

NOTICE OF INTENT TO DESIGNATE UNDER THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

Re: Notice of Intent to Designate 8795 Keele Street pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

INTENT TO DESIGNATE UNDER THE *ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT*

Please take notice that the Council of the Corporation of the City of Vaughan intends to designate for reasons of cultural heritage value or interest, pursuant to Part IV, Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* the property municipally known as **8795 Keele Street** in the City of Vaughan, in the Province of Ontario.

REASONS FOR PROPOSED DESIGNATION

The red brick church located at 8795 Keele Street is a solid example of the symmetrically arranged early Gothic Revival architectural style, complete with pointed arch windows, steeply pitched roof, and a small tower at the top. The main façade faces Keele Street.

The Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church is situated on the lot that was historically owned by the Keffer family. The congregation was formed in 1806 by Jacob Keffer, Michael Keffer, and Jacob Fischer (Fisher), who had also arrived from Pennsylvania in the same year. Jacob Keffer deeded a portion of the western half of the lot for the church in 1811, and the lot would remain in the Keffer family until 1962. The current brick structure was later built in 1860. Though there were years when the church was without a pastor, efforts were made to help the church. Jacob Keffer served as lay reader and instructed the children in the catechism. Records indicate that Sunday School was not only a regular fixture but was also open to those who were not of the Lutheran faith.

8795 Keele Street is historically linked to its setting and is a longstanding feature in the area. The existing structure is highly visible from the road. While the area surrounding the church has transitioned to becoming more industrial over the years, the function of the church as a place of worship, a place for religious education, as well as bringing people together to create a community within the Vaughan area has remained.

A copy of this Notice of Intent to Designate may be found on the City of Vaughan's Heritage Notice webpage: [Heritage Notices | City of Vaughan](#)

A full statement of the Cultural Heritage Value of this property may be obtained through linking to the original [Heritage Vaughan](#) report.

ANY PERSON MAY, within thirty (30) days of the first publication of this Notice, send by registered mail or deliver to the Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Vaughan, a notice of objection to the proposed designation together with a statement of the reasons for the objection and all relevant facts, on or before 4:30 p.m. **Friday October 18, 2024** to be sent by registered mail or dropped off in person to:

Office of the City Clerk, City of Vaughan
2141 Major Mackenzie Drive West
Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1

Objections can also be submitted via email at: clerks@vaughan.ca If a notice of objection is received, the Clerk will refer the matter to the City of Vaughan Council for reconsideration.

Dated at Vaughan this **18th day of September, 2024**

Todd Coles, City Clerk