

**4. PROPOSED DESIGNATION UNDER PART IV OF THE  
ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT OF GALLANOUGH RESOURCE CENTRE**

**Recommendation**

The Manager of Urban Design and Cultural Heritage recommends:

1. That the Designation Report for the Gallanough Resource Centre at 1 Brooke Street (Attachment 2) BE RECEIVED; and,
2. That staff be directed to proceed with the designation of 1 Brooke Street as set out in Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act

**Contribution to Sustainability**

This report is consistent with the goals and objectives within *Green Directions Vaughan*, the City's Community Sustainability and Environmental Master Plan, specifically:

Goal 4: To create a vibrant community where citizens, business and visitors thrive

*Objective 4.1: "To foster a city with strong social cohesion, an engaging arts scene, and a clear sense of its culture and heritage"*

**Economic Impact**

There are no requirements for new funding associated with this report.

**Communications Plan**

All agenda items and minutes relating to Heritage Vaughan committee meetings are circulated to relevant City departments, applicants and their representatives.

**Purpose**

The purpose of this report is for Heritage Vaughan to consider the proposed Part IV Designation of the Gallanough Resource Centre, located at 1 Brooke Street.

**Background - Analysis and Options**

**Request from Council**

Council requested staff to prepare a designation report to determine the possibility of a Part IV Designation of the Gallanough Resource Library on June 23, 2015. The following was the recommendation:

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.

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.*

## **Designation Process**

In accordance with Part IV, Section 29 of Ontario Heritage Act the heritage designation process includes the following:

- Designation Report to determine if property is of cultural heritage value
- Report brought to Heritage Vaughan for consultation
- Report brought to Council
- Council decision
- Notice of intention to Designate to City Clerk, Owner, Newspaper (or alternative)
- 30 days notice required
- If no objection received, Council passes designation by-law
- By-law served on the Owner and Ontario Heritage Trust, registered in land registry office, and notice published in newspaper (or alternative)

If an objection is received during the 30 day period, the matter is referred to the Conservation Review Board

### **Designation Report**

A Designation Report has been prepared by Cultural Heritage staff to determine the cultural heritage value of the Gallanough Resource Centre (See Attachment 2).

### **Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020/Strategic Plan**

This report is consistent with the priorities set forth in Vaughan Vision 2020 / Strategic Plan, specifically:

Service Excellence: Preserve our Heritage & Support Diversity, Arts & Culture

### **Regional Implications**

N/A

### **Conclusion**

Cultural Heritage Staff recommends that the Gallanough Resource Centre be approved for Part IV Designation as per the Ontario Heritage Act due to its architectural, historical, and contextual significance.

