

October 8, 2023



To Members of the Toronto Preservation Board:

Re: 3100 Weston Rd.

The ***Humber Summit Residents' Association*** wishes to express our support for the preservation and formal historical **designation** under the ***Ontario Heritage Act***, of the property formerly known as ***Rivermede*** and the ***Marian Shrine of Gratitude***, located at 3100 Weston Rd.

We are troubled by the private sale of property to a developer which ignored public input, the historical architectural significance of ***Rivermede*** and the spiritual significance for many which the ***Marian Shrine of Gratitude*** possesses for the Toronto neighbourhoods of Humbermede, Humberlea and Humber Summit and for many who visit the site from across the GTA and beyond.

Most of the buildings that have been previously granted historical designation in Toronto, of course, are situated in older sections of the city. However, notwithstanding the fact north-west Toronto was largely settled more recently, doesn't infer that the property is devoid of historical importance.

As was documented in the August 2020 submission of Edith George, local resident and Head of the ***Rivermede Heritage Committee***, the property's history extends from the First Nations' settlements along the Humber River, to early Ontario settlement predating Confederation, to 1930's architectural design and finally to the creation of a spiritual shrine in the 21st century. For the province or the city to ignore any of these contributions to our history, is to do a disservice to the City's collective, on-going history.

Therefore, we support the initiative and community efforts to **Designate 3100 Weston Rd.**, formerly known as ***Rivermede*** and the ***Marian Shrine of Gratitude***, as **Historic** on the **City's Registry**. We urge the City of Toronto to take the necessary steps to ensure such Designation.

Grant Evers
President
Humber Summit Residents' Association