

## Heritage Research and Evaluation Report



### **37 and 39 Centre Street West - William Proctor Double House**

1891

Part of Lot 47, Concession 1, Vaughan Township

Prepared by: Heritage & Urban Design, Planning & Building Services, 2024

### **History:**

#### **37 and 39 Centre Street West**

The properties at 37 and 39 Centre Street West originated as part of Lot 47, Concession 1, Vaughan Township. The 210-acre Lot 47 was patented from the Crown in 1808 by John E. Stookes in return for his military service. The lot passed through the ownership of D'Arcy and Henry J. Boulton between 1810 and 1818, at which point Henry Boulton sold the property to David Bridgeford. Lot 47 was progressively subdivided and sold off for development or land speculation over the course of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>1</sup>

In 1879, Gibson's Plan of the Village of Richmond Hill was registered, which established village Lot 13 as a large 1 ½ acre parcel located along the east side of Elizabeth Street, and spanning from Centre Street West to Richmond Street (Figure 1).

---

<sup>1</sup> *Ontario Land Registry Historical Books*. York Region, Lot 47, Concession 1, Vaughan Township.

According to Land Registry records, William R. Proctor, a stage proprietor, bought land at the North-east corner of Centre and Elizabeth Streets from Mrs. Henrietta Maria Snowden for \$300 in 1891. The pair of semi-detached brick houses at 37 and 39 Centre Street West were built for William R. Proctor that same year by local builder John L. Innes, who was part of the Leslie Innes & Sons firm. According to archival newspaper articles and business directories, Proctor operated a stage line and livery in the area from at least 1881 to 1902. He also teamed the mail to and from the Northern Railway station to the west of the Village and had a coal supply and freight carrying business. His name appears numerous times in the Council Minutes as early as 1885 but more frequently during the 1890s as a supplier of coal and teaming services for Richmond Hill's municipal administration.<sup>2</sup> It appears, however, that William Proctor built this pair of houses as an investment, and never resided on the property. He is noted as living on the north side of Arnold Street, on Lot 46, Concession 1, in Richmond Hill voters' lists from 1891, 1894, 1896, and 1897.

Land Registry records for Lot 47, Concession 1 indicate that William Proctor sold the whole double house and lot to Catherine Clark in 1901-02 under two separate transactions totaling \$7,800. Catherine Clark then sold the houses separately. No. 39 Centre Street West was sold to Matthew Boyle in 1912 for \$4,000. The house has remained in the Boyle family to the present. Matthew Boyle was responsible for the addition of the two-storey sunroom on the west side of the house in 1914, and of the garage (facing onto Elizabeth Street) in 1915.<sup>3</sup>

Catherine Clark sold 37 Centre Street West to Charles P. A. Wiley in 1905, who then sold the property to Margaret Comisky in 1919.<sup>4</sup> Margaret Comisky's daughter and son-in-law, Myrtle and Robert Endean, and their two children also lived in the house at 37 Centre Street West beginning in 1929.<sup>5</sup> Following Margaret Comisky's death at the end of 1938,<sup>6</sup> the house was granted to her two daughters, Jessie Peacock and Myrtle I. Endean. Myrtle and Robert Endean's son, Robert H., then bought Jessie out of the property for \$5,000 in 1954. The house remained in the Endean family until the 1980s, when it was acquired by descendants of the Boyle family, who also owned the adjoining house at 39 Centre Street West. Both houses remain under the ownership of descendants of the Boyle family.

### Leslie Innes & Sons

George S. Sims records in his reminiscences that he began apprenticing at the Leslie Innes & Sons firm on March 16, 1891 in order to learn the trade of carpentry. In the spring of 1891 he recalls setting out with John L. Innes of Leslie Innes & Sons to do local contract work. One of their first jobs together in 1891 was to build a pair of houses on Centre Street West for W. R. Proctor,<sup>7</sup> now the subject properties at 37 and 39

---

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> Richmond Hill Local Architectural Advisory Committee (LACAC), "Heritage Building Summary – 37/39 Centre Street West." Richmond Hill Public Library, Local History and Genealogy Collection, date Unknown.