### **Attachments**

1. Location Map
2. Designation Report for the Gallanough Resource Centre, 1 Brooke Street

### **Report prepared by:**

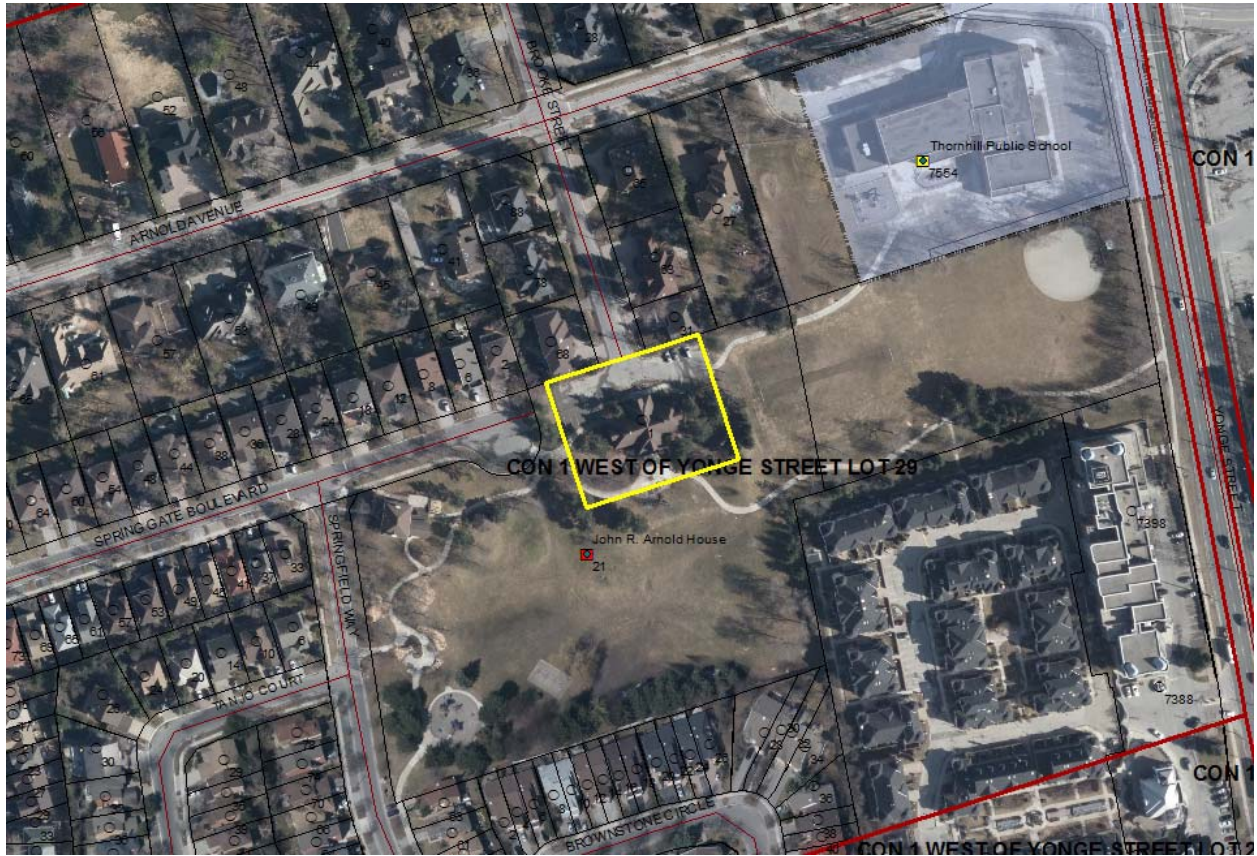
Daniel Rende, Cultural Heritage Coordinator, ext. 8112  
Katrina Guy, Cultural Heritage Coordinator, ext. 8115  
Moir Wilson, Sr. Urban Designer, ext. 8353

Respectfully submitted,

ROB BAYLEY  
Manager of Urban Design and Cultural Heritage  
Development Planning Department

/CM

LOCATION MAP



Gallanough Resource Centre, 1 Brooke Street

# Designation Report

## Gallanough Resource Centre



**Report Prepared by:**

**Daniel Rende, Cultural Heritage Coordinator**

## **Katrina Guy, Cultural Heritage Coordinator**

**October 7, 2015**

### **Summary**

The property at 1 Brooke Street is worthy of designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act for its cultural heritage value or interest. The property meets the criteria as set out by the Province of Ontario under Ontario Heritage Act Regulation 9/06 for the categories of design/physical, historical/associative and contextual value.

### **Description of Property**

The Gallanough Resource Centre is located at the foot of Brooke Street, a street that runs parallel to Yonge Street one block to the west. The property is located on the edge of historic Thornhill and acts as one entrance to a public park to the south of it. The site is outside of the Thornhill Vaughan Heritage Conservation District boundaries.

Neighbouring land uses are low rise residential to the north, a public park and low rise residential to the south, low rise residential to the west and higher densities and mixed use to the east along Yonge Street. The Gallanough Resource Centre is located to the east of the John R. Arnold House (Designation by-law 74-82) and both properties border onto the adjacent public park.

### **Statement of Cultural Value or Interest**

The Gallanough Resource Centre contains architectural, historical, and contextual significance as a community facility that was made possible by donations from Frederick Gallanough and Joe Tanenbaum, becoming a focal point for the nearby community. The building was designed by an architect well respected in the heritage conservation field, Bruce Napier Simpson Jr., in a Prairie and Arts and Crafts architectural style that draws the building into the nearby park and relates to the rural nature of historic Thornhill.

### **Design/Physical Value**

The property at 1 Brooke Street represents two significant influences of 20<sup>th</sup> century design: Arts and Crafts style and the Prairie style. The building was initially designed to function as a library and public space and continues to serve that purpose.

