

## **STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE VALUE**

### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION**

ADDRESS: 10533 Keele Street

LEGAL:

ROLL:

### **OVERVIEW**

The cultural heritage value of the property known as 10533 Keele Street 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.

Location: Concession 3, Lot 24

Community: Maple

Building Date: ca. 1890's

Style: Gothic, Ontario farmhouse

Construction type: wood-clad board and batten

### **DESIGN OR PHYSICAL VALUE**

This property is a unique example of a wood-clad board and batten 1890's Ontario Farmhouse. It is a 1-1/2 storey side-gable building with 1-over-1 hung windows, and a central gable on the front elevation. The structure's facade is symmetrical. The central gable is simple with no trim, and also contains an arched window. The features of the property relate to the Gothic Revival style, which grew in popularity in the 19<sup>th</sup> century with the early settlement by families from Europe. While brick is a more common building material in this style, the use of board and batten emphasizes the verticality of the design which keeps with the Gothic Revival style. The south facing elevation (towards Drummond drive), has a red brick chimney.

### **HISTORICAL OR ASSOCIATIVE VALUE:**

This house is the surviving representation of lands once owned in the McQuarrie family, early pioneers of the area. Archibald McQuarrie and his family were early settlers in the area, and this house reflects their success and hard work in the establishment of a homestead. It is here that the merit of the house lies, just as much as in the architectural value.

One of the earliest families to settle in Vaughan stemmed from Lachlan McQuarrie (also MacQuarrie). He arrived from New York with his family around 1827, joining his brother Hector who arrived in Vaughan Township previously. They would settle on Lots 15, 16, 17, Concession 3 in 1829, but Lachlan would pass away within a year. His wife, Catherine, decided to purchase 25 acres of land in Lot 23, Concession 4, but passed away sometime in the 1830's. With the passing of their parents, the children found ways to earn a living, support themselves and each other. The eldest sister Margaret stepped up take care of the family, becoming a parental figure. In addition, at the young age of 14 her brother John C. McQuarrie worked for a carpenter where he received \$5/month in the summer, and no income in the winter. While working for the carpenter for about three years, he received little schooling during the winter months. He later became Justice of the Peace. He was a Steward and a Class Leader for the Yonge Street circuit of the Methodist church in 1858 and donated half an acre to build a Methodist church in Maple in 1869. He was also on the building committee for that church.

Catherine's will left much responsibility to her second son, Archibald McQuarrie. He ran the farm, and helped support his younger siblings until they were adults. He continued to live on the family land with his wife, Emma Pickering, and their 10 children. He purchased lot 24, Concession 3, and continued to expand the family land. The combined value of the farm in the 1861 census, which included the 25 acres of Lot 23, 49 acres of Lot 22; and the 50 acres of Lot 24, Concession 3, was considered to be a total of \$4966. The 1878 Historical Atlas of the County of York indicates the south half of Concession 3, Lot 24 still being owned by Archibald McQuarrie, while the north half was owned by T. Watson. 10533 Keele Street appears to fall within the south half, and the splitting of the lot into North and South had already occurred sometime after 1802.

Archibald also became invested in the development of Vaughan. He sat on the Vaughan Township council in 1872 and 1873 and was considered to be a reformer in politics. He also helped to fund the building of a school. Serving as a Trustee for Hope School S.S. No.5, in 1864 he contributed to the purchase of three-quarters of an acre of land from the west half Lot 28, Concession 3. While Archibald died sometime after 1891, the dispersal of the properties began prior.

According to a 1918 map, the owner of the lot was John H. Watson (believed to be jr). John Watson Sr. (1806-1889) arrived from England in 1831, and purchased 100 acres on the west half of lot 6, concession 2. The retained receipts of the several farming equipment purchases he made from Patterson & Bros. Co. helps to showcase the families efforts in the maintenance of the land. Years later, a map from the 1970's indicates that the area was zoned as industrial.

### **Summary Attributes**

- 1-1/2 storey building
- Wood-clad board and batten Ontario Farmhouse
- 1-over-1 hung windows
- Central gable is simple with no trim
- Central gable contains an arched window
- Red brick chimney on south facing elevation

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

City of Vaughan Archives

A History of Vaughan Township (1971) by G. Elmore Reamen, ISBN 0969220715

History of Toronto and County of York, Ontario 1885

The Buildings of Canada

Far from their island home: the movement of a group of McQuarries and McKinnons from Scotland to Sidney (later Masonville), Delaware County, New York, for some a permanent home, for others as a sojourn on their way to Ontario, Canada

The McQuarries of Ontario: the story of the emigration of many McQuarries from Scotland to Ontario in the 1800s

Village of Maple Heritage Conservation District Plan (2007)