<sup>4</sup> *Ontario Land Registry Historical Books*. York Region, Lot 47, Concession 1, Vaughan Township.

<sup>5</sup> Richmond Hill Tax Assessment Rolls, 1929.

<sup>6</sup> "Obituary: late Mrs. Margaret Comisky," *Liberal*. December 29, 1938.

<sup>7</sup> *Ontario Land Registry Historical Books*. York Region, Lot 47, Concession 1, Vaughan Township.

Centre Street West. The original exterior and interior woodwork of 37 and 39 Centre Street reflects the type of finishes produced by the Leslie Innes & Sons firm before a fire destroyed their first mill and factory in 1894.

Leslie Innes was born in 1828 in Aberdeenshire, Scotland, to William Innes and Isabel Mackie. William Innes was a master carpenter by trade and passed his skills onto his son Leslie, who immigrated to Canada from Scotland in 1854. After working on the construction of the Northern Railway line from Toronto to Lake Simcoe's Cook's Bay, Leslie Innes moved to Richmond Hill in 1885,<sup>8</sup> and founded *L. Innes & Sons* with his sons William, Alexander, and John (Figure 3) that same year. In 1890, Leslie purchased Dr. Rolph Langstaff's lumber Mill at the west end of Richmond Street, which was later destroyed by fire in 1894. However, the lumber mill was rebuilt and combined with a planning mill which operated until the 1930s and was one of the last saw mills on the west branch of the Don River.<sup>9</sup> Leslie and his sons constructed many houses in Richmond Hill, and also supplied timber and wood finishes to other builders. Advertisements for Leslie and his Son's business operations can be seen throughout various issues of *The Liberal* from 1886 to the early 1900s<sup>10</sup>. An advertisement from the 1902 *Metropolitan Railway Guide Book and Time Table* provides a description of the L. Innes & Sons business offerings, stating:

*"We manufacture all kinds of exterior and interior finish for houses, and keep in stock a large assortment of all kinds of Lumber: Shingles, Floorings, Sheeting, Doors, Sash, Blinds, Mouldings, etc. We manufacture mantles and work boards for hotels, and all kinds of church finish."*

John L. Innes, Leslie's third son, was born in 1865 and educated in the schools of York County. A mechanic by trade, John worked as a contractor for the family firm. John is listed in the 1891 Census of Canada as a mechanic in Richmond Hill. John also served the Presbyterian community in Richmond Hill as secretary and manager for several years.<sup>11</sup>

Leslie Innes & Sons were involved in building numerous institutional and residential buildings in the village of Richmond Hill in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, including: the Leslie Innes House at 124 Richmond Street (1888); the Charles Mason Double House at 12-14 Church Street South (1891); the William Innes House at 297 Richmond Street (c. 1893); the Richmond Hill High School at 10268 Yonge Street (1897); the John L. Innes House at 131 Richmond Street (1903); and the M. L. McConaghy Public School at 10100 Yonge Street (1914).

### Robert Endean and Endean Nurseries

Robert N. Endean, who resided at 37 Centre Street West from at least 1929 to his sudden death in 1939, was one of the owners of Richmond Hill's Endean Nurseries.

---

<sup>8</sup> Ibid.

<sup>9</sup> *Commemorative Biographical Record of the County of York*, 1907.

<sup>10</sup> "Shingles!" *Liberal*. April 13, 1899.

<sup>11</sup> "Way Back in Liberal Files," *Liberal*. February 3, 1938.

The Endean nursery business started in Toronto in the late 1800s, where Robert's parents, Alice and Harry Endean, had a florist business on King Street East.<sup>12</sup> Following Harry's death in 1913, Alice Endean took over as president of the company, and relocated her family business to Richmond Hill, buying a large parcel of land on the south side of Centre Street West, west of Elizabeth Street.<sup>13</sup> This large property, known as "Endean Gardens", housed the company's greenhouse and nursery. The Endean nursery was part of the large horticultural industry that developed in Richmond Hill in the first quarter of the twentieth century. Greenhouse and nursery operations "made the village famous and became Richmond Hill's major employer...By 1939, the industry was producing some four million roses annually, employing upwards of one hundred workers, and pumping \$250,000 in wages into the local economy."<sup>14</sup>