The Arts and Crafts architectural style, sometimes noted as the Bungalow style, was popular in Vaughan and throughout North America at different periods. In Vaughan, Arts and Crafts buildings were built in 1930s to 1950s in both the Thornhill and Maple Heritage Conservation Districts.

The style is a response to earlier Edwardian styles and uses less ornamentation and utilizes massing and materials that relate to the natural landscape. A description of the Arts and Crafts style from OntarioArchitecture.com writes "Respect for materials, attention to sunlight and

garden space, and ornament based on natural objects were standard features in most of their designs” (Shannon Kyles).

Key features of the Arts and Crafts style include (Thornhill Heritage Conservation District Plan):

- low heights of 1 to 1.5 storeys
- architecture and earth-tone materials that blend into the landscape
- bold columns, windows, and features
- brick construction
- exposed rafters

The Prairie style, attributed to Frank Lloyd Wright, is similar in some ways to the Arts and Crafts style but includes more straight horizontal elements in addition to low hipped roofs. The Gallanough Resource Centre is a 1.5 storey building of brick construction with a symmetrical façade and large roof. All of the windows contain bold window-surrounds with little to no ornamentation. The building is expressed through its overall massing as oppose to its details.

### **Historical or Associative Value**

James Gallanough bought land in Concession 1, Lot 30 in 1823 and was one of the early pioneers of Thornhill. Gallanough was a carpenter by trade and was believed to have worked on some of the earlier buildings in Thornhill. A surviving example would be the property at the corner of Colborne Street and Yonge Street (now located in Markham) which was built on land purchased by Archibald Gallanough in 1843 (Doris M. Fitzgerald, 1973). The municipal address of the site is 7707 Yonge Street and it is Designated Part V under the Ontario Heritage Act by the City of Markham (City of Markham).

One of his descendants, Frederick Gallanough, was a veterinarian who passed away on June 1, 1959 and left a bequest of \$200,000 in order to establish a memorial to the Gallanough family, a prominent family within the Thornhill Village (Doris M. Fitzgerald). The land was donated by Joseph Tanenbaum, a local developer of Runnymede Developments who built the nearby Spring Farm subdivision (Gallanough Resource Centre) (Etan Diamond, 2000). The area that became Spring Farm, bounded by Arnold Avenue, York Hill Boulevard, Bathurst Street, and Yonge Street, was purchased by Tanenbaum in the 1960s on the assumption that development would continue north along Bathurst Street up to Vaughan Township. The Spring Farm development was marketed as a complete community with all required amenities nearby – schools, a community centre, places of worship, parks, and stores, and a library fit into this plan (Stephen Speisman, 1999).

In Frederick Gallanough’s Will, he bequest money to be used for a memorial to the Gallanough family in one of three forms:

- “a library building to be erected and known as the ‘Gallanough Public Library’”
- “a park with a bandstand to be known as the ‘Gallanough Gardens’”
- “a picnic area to be known as the ‘Gallanough Picnic Grounds’”

The Will stipulated that the memorial be located in the area known as Thornhill, either in the Town of Markham or the Town of Vaughan. As such, the Town of Markham passed a by-law on June 25, 1974 that they release interest into the Estate of Gallanough (Ronald King, 1974).

The building was designed by architect Bruce Napier Simpson Jr. who said that he designed the building to relate to the “softer rural feeling of Thornhill” (Gallanough Resource Centre). Simpson, an architecture graduate of the University of Toronto, lived from 1925 – 1978. He was “a highly respected restoration architect in Ontario” and a native of Thornhill. Simpson was thoroughly involved with heritage preservation in Ontario and was 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, as well as the consulting architect to the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Simpson was involved in several projects including the Black Creek Pioneer Village, Century Village, and the Historic Naval and Military Establishments at Penetanguishene (Ontario Heritage Trust). Dr. Anthony Adamson, author of the Ancestral Roof, commissioned Simpson to design a house for himself. Other notable restoration projects included the Gibson House in Willowdale and the Thornhill Village Library in Markham (Thornhill Women’s Institute, volume 1) (Toronto Historical Board, 1989).

The building was opened on October 18, 1975 as a Vaughan Public Library.

The building ceased to function as a Vaughan public library in May 1996, but reopened on November 8, 1999 as a community-run facility owned by the City of Vaughan (Gallanough Resource Centre).

