

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 23, 2015

Item 22, Report No. 24, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 23, 2015.

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THE GALLANOUGH BUILDING

The Committee of the Whole recommends:

- 1) That the following be approved:
 1. That staff prepare a heritage designation report in consultation with the Heritage Vaughan committee, providing a comprehensive summary of the architectural, historical and contextual value of the Gallanough Building;
 2. That subject to its review of the staff report, this Council designate the Gallanough Building as an architecturally and historically significant building under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act; and
 3. That this designation have the impact of ensuring that any proposed changes to the architecturally and historically significant features of the building must be reviewed by the City within the context of the impact on its architectural and historical significance; and
- 2) That the following resolution submitted by Councillor Shefman, dated June 2, 2015, be received.

Member's Resolution

Submitted by Councillor Alan Shefman.

Whereas, it is important to ensure that architecturally and historically significant buildings in the City of Vaughan are maintained in a manner that preserves their distinctive features, and

Whereas, the Gallanough building is an architecturally and historically significant building in the City of Vaughan, and,

Whereas, R. Napier Simpson, a renowned and significant Canadian architect, designed the Gallanough Building; and,

Therefore be it resolved that this Council designate the Gallanough Building as an architecturally and historically significant building under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act; and,

That staff prepare a heritage designation report in consultation with Heritage Vaughan committee, providing a comprehensive summary of the architectural, historical and contextual value of the building; and,

That this designation has the impact of ensuring that any proposed changes to the architecturally and historically significant features of the building must be reviewed by the City within the context of the impact on its architectural and historical significance.



MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Meeting/Date: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - JUNE 2, 2015

Title: THE GALLANOUGH BUILDING

Submitted by: Councillor Alan Shefman

Whereas, it is important to ensure that architecturally and historically significant buildings in the City of Vaughan are maintained in a manner that preserves their distinctive features, and

Whereas, the Gallanough building is an architecturally and historically significant building in the City of Vaughan, and,

Whereas, R. Napier Simpson, a renowned and significant Canadian architect, designed the Gallanough Building; and,

Therefore be it resolved that this Council designate the Gallanough Building as an architecturally and historically significant building under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act; and,

That staff prepare a heritage designation report in consultation with Heritage Vaughan committee, providing a comprehensive summary of the architectural, historical and contextual value of the building; and,

That this designation has the impact of ensuring that any proposed changes to the architecturally and historically significant features of the building must be reviewed by the City within the context of the impact on its architectural and historical significance.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Alan Shefman

Attachments

B. Napier Simpson Jr. Historical Plaque

BACKGROUND TO: THE GALLANOUGH BUILDING SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR SHEFMAN**A Brief History of Gallanough:**

The Gallanough Building is named in memory of the Gallanough family who first bought land and settled in Thornhill in 1823. The Gallanough family played many active roles in the community for over 100 years.

Much of the funds used to erect the building came from a \$200,000 bequest left by the late Dr. Frederick Gallanough to "establish a memorial to the Gallanough family in or about the area presently known as Thornhill..."

The property was generously donated by Joseph Tanenbaum, a well-known local developer. The Thornhill Lions Club donated trees and shrubs.

Renowned Architect Napier Simpson designed the building. Mr. Simpson was quoted at the time as saying that his design was in keeping with the "softer rural feeling of Thornhill."

Mayor Garnet A. Williams presided over the original opening ceremony on October 18, 1975 when the facility opened its doors as the Gallanough Library, part of the Vaughan Public Library system. The Gallanough continued in that role until the Library board closed it in May 1996.

The Gallanough Resource Centre opened on November 8, 1999 as a community run facility. As a Not for Profit Corporation with Charitable Status the Gallanough is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors.

Simpson House



Photos by Alan L Brown - Posted September, 2006



A 1989 Toronto Historical Board plaque in front of this house at 191 Winchester Street east of Parliament Street in Riverdale Farm has this to say:

This building, designed to represent the 1850s house on the Francy Farm in Markham Township, is the work of architect B. Napier Simpson Jr., (1925-1978). The large 1840s Pennsylvania German-type barn was donated by the Francy Family and re-erected here on the site of the old Riverdale Zoo. The house and barn were built by the original settlers and acquired by the Francy family in 1875. Napier Simpson was nationally renowned as an expert in building conservation and restoration. A member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, the Ontario Heritage Trust, the Ontario St. Lawrence Development Commission, the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario and the Toronto Historical Board, and consulting architect to the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, B. Napier Simpson Jr. served with untiring devotion in the field of heritage conservation. This was his last major project in the city.