an Irish-born carpenter and his wife, Frances (Hamilton), and the 1 storey frame house of John Yake, a Canadian-born farmer, and his wife, Susan (Castor).

- The house at 11223 Reesor Road is believed to have been built by James Collins, c.1850. Collins sold the property in 1865.
- The property containing the Collins House became part of the Vanzant land holdings, and was rented to tenants.

Architectural Description and Style:

- The Collins House is a one and a half storey frame building, simply designed in the Georgian architectural tradition. Modern siding conceals the original cladding.
- The house has a rectangular plan shape for the front section, with a three bay front. Windows have been replaced with modern units, but the openings remain their original size. The window openings are noteworthy for their small size.
- There is a 1 1/2 storey rear wing, and a south-facing enclosed veranda in the ell.
- The roof has a medium pitch, with overhanging eaves but no eave returns.

Context:

- This property is close to the crossroads of the historic hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.
- The house is in a rural setting, and is one of several buildings remaining in the vicinity of the hamlet.
- Also on the property is a small, board and batten barn.
- Directly across the road, at 11206 Reesor Road, is the Almer Vanzant house, an 1840s plank-on-plank farmhouse scheduled for demolition due to its severe state of deterioration.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. Included in the Markham Heritage Estates Study 2004. (Group 2).



John Boyles House
c.1870
East Part Lot 28, Concession 10
11190 York-Durham Line

Historical Background:

- This farmhouse was built on the east part of Lot 28, Concession 10, just north of the crossroads community of Mongolia.
- The history of ownership of this lot is fairly complex. William Hamilton was the owner of the largest part of the lot from 1836. Many small parcels were sold off the lot during William Hamilton's period of ownership.
- Hamilton sold 20 acres of the east part of Lot 28 to John Boyles in 1839.
- John Boyles was a labourer (1851 census), a sawyer (1861 census) and later, a farmer (1871 census) that lived on Lot 23, Concession 9 . He was an American immigrant of German descent.
- There were a number of frame houses on the east part of Lot 28, Concession 10, as noted in the 1861 census. Presumably, they were lived in by tenants since John Boyles lived on Lot 23, at least until the time of the 1871 census.
- In 1873, John Boyles sold one acre of Lot 28 to Henry Moyer.
- John Boyles is noted on Lot 28, Concession 10 in the 1881 census, which suggests he moved here and may have built a new house for his retirement, while his son, Leonard, lived on the family homestead, Lot 23, Concession 9.
- After the death of John Boyles, his executors sold the remaining 19 acres to Henry Barkey.

Architectural Description and Style:

- With its one and a half storey form, three-bay façade and steep centre gable, the John Boyles House is a typical example of a Classic Ontario farmhouse.
- The house is of frame construction, currently clad in vinyl, but previously clad in insul-brick. The original exterior treatment is likely concealed beneath these later sidings. Houses of this time period were often sided in vertical tongue and groove wood.
- The existing windows are relatively recent replacements for the original, segmentally-headed 2/2 windows.
- There are canted bay windows of the south and north gable ends.
- The front porch is in an early 20th century style, supported on grouped, lightly-proportioned square posts.
- There is a one storey rear wing, which includes an attached garage. If any of this rear wing is original, the portion closest to the house probably contained the kitchen when the house was built.

Context:

- This property is close to the crossroads of the historic hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.
- The house is in a rural setting, and is one of several buildings remaining in the vicinity of the hamlet.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. (Group 2).



Noble Tenant Farmer's House

c.1840

East Half Lot 28, Concession 9

11122 Reesor Road

Historical Background:

- Originally a Crown reserve lot, patented by King's College (forerunner of the U. of T.) in 1828.
- Ambrose Noble purchased the east 100 acres of Lot 28, Concession 9, in 1840.
- Ambrose Noble lived at the north east corner of Highway 48 and 16th Avenue, in the community of Mount Joy. He was an American immigrant from Massachusetts who arrived in Markham in 1816.
- Ambrose Noble and his son, Charles, operated a tannery at Mount Joy in the mid 19th century. By 1861, Ambrose Noble's occupation was given as 'farmer.'
- Based on a review of census returns and Township directories, it appears that this farm was rented to tenant farmers. In the 1851 census, the farm was occupied by John Smith, an English- born farmer, and his family. They lived in a one storey frame house. In the 1861 census, the farm was occupied by Isaac O'Neil, a labour, and his family.
- In 1868, Ambrose Noble sold to his son, Charles T. Noble Sr., who in turn sold to, Martin Noble, in 1869. Martin Noble lived in the United States, according to the Township Directory of 1892. The property was under his ownership until 1927.