### **Contextual Significance**

The building is sited at the foot of Brooke Street, assigned address 1 Brooke Street, and creates a vista along Brooke Street from the Gallanough Resource Centre up north to Thornridge Drive. The building acts as a terminus and a gateway to the public park that is located behind it as well.

The Gallanough Resource Centre has contextual value to the old Village of the Thornhill in its commemoration of an early Thornhill family and the more recent community of Spring Farm. The building would function and continues to function as a community hub for the surrounding community.

### **Description of Heritage Attributes**

#### **General Aspects**

- Symmetrical facades and plan
- Earth-tone materials
- Bold and simple details
- Large roof area



- Single interior space for library floor

## **North, West, East, South facades**

### Front (North)

- Symmetrical façade
- 3-paneled window on upper storey
- Central entrance
- Opposing sets of 4 windows on side wings
- Opposing chimneys
- Brown brick
- Dark brown asphalt shingles
- Bold simple window surrounds
- Row-lock of bricks 2 feet above the ground
- Simple vergeboard on central gable

### Right (West)

- 2-panel window on front entrance
- 3-paneled window with thick window surround and window sill
- Grading dips down to rear of the building into small amphitheater
- Row-lock of bricks 2 feet above the ground
- 2-paneled window on lower level at rear

### Left (East)

- 2-paneled window on rear entrance
- Row-lock of bricks 2 feet above the ground
- 2-paneled window on lower level at rear
- 3-paneled window with thick window surround and window sill
- "Library" sign
- Simple vergeboard on gable
- 2-paneled window on front entrance

### Rear (South)

#### Rear Left

- 4-paneled window on top floor, thick window surround
- Matching 2-paneled windows on bottom floor, thick window surround
- Wood-paneled entrance door to left with thick door surround
- Elevator entrance (not a contributing attribute)
- Row-lock continues at same height as front elevation, divides lower and upper storey

### Rear Central

- Rear entrance is as prominent as front entrance although it is not used as main entrance. This entrance leads onto park public park with tables and benches
- Central entrance
- 3-paneled window on upper storey
- Simple vergeboard on central gable
- Gallanough Memorial Library sign

### Rear Right

- 4-paneled window on top floor, thick window surround
- Matching 2-paneled windows on bottom floor, thick window surround
- Wood-paneled entrance door to left with thick door surround
- Row-lock continues at same height as front elevation, divides lower and upper storey

### **Interior Features / Description**

- Exposed wooden rafters
- Central second floor loft with windows to front and rear entrance and side windows and Juliet balconies overlooking main library floor
- Juliet balconies have “flat” or “false” balusters
- With exception of 2<sup>nd</sup> floor loft, main library area is one storey with high ceilings
- Wooden railing on inside of four-paneled main floor windows
- All interior windows and doors are original and contain same bold surrounds as exterior windows and doors

### **Historical/Associative Value**

- Designed by architect Bruce Napier Simpson Jr.
- Associated with the Gallanough Family of Thornhill
- Associated with the post-World War II community of the Spring Farm subdivision community

### **Contextual Value**

- Contributes to the character of Brooke Street and Spring Farm subdivision
- Contextually relates to the park surroundings and creates a gateway to the adjacent public park

## Sources

*The majority of sources are courtesy of the City of Vaughan Archives, City Clerk's Office*

City of Markham – Register of Property of Cultural Heritage Value of Interest accessed at [www.markham.ca](http://www.markham.ca)

Etan Diamond. (2000) *And I will Dwell in their Midst: Orthodox Jews in suburbia*. Chapel Hill and London: University of North Carolina Press.

Frederick James Gallanough Will,

Doris M. Fitzgerald, City of Vaughan. ( January 8, 1973). "Gallanough Estate Request", Finance Report to Council

Gallanough Resource Centre website, "About Gallanough" webpage. Url: [http://www.gallanough.com/pages/about\\_gallanough.html](http://www.gallanough.com/pages/about_gallanough.html)

Ronald King. (July 15, 1974). Letter from City Solicitor Ronald King, Town of Markham to Town of Vaughan

Shannon Kyles, Ontario Architecture Website – Url: <http://www.ontarioarchitecture.com/>

