

## STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE

### LEGAL DESCRIPTION

ADDRESS: 439 Glenkindie Avenue

PLAN 65M-2943 Part of Block 37

ROLL: 1928 000 2713 1600 0000

1½ storey, Georgian stone house with granite fieldstone and brick trim (1851~1860)

### OVERVIEW

The cultural heritage value of the property known as 439 Glenkindie Avenue meets the criteria set out by the *Ontario Heritage Act* under Province of Ontario Regulation 9/06 for the categories of design/physical, historical/associative and contextual value.

Name: Michael Cranny House

Date Built: 1851~1860

Address: 439 Glenkindie Avenue

Location: west side of Glenkindie Avenue, north of Falkirk Crescent; East of Divine Mercy Catholic Elementary School and northeast of Michael Cranny Elementary School

Condition: The house is in good physical condition

### REASON FOR REGISTRATION

Section 27 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* enables municipalities to create a Heritage Register of properties of “cultural heritage value or interest”. The current City of Vaughan Register was established and approved by Council on June 27, 2005. The Register has not been updated since that date. The Register also includes properties that are individually Designated under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

#### LSHS - Properties of Architectural or Historical Significance

These properties are officially “listed” under Section 27 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. These properties do not require a Heritage Permit to alter, and the owner must give 60-day notice to the municipality if they wish to demolish all or any part of the structure. The City may ask for a Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment as part of an application (per VOP 2010). The municipality has the right to initiate the designation process under Section 29, which means that a property acquires the protection of a designated property.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

According to information found in Reaman’s *History of Vaughan Township*, Michael Cranny (Crannie) was in the township as early as 1837. The west half of Lot 22 in Concession 4 was indicated on *Tremaine’s Map of the County of York (1860)* as being owned by Michael Cranny with a black square representing the location of a house. The *Historical Atlas of the County of York (1878)* indicates the same lot being owned by Henry Allison.

This house is the surviving representation of lands once owned by Michael Cranny, an early pioneer of the Maple area. Michael Cranny and his family were early settlers in the Maple area and this house reflects their success and hard work in the establishment of a homestead. It is

**ATTACHMENT 2**  
**439 GLENKINDIE**

here that the merit of the house lies, just as much as in the architectural value. Notably, Michael Cranny was a yeoman of Vaughan Township and registered in the 1838 rebellion.

The Cranny (also spelled Crannie, Cranney) family retained the property until 1870, when the executors of Thomas Cranney leased the property prior to relinquishing it in a Sheriff's sale the following year. By 1878 the property was shown to be in the hands of Henry Allison on the Tremaine 1878 map, although it does not appear to have been fully paid for until 1903. The property remained in the Allison family until 1940, when it was sold to one Nathan L. Nathanson.

Nathan L. Nathanson is known as the founder of Famous Players Canadian Corporation and, with his son, Paul Nathanson, the Odeon Theatres of Canada. During the 1930's, the family was once thought to be one of the 5th richest in the world. In 1940, they bought several properties in Maple to create one large farm known as Maple Crest (alternative spelling Maplecree). Maple Crest Farms produced award winning livestock through the 1940's and 1950's.

In 1953, the Nathanson family sold part of their Maple holdings, including the West Half of Lot 22, Concession 4 to Canada Packers Ltd, to establish a research farm under the ShurGain label. The ShurGain Research Farm specialized in researching feed for cows and chickens and would continue operations in Maple until 1991, when the lands were repurposed for subdivision.

The property known as 439 Glenkindie Avenue is significant for its associated heritage value regarding the following subjects:

- a) the early settlement of Vaughan Township
- b) the 1837 Rebellion
- c) its strong ties to Ontario agricultural-industrial history
- d) its ties to a significant Canadian family, the Nathansons, who lived in Maple part time for many years.

### **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

The building itself is a clear example of Georgian style constructed in granite fieldstone with brick trim and with some Neoclassical wood trim work. The style and plan of the building is typical of the region – but the quality of the detailing, especially in the stone and brick work on the main facade, is very fine and makes this house a choice, rather than a common example, of the period.

The house is built in a T-shape plan that has subsequently been enlarged. The rear area (to the west) where the brick is faced with wood was added cca.1900. But it is the east face of the house that displays originality and portrays the delight and charming detail that typifies the Gothic style. This is the public facade and as such provides an integral part of the approach or departure from Maple's main street. The 1-1/2 storey is broken by the central gable which houses a rectangular window. The red brick is trimmed with yellow brick quoins, which project on the easterly faces. The house is built on stone foundations with a full basement.

The east facade is the main face and is the most fully detailed: the front door has a beautiful semi-elliptical fanlight which is broken up into a few fan-shaped mullions and finished with swagged mullions. The sidelights are composed of ogee arches, and all are paned with different coloured glass of blues and violet. The brick voussoir over the door is also “fanned” in reference to the light it surmounts. The windows to each side of the door are large and double-hung with wooden sills. The voussoirs above these are remarkable for the carefully shaped brick especially in the small central arch which relieves the horizontal line.