Architectural Description and Style:

- The Noble Tenant Farmer's House is a modestly-scaled frame house in the vernacular Georgian Tradition. Census takers sometimes classified one and a half storey houses as one storey dwellings.
- The house has an asymmetrical façade, a characteristic often seen in vernacular architecture, where the interior arrangement of rooms and walls dictated the position of doors and windows, rather than a strict adherence to architectural conventions.
- The front veranda is an early 20th century type.
- The house has been updated with vinyl siding installed over narrow clapboard with an early 20th century profile. In this case, 2/2 windows remain.
- There is a one storey kitchen wing offset on the rear wall, with wide, overhanging eaves.
- It is possible that the rear wing was the first stage of construction of this building. A detailed physical examination of the structure would be required to confirm this idea.

Context:

- This property is close to the crossroads of the historic hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.
- The house is in a rural setting, and is one of several buildings remaining in the vicinity of the hamlet.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. (Group 2).



Adam Betz House
c.1871
East Half Lot 25, Concession 9
10676 Reesor Road

Historical Background:

- Lot 25, Concession 9 was leased from the Crown by Peter Degear beginning in 1803. Peter de Guerre was a Huguenot (French Protestant) from New York State that arrived in Markham about 1800, via the Niagara Region, with other members of his family.
- James O. Degear received the Crown patent for the 200 acre property in 1845.
- In 1871, Adam Betz purchased the east quarter of Lot 25 from James O. Degear, except for a ½ acre parcel at the corner where the Degear family operated a tavern, later a store.
- Adam Betz was a farmer of German birth that arrived in Markham during the 1870s. His wife was Rachel (Lapp), and according to the 1881 census, they had two young children.
- Betz added another 50 acres to his land holdings in 1880 through the purchase of the west half of the east half of Lot 25.
- The Markham Township map of 1918 shows “A. Betts” as the owner of the east half of Lot 25, Concession 9. In this case the name is Arthur Betts. According to the research done on behalf of Transport Canada, the Betz family continued to own and farm this property until 1955.

Architectural Description and Style:

- The Adam Betz House is a typical example of a Classic Ontario farmhouse, with a one and a half storey form, 3 bay façade, and a steep centre gable.
- The house is of frame construction, presently clad in vinyl siding.
- There is a one storey kitchen wing at the rear.
- Windows and doors have been replaced with modern materials, however the size and shape of the original openings remains.
- The overall design is very simple and there are no decorative features.

Context:

- This property is close to the crossroads of the historic hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.
- The house is one of several buildings remaining in the vicinity of the hamlet.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. (Group 2).



Richard Tarr House
c.1894
East Half Lot 26, Concession 9
7368 Elgin Mills Road East

Historical Background:

- Peter Degear (also spelled de Guerre) received the Crown patent for Lot 26, Concession 9, in 1801. Degear was a Huguenot (French Protestant) from New York State that arrived in Markham Township about 1800, via the Niagara Region, with other members of his family.
- The property passed to James O. Degear after the death of his father, Peter Degear, in 1827.
- The Degear house was located on the interior of the lot, set well back from Elgin Mills Road. According to the 1851 census, the James Degear family lived in a 2 storey frame house.
- When James Degear died in 1876 his eldest son, also named James, inherited the east half of Lot 26. When this James passed away in 1893, the property was sold by his executors to George K. Tarr and Richard Tarr.
- The Tarr family likely constructed a new house, closer to the road, c.1894. More research is needed to understand the family background. Previous research indicates that Richard

Tarr and his wife, Esther, resided here. The Markham Township map of 1918 shows the name "K. (Knightly)Tarr" on this property. This was likely George Knightly Tarr.

- The property was sold out of the Tarr family in 1919.

Architectural Description and Style:

- The Tarr House is a 2 storey brick veneered frame house with a cubic plan for its main block, and a 2 storey frame addition at the rear. The front section of the house rests on a fieldstone foundation. The rear, frame wing is failing structurally.
- The house is a vernacular building with a Georgian Tradition form and arrangement of openings, but with its hipped roof and cubic plan, the building exhibits echoes of the Italianate style.
- The windows are 1/1, concealed behind plywood boards. There is a second storey level door over the main entrance that suggests that a porch with a balcony above either existed previously, or was intended by the builder.
- Details of the framing described in a 2002 structural assessment suggest that the front section of the house may be older than 1894, and was updated at the time when the Tarr family purchased the property. On-site investigation will be required to examine this possibility.

Context:

- This property is close to the crossroads of the historic hamlet of Mongolia, originally known as California Corners.
- The house is one of several buildings remaining in the vicinity of the hamlet.

Heritage Status:

Listed on the Markham Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. Included in the Markham Heritage Estates Study 2004, where it is listed among the most significant and threatened heritage buildings. (Group 2).