



The Martin House

Location: 46 Centre Street

Year Built: 1844

Style: Loyalist Cottage

Storeys: 1 ½

Classification: Inventoried

Cladding: Wood clapboard

Roof: Side gable, asphalt shingle

Windows: Double-hung 6/6

Description: The façade is a classic 3-bay Georgian design with a central entry. Entry door has a Classical surround with a substantial entablature and cornice. There is a plain board frieze under the eaves, and substantial eaves returns on the side elevations. Both side walls have a pair of windows in the gable ends, and the right side wall has a set of paired windows on the ground floor—certainly a later alteration. All the windows in the original portion of the building have shutters.

Archives: MM-Weaver 140, 141

History: This house was probably built in 1844 by John Martin, after he purchased the ¼ acre lot from David Soules for £ 20. Soules had begun subdividing the family's Crown Lot 31 in that year to establish the centre of Thornhill at Yonge and Centre Streets.

Comments: This simple plan house has had numerous additions to the rear but retains its classical façade. None of the additions rise above the original ridge, and they are sympathetic to the original house. There were probably originally chimneys at both ends of the roof, but only one remains. Front yard landscaping is stark. Awnings and colour scheme is not in keeping with original character.

This building is included in the Canadian Inventory of Historic Buildings and the Ontario Inventory of Buildings. It is an important heritage asset and contributes to the heritage character of the village.



MM-Weaver #140, October 1969