

DESIGNATION BY-LAW 107-2007

ATTACHMENT 5

5933 Steeles Avenue East

Authority: Scarborough Community Council Report 7, Clause 15,
as adopted by City of Toronto Council on September 25, 26 and 27, 2006
Enacted by Council: February 6, 2007

CITY OF TORONTO

BY-LAW No. 107-2007

To designate the property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East (Underwood House) as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS authority was granted by Council to designate the property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East (Underwood House) as being of cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS the *Ontario Heritage Act* authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest; and

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Toronto has caused to be served upon the owners of the land and premises known as 5933 Steeles Avenue East and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, Notice of Intention to designate the property and has caused the Notice of Intention to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*; and

WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" to this by-law; and

WHEREAS no notice of objection was served upon the Clerk of the municipality;

The Council of the City of Toronto HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1. The property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East, more particularly described in Schedule "B" and shown on Schedule "C" attached to this by-law, is designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest.
2. The City Solicitor is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "B" to this by-law in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk is authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owners of the property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust and to cause notice of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Toronto as required by the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 6th day of February, A.D. 2007.

DAVID R. MILLER,
Mayor

ULLI S. WATKISS
City Clerk

(Corporate Seal)

SCHEDULE “A”

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

Description

The property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value or interest, and meets the criteria for municipal designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the categories of design or physical value and contextual value. Located on the south side of Steeles Avenue East between Middlefield Road and Markham Road, the house was in place when the Decennial Census was recorded in 1891. The property was acquired by the Underwood family in 1875, with Richard Underwood as the owner between 1890 and 1907.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

The Underwood House has design or physical value as a representative example of a late 19th century residential building. The ell-shaped design consists of a west-facing section and a rear (east) wing. The latter portion displays the centre-gabled façade of a typical 1½-storey Ontario Cottage, a type of housing that remained popular following its introduction in the mid 1800s.

The Underwood House also has contextual value as it assists in maintaining the character of Steeles Avenue East in that it contributes to the group of recognized heritage buildings. The Hood-Gough House (Devonsleigh Place) at #4125, the Clark-Reesor House at #6601 and the Christian Reesor House at #8327 are designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, while the Demond-Ingleton House at #6351, the Menno-Reesor House at #6461, the Hamill House at #6545, the Noah Reesor Farm at #7501, the two Flavius Reesor Houses at #7937 and #7959, and the McCreight House at #8009 are recognized on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties. Toronto City Council stated its intention to designate the neighbouring William Stonehouse House at 5951 Steeles Avenue East in July 2006.

Heritage Attributes

The heritage attributes of the Underwood House that relate to its cultural heritage value as a representative example of a late 19th century residential building are found on the exterior walls and roof, consisting of:

- Rising 1½ stories above a stone foundation, the ell-shaped plan covered by a cross-gable roof, with a centre gable on the north slope and a brick chimney on the north end.
- The application of brick for the cladding and trim, with brick lintels over the segmental-arched door and window openings (the lintels have been painted to appear as hood moulds).
- The organization of the west façade, with an entrance placed between single window openings (the door has been replaced and the gabled hood with wood brackets is not original).

- The treatment of the north elevation, where an entrance under the gable peak is flanked and surmounted by window openings.
- The repetition of the shape and detailing of the fenestration on the remaining walls.

The porch on the north elevation, which replaces the original full-length verandah, and the single-storey wood-clad addition on the south wall are not included in the Reasons for Designation.