Thornhill Heritage Conservation District Plan

Ontario Heritage Trust. Plaque Information Inventory for B. Bapier Simpson Jr. 1925-1978. Url: <http://www.heritagetrust.on.ca/Resources-and-Learning/Online-Plaque-Guide/Plaque-information.aspx?searchtext=3>

Thornhill Women's Institute, written histories, volume 1

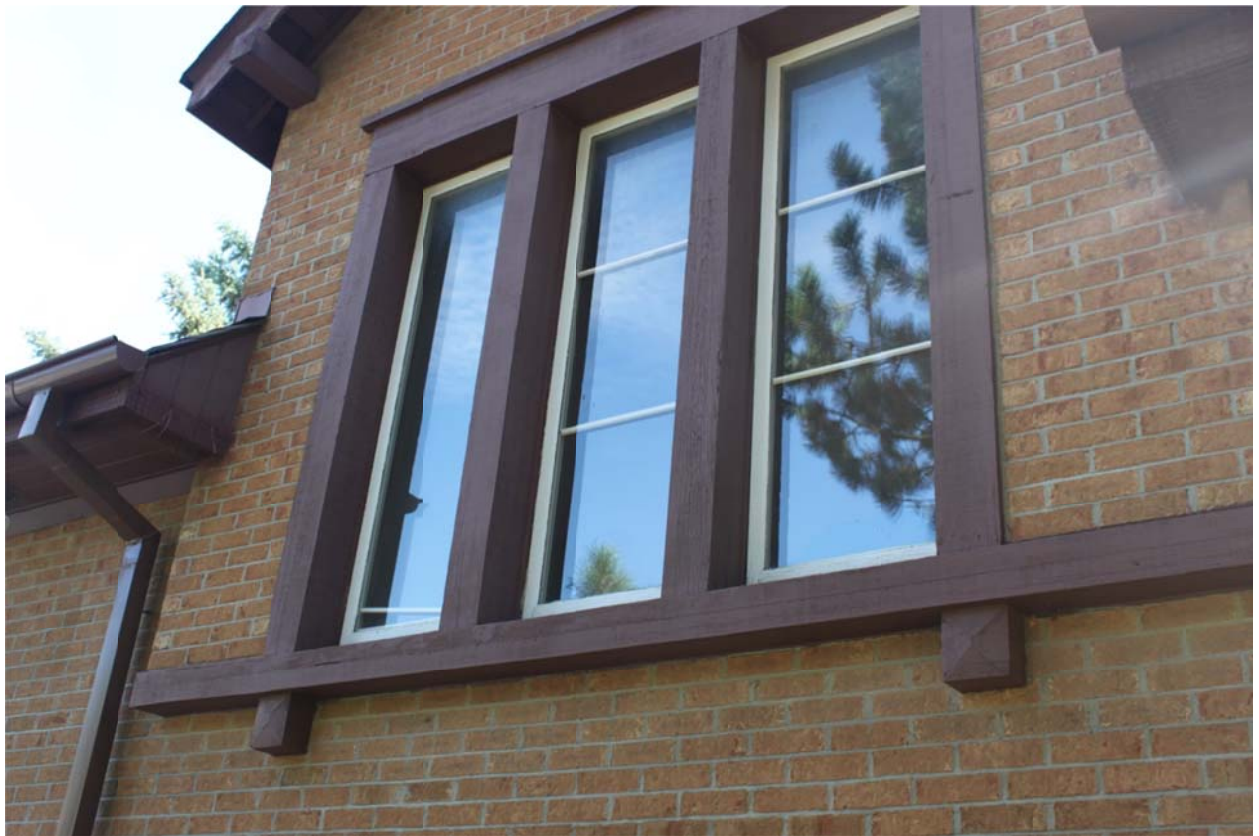
Toronto Historical Board Plaque for Simpson House, (1989). Accessed from City of Vaughan Committee of the Whole Report, Item 22, Report No. 24, June 2, 2015.

Stephen A. Speisman. (1999, October 25). Eighteen Years at BAYT from *Beth Avraham Yoseph of Toronto Congregation 18th Anniversary Gala Dinner program*.

Appendix 1 – Photos of Property taken by Cultural Heritage staff September 18, 2015









































Appendix 3 – Photos of Arts and Crafts / Bungalow Style building from Old Ontario Houