



## CITY CLERK

Clause embodied in Report No. 3 of the Toronto East Community Council, as adopted by the Council of the City of Toronto at its Special meeting on April 15 and 16, 2004.

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### **5933 Steeles Avenue East (Underwood House) Inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties (Ward 41 - Scarborough Rouge River)**

*(City Council on April 15 and 16, 2004, adopted this Clause, without amendment.)*

**The Toronto East Community Council recommends that the staff recommendations be struck out and replaced with the following:**

**“It is recommended that the Owner undertake, to the satisfaction of the City Solicitor, to provide the City with first right of refusal to relocate all or part of the building located at 5933 Steeles Avenue East (Underwood House) at any time that he decides to develop the land and that the Owner be requested to commit to so notify the City.”**

**The Toronto East Community Council submits the following report (January 13, 2004) from the Commissioner of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism:**

Purpose:

This report recommends that the property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East (Underwood House) be included on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

Financial Implications and Impact Statement:

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that:

- (1) City Council include the property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East (Underwood House) on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties; and
- (2) the appropriate City Officials be authorized and directed to take the necessary action to give effect thereto.

### Background:

Department staff have evaluated the site and determined that it merits inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties as a property of cultural heritage value or interest.

The Reasons for Listing are outlined below. A location map (Attachment No. 1) and photograph (Attachment No. 2) are attached.

### Reasons for Listing:

The property at 5933 Steeles Avenue is recommended for inclusion on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties as a site of cultural heritage value or interest. Located on the south side of Steeles Avenue between Middlefield and Markham Roads, the house was built for the Underwood family in circa 1891. The building is architecturally notable as a prevalent late 19<sup>th</sup> century design stemming from the expansion of the Ontario cottage.

Underwood House has an L-shaped plan and an asymmetrical composition. Heritage attributes are found on the exterior of the building. Rising one and a half stories from a stone foundation, the house is faced in a running bond pattern of red brick. Decoration is limited to the lintels above the windows, which are painted to resemble label mouldings. The fenestration of the residence consists of two-over-two, wood-frame windows set between segmental openings and painted sills. Entrances with the same painted, segmental surrounds are positioned in the south (front) and west elevations. The west entrance is protected by a wooden roof hood attached to the wall by wood brackets. On the south elevation, the traditional full length porch has been replaced by a shorter and simpler structure (the current porch is not included in the Reasons for Listing). The roofline of the façade is highlighted by a peaked, secondary gable centred roughly over the front door. The prominent cross-gable on the west end of the façade accommodates a single stack, exterior brick chimney. At the rear of the building there is a single storey wood addition, sheltered by a peaked roof, that features a fenestration pattern that corresponds with the house.

### Comments:

Due to the merit of the Underwood House at 5933 Steeles Avenue Culture Division staff would like to emphasize the timely nature of listing the property on the City Inventory as it is located within the Tapscott Employment District, an area subject to development pressures.

### Conclusions:

It is recommended that City Council include the property at 5933 Steeles Avenue East (Underwood House) on the City of Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

### Contact:

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The Toronto East Community Council also considered a communication (January 22, 2004) from the Toronto Preservation Board recommending the adoption of this report.

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Mr. Kung Yeung, Owner, and Mr. Richard Schofield, Chair, Scarborough Community Preservation Panel, appeared before the Community Council in connection with the foregoing matter.