The Endean nursery continued as a successful horticulture business through the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Endean Nurseries won top prizes for their exhibits at the C.N.E in 1927 and 1928,<sup>15</sup> and in 1929 the Edeans moved their nursery from Centre Street West to Elgin Mills, where they opened a new garden centre.<sup>16</sup> (Figure 4) In 1954, when the TTC opened Canada's first underground subway under Yonge Street, Endean Nurseries was chosen to landscape all of the TTC subway station grounds with one million small trees and shrubs.<sup>17</sup> The firm was also responsible for landscaping Highway 11 in Richmond Hill in the 1960s.<sup>18</sup>

Robert Endean, the son of Alice and Harry Endean, was also an important member of the Richmond Hill community. Apart from acting as manager of the Endean Nursery, he was vice-president of the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society, served on Richmond Hill's Municipal Council in 1924, was a member of the Richmond Hill School Board, and a leader in the Masonic Order.<sup>19</sup> Robert Endean married Myrtle Comisky in 1922, and the couple initially lived in a house built on the original Endean Nurseries property at 20 Elizabeth Street South following their marriage.

By 1929, however, Robert and Myrtle Endean, along with their two children Margaret (Peggy) and Robert Jr., moved in with Myrtle's mother, Margaret Comisky, at her house at 37 Centre Street West.<sup>20</sup> Robert Endean lived at 37 Centre Street West until his sudden death in 1939, while Myrtle Endean and her son, Robert Endean Jr., owned the property until 1987.

---

<sup>12</sup> "Obituary," *Liberal*. May 21, 1942.

<sup>13</sup> *Ontario Land Registry Historical Books*. York Region, Lot 47, Concession 1, Vaughan Township.

<sup>14</sup> Stamp, R. M. (1991): 261.

<sup>15</sup> "Local exhibit won first prize," *Liberal*. September 6, 1928.

<sup>16</sup> "Social and personal," *Liberal*. December 5, 1929.

<sup>17</sup> Marney Beck Robinson and Joan M. Clark. *Later Days in Richmond Hill: A History of the Community from 1930 to 1999*. Town of Richmond Hill Public Library Board, 1999: 95.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid*: 140.

<sup>19</sup> "Community mourns the sudden passing of Robert N. Endean," *Liberal*. September 14, 1939.

<sup>20</sup> 1931 Canadian Census. York North District, Richmond Hill Village Sub-District.



### Architecture:

Dating to 1891, the William Proctor Double House at 37 and 39 Centre Street West is a rare representative example of semi-detached late-Victorian 'Bay and Gable' residential architecture in Richmond Hill. The 'Bay and Gable' style, which reflects Queen Anne Revival architectural influences, has a distinctly urban character, reminiscent of the housing found in the late Victorian inner city neighbourhoods of neighbouring Toronto. Features which place the building in this style category are the house's semi-detached form and composition, steeply-gabled projecting bays on the house's front elevation, the paneled bargeboards, the single-coloured red brick cladding emphasizing texture and detail, and the asymmetrical façade of each unit.

The property at 37 and 39 Centre Street West is a two-storey brick-veneer semi-detached dwelling. Its plan is generally T-shaped, augmented with a pair of offset, slightly projecting two-storey bays on the front (south) elevation, a two-storey sunroom in the ell of No. 39, an open verandah in the ell of No. 37, and a single-storey frame addition at the rear (north).

The front wing of the building features a medium-pitched gabled roof, with steeply-pitched cross-gabled projecting bays. The projecting eaves are boxed and provide a wide overhang. Solid, paneled bargeboards with bullseye blocks decorate the gables of the south, east and west elevations. The rear wing has a gambrel roof with slightly flared eaves, but features plain fascia boards rather than the bargeboards seen elsewhere. All roof surfaces are clad in asphalt shingles. Gable-end, single-stack brick chimneys are located on the main block and rear wing.

The subject building is constructed of brick veneer, with rubblestone foundations. The walls are constructed of a deep red brick with red-coloured mortar featuring a decorative beaded joint. Decorative features of the single-coloured brickwork include radiating voussoirs over door and window openings, a plinth or water table, string courses on the south, east and west elevations of the main block, and a band of brickwork in a basket-weave pattern above ground floor windows in the projecting bays.

On the front (south) elevation, a string course extends horizontally across the wall above the ground floor, tracing the curved line of the top of the voussoirs of ground floor windows. A string course is also located in the upper portion of the gable-ends of the projecting bays.

On the side (east and west) elevations, the configuration of the string courses is similar to that of the front, but an additional string course is located above the second storey windows, and the string course in the gable-ends is at a higher level than on the front elevation.

Each unit has a two-bay front façade with the main entrance doors placed on either side of the internal dividing wall. The paneled wooden front doors are similar in style, but vary in detail. Both doors have glazed upper sections, and are surmounted by segmental-headed transom lights featuring coloured leaded glass. The glazed portion of the door at No. 39 is divided into twelve panes, while the glazed portion of the door at No. 37 is a single sheet of glass.

A variety of window styles have been used in the design of the building. Generally, all window openings have segmental heads except for the second storey windows of the projecting bays, which are half-rounded. Feature windows in the projecting bays have decorative coloured leaded glass transom lights. On the ground floor, the front windows also have leaded glass sidelights, an unusual detail. Each sash contains a single sheet of glass, typical of the period of construction. All windows have wooden lugsills.

Secondary windows are double-hung style and are tall and narrow in proportion. The paired, single-sashed attic windows in the east and west gable ends of the main block and the north-facing gable of the rear wing are tall and narrow in proportion, with slanting segmental heads connected to a large round-arched voussoir.

The raised rubblestone and concrete front porch features a hipped roof supported on Tuscan columns with rubblestone bases, and wrought-iron railings. This porch, while highly sympathetic in style to the house, is not original. The original front porch was likely similar in style to the existing verandah on the east elevation of the rear wing of No. 37. This hip-roofed verandah is supported on turned wooden posts and is decorated with fretwork brackets with a stylized tulip motif.

The original west verandah of No. 39 has been replaced by a two-storey sunroom of brick and frame construction, which dates to circa 1914.<sup>21</sup>

### **Context:**

The William Proctor Double House at 37 and 39 Centre Street West is located at the northeast corner of Centre Street West and Elizabeth Street North, within the historic core of Richmond Hill village. This semi-detached house is located on a large corner lot, and features a substantial landscaped side yard to the west of No. 39. This side yard, featuring open green space and mature trees, also contributes to the historic village character of the surrounding context.

While there is a large 1970s residential slab tower located immediately south of the subject properties, the predominant built form character of both Centre Street West and Elizabeth Street North in this area is defined by fine-grained late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> century residential built form. Surrounding buildings on the Heritage Register include 17 Elizabeth St N, 32 and 42 Richmond St to the north (collectively forming “Harrison’s Corners”), 11, 15, 25, and 29 Centre St W to the east, and 4, 10, 16, and 24 Elizabeth St N to the west.

Within this historic residential context, 37 and 39 Centre Street West’s scale and design, prominent corner location, and large landscaped side yard make it a strong visual anchor in this grouping of buildings of varying ages, shapes, styles and sizes.

---

<sup>21</sup> Richmond Hill Local Architectural Advisory Committee (LACAC), “Heritage Building Summary – 37/39 Centre Street West.” Richmond Hill Public Library, Local History and Genealogy Collection, date Unknown.

### **Compliance with Ontario Regulation 9/06 – Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest:**

The following evaluation applies Ontario Regulation 9/06, the prescribed provincial *Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest* under Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. There are a total of nine criteria under O. Reg. 9/06. A property may be designated under Section 29 of the Act if it meets two or more of the provincial criteria for determining whether it is of cultural heritage value or interest.

Criteria applicable to the property are outlined below, along with explanatory text.

**1. The property has design value or physical value because it is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method.**

Dating to 1891, the William Proctor Double House at 37 and 39 Centre Street West is a rare representative example of semi-detached late-Victorian ‘Bay and Gable’ residential architecture in Richmond Hill. The ‘Bay and Gable’ style, which reflects Queen Anne Revival influences, has a distinctly urban character, reminiscent of the housing found in the late Victorian inner city neighbourhoods of neighbouring Toronto. However, this architectural style is rare in Richmond Hill. Features representative of this style category are the house’s semi-detached form, the “mirror-image” composition of the front façades, steeply-gabled projecting bays on the house’s front elevation, the paneled bargeboards, the single-coloured red brick cladding featuring decorative masonry detailing of different textures and designs, and decorative art-glass windows.

**2. The property has design value or physical value because it displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.**

The William Proctor Double House also has design and physical value for the high degree of craftsmanship and artistic merit displayed in a number of its features, including the decorative masonry stringcourses and ‘basket-weave’ brickwork on the house’s south elevation, and the leaded art-glass window and door transoms on the south elevation. The original wood doors, windows, and paneled bargeboards with bullseyes also display a high degree of craftsmanship, and represent the wood finishes produced by the local Leslie Innes & Sons wood mill before the original mill was destroyed by fire in 1894.

**3. The property has design value or physical value because it demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.**

N/A

**4. The property has historical value or associative value because it has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community.**

37 Centre Street West has historical value for its direct associations with the Endean family and the Endean Nurseries business. Robert Endean moved into 37 Centre Street

West with his family in 1929, and the Endeans owned the property until 1987. The award-winning Endean nurseries were an integral part of the successful horticultural industry that developed in Richmond Hill in the first quarter of the twentieth century. The Endeans landscaped all of the TTC Yonge Line subway stations with one million small trees and shrubs when they opened in 1954, and landscaped Highway 11 in Richmond Hill in the 1960s. Robert Endean was also a significant member of the Richmond Hill community. Apart from acting as manager of the Endean Nursery, he was vice-president of the Richmond Hill Horticultural Society, served on Richmond Hill's Municipal Council in 1924, was a member of the Richmond Hill School Board, and a leader in the Masonic Order.

**5. The property has historical value or associative value because it yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture.**

N/A

**6. The property has historical value or associative value because it demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to a community.**

The William Proctor Double House at 37 and 39 Centre Street West was constructed in 1891 by local builder John L. Innes of the *L. Innes & Sons firm*. Leslie Innes & Sons were prolific builders and carpenters in Richmond Hill from the 1880s to the 1910s. The firm significantly contributed to the built form character of Richmond Hill village around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century through their construction projects, as well as the wooden finishes manufactured in their lumber mill, originally located on Richmond Street. The houses at 37 and 39 Centre Street West also display the wood finishes produced by the Leslie Innes & Sons wood mill before the original mill was destroyed by fire in 1894.

Other notable buildings constructed by the firm include the Leslie Innes House at 124 Richmond Street (1888), the Charles Mason Double House at 12-14 Church Street South (1891), the William Innes House at 297 Richmond Street (c. 1893), the Richmond Hill High School at 10268 Yonge Street (1897), the John L. Innes House at 131 Richmond Street (1903), and the M. L. McConaghy Public School at 10100 Yonge Street (1914).

**7. The property has contextual value because it is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area.**

Located on a prominent corner lot within the historic core of Richmond Hill village, the William Proctor Double House at 37 and 39 Centre Street West has contextual value as it defines, maintains, and supports the predominant fine-grained late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> century residential built form character of both Centre Street West and Elizabeth Street North. The side yard of 39 Centre Street West, which features open green space and mature trees, also contributes to the historic village character of the surrounding context.



