

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL

**By-law No. 143-97**

A By-law to Authorize the designation of  
the David Hislop House (Old Mill Farm)  
under the *Ontario Heritage Act*

WHEREAS Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property to be of historic or architectural value or interest;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Richmond Hill has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as 1621 Major Mackenzie Drive East, Richmond Hill, and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality;

AND WHEREAS the reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "A" attached hereto;

**NOW THEREFORE THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:**

1. That the real property located at 1621 Major Mackenzie Drive East, being west half of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 3 in the Town of Richmond Hill in the Regional Municipality of York, (geographic Township of Markham, County of York), more particularly described as ~~save and except part 4, Plan 65R-13055 and~~ parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 65R-7762, is hereby designated under part ~~Part 5,~~ IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, as being of historic or architectural value of interest. Plan  
65R-13051  
97.06.26 (P)
2. That the real property located at 1621 Major Mackenzie Drive East, being west half of Lots 19 and 20, Concession 3 in the Town of Richmond Hill in the Regional Municipality of York, (geographic Township of Markham, County of York), more particularly described as parts 1 and 2 on Reference Plan 65R-7762, is hereby designated under part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, as being of historic or architectural value of interest.
3. that the Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be served on the owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation, and to cause notice of the passing of this by-law to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality.
4. That the Town Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property in the Land Registry Office.
5. That the statements contained in Schedule "A" hereto are hereby declared to be the reasons for the aforesaid designation.
6. Schedule "A" attached hereto shall form part of this by-law.

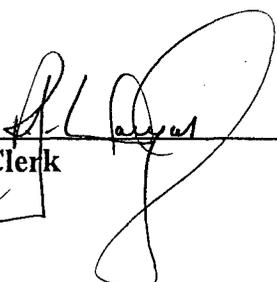
READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 2nd DAY OF JUNE, 1997.

READ A THIRD TIME AND PASSED THIS 2nd DAY OF JUNE, 1997.

Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_

Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_

## SCHEDULE "A"

### REASONS FOR DESIGNATION

David Hislop House (Old Mill Farm)  
W/2 Lots 19 and 20, Concession 3 EYS  
1621 Major Mackenzie Drive East  
1877

The David Hislop House is recommended for designation for historical and architectural reasons.

The hamlet of Headford grew up around a grist mill on the Rouge River built by John Cleaver Burr in 1832. By the time the property was purchased by David Hislop, the son of Scottish immigrants, in 1874, the mill had seen many owners and numerous improvements. The milling operation obviously prospered, enabling Hislop to replace the earlier mill owner's house with a prestigious brick residence in 1877. The contractors were Law and Grant of Richmond Hill.

The new house was built in the Picturesque style, with an L-shaped main block, steeply pitched cross-gabled roof, segmentally-headed one-over-one oak windows, and a canted bay window with a metal-clad mansard roof. The exceptionally wide 4 panelled front door is surmounted with a segmentally-headed transom light. Walls are of white (buff coloured) brick with decorative tuckpointing in red. A millstone motif is worked into the brick of the gables, signifying the association with the milling operation.

In 1897, the property was enlarged with the purchase of the surrounding farm from Joseph Comisky. The farm had originally been part of John C. Burr's 1832 holdings, but was separated from the mill property when John Burr sold his interest in the mill to his brother Roland, the noted millwright and builder.

After many decades of prosperity, Markham Township's grist milling industry went into decline when the Canadian West was opened up for settlement and agriculture. The Headford Mills were converted to a chopping mill in the early 20th century, and continued to operate under water power until the dam was washed out in the spring of 1912. A gasoline engine was installed in the mill and the business continued until 1916, after which most of the building was sold for lumber and dismantled.

The David Hislop House remains as an important link with the Headford Mills and their significance to the early development of the community of Headford.