## Page 9

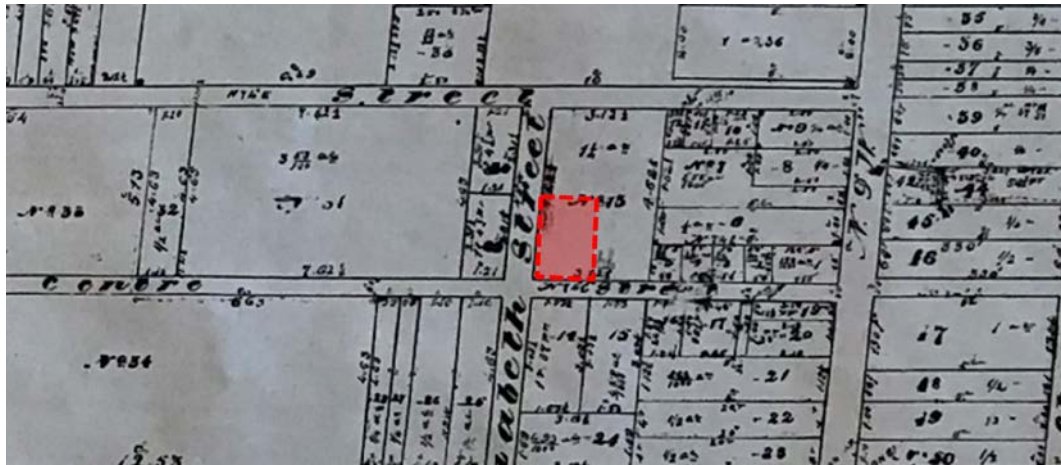
8. The property has contextual value because it is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings.

N/A

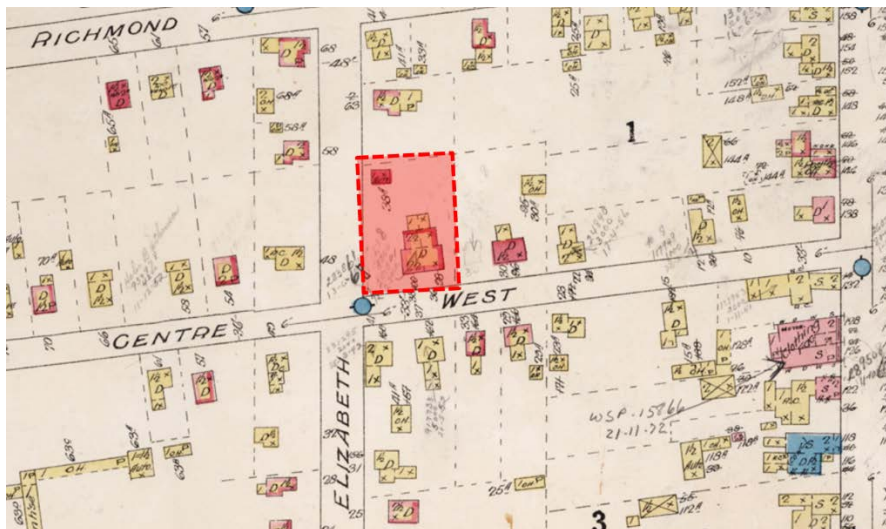
9. The property has contextual value because it is a landmark.

N/A

## Maps and Photographs



**Figure 1** Detail of the 1879 *Gibson's Plan of the Village of Richmond Hill*, with the approximate location of the property at 37 and 39 Centre Street West indicated in red. At the time, the property was part of Village Lot No. 13 at the northeast corner of Centre St W and Elizabeth St N (Source: Richmond Hill Public Library Local History and Genealogy Collection).



**Figure 2** Detail of the 1923 *Underwriter's Survey Bureau Limited Fire Insurance Plan of Richmond Hill*, with the approximate location of the Andrew Newton House indicated in red. The 'Endean Gardens' and greenhouses can also be seen on the south side of Centre St W, west of Elizabeth Street (Source: University of Toronto Library).



**Figure 3** 1907 photograph of Leslie and Mary Innes and their three sons on the porch of their home at 124 Richmond Street. (Left to right) Top: Alexander, John L. and William Innes. Bottom: Leslie and Mary Innes (Source: Richmond Hill Public Library Local History and Genealogy Collection).



**Figure 4** 1930s photograph of the Endean Garden Centre at Yonge and Elgin Mills (Source: Richmond Hill Public Library Local History and Genealogy Collection).





**Figure 5** Photograph looking north, showing the front (south) elevation of the William Proctor Double House at 37 and 39 Centre Street West. Note the projecting front bays with steeply-pitched gables and segmental and round-arched windows with coloured art-glass transoms and sidelights, the red brick cladding with stringcourses and basket-weave patterns, and the asymmetrical design of each semi-detached unit (Source: HUD, 2023).



**Figure 6** Detailed photographs of 37 (right) and 39 (left) Centre St W's projecting front bays, showing the coloured art-glass window transoms and sidelights, brick stringcourses and 'basket-weave' banding, and paneled bargeboards with bullseye motifs (Source: HUD, 2023).





**Figure 7** Detailed photograph of the front doors of 37 (right) and 39 (left) Centre St W, showing the original wood paneled doors with glazed upper sections and coloured art-glass transoms (Source: HUD, 2023).



**Figure 8** Photograph showing the side (east) elevation of 37 Centre Street West. Note the medium-pitched gabled roof with bargeboard trim, segmental-arched windows, slanting segmental-arched attic windows, brick stringcourses, and the original hip-roofed verandah at the rear (far right) with turned wooden posts and fretwork brackets with a stylized tulip motif (Source: HUD, 2023).



**Figure 9** Photograph showing the side (west) elevation of 39 Centre Street West. Note the medium-pitched gabled roof with bargeboard trim, segmental-arched windows, slanting segmental-arched attic windows, and brick stringcourses. Also note the non-original rear sunroom addition on the far left (Source: HUD, 2023).



**Figure 10** Photograph showing the rear (north) elevation of 37 and 39 Centre Street West. Note the gambrel roof and slanting segmental-arched attic windows (Source: HUD, 2023).



### Sources:

#### Archival Sources

*Census of Canada*, 1891, 1901, 1911, 1921, 1931.

*Commemorative Biographical Record of the County of York*. Toronto: J. H. Beers & Co., 1907.

"Community mourns the sudden passing of Robert N. Endean." *Liberal*, Sept 14, 1939.

"Died in his 92<sup>nd</sup> Year." *Liberal*, Jul 24 1919.

Gibson, P. S. *Plan of the Village of Richmond Hill in the County of York*, 1879.

"Local exhibit won first prize." *Liberal*, Sept 6, 1928.

"Obituary - Late Mrs. Margaret Comisky." *Liberal*, Dec 29, 1938.

"Obituary – Late John L. Innes." *Liberal*, Jul 2, 1936.

"Obituary." *Liberal*, May 21, 1942.

*Ontario Land Registry Abstract/Parcel Register Book*. York Region, Concession 1, Lot 47, Vaughan Township (Richmond Hill).

Richmond Hill Local Architectural Advisory Committee (LACAC). "Heritage Building Summary – 37/39 Centre Street West." Richmond Hill Public Library, Local History and Genealogy Collection, date Unknown.

Richmond Hill Public Library, Digital Archives.

Richmond Hill Public Library, Photographic Collection.

*Richmond Hill Voters List*, 1891, 1894, 1896, 1897.

"Shingles!" *Liberal*, April 13, 1899.

"Social and personal." *Liberal*, December 5, 1929.

Underwriter's Survey Bureau Limited. *Fire Insurance Plan of Richmond Hill, Ontario*. Toronto & Montreal: Underwriter's Survey Bureau Limited, 1923.

"Way Back in Liberal Files." *Liberal*, February 3, 1938.

#### Secondary Sources

Champion, Isabel (ed.). *Markham 1793-1900*. Markham: Markham District Historical Society, 1989.

Champion, Mary B. (ed.). *Markham Remembered: A Photographic History of Old Markham Township*. Markham: Markham District Historical Society, 1988.

Fayle, Janet. "A Brief History of Richmond Hill." Town of Richmond Hill LACAC, 1993.

Maitland, Leslie, Jacqueline Hucker, and Shannon Ricketts. *A Guide to Canadian Architectural Styles*. Peterborough ON: Broadview Press, 1992.

Reaman, G. Elmore. *A History of Vaughan Township*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1971.

Stamp, Robert M. *Early Days in Richmond Hill: A History of the Community to 1930*. Richmond Hill: Richmond Hill Public Library Board, 1991.

Robinson, Marney Beck and Joan M. Clark. *Later Days in Richmond Hill: A History of the Community from 1930 to 1999*. Town of Richmond Hill Public Library Board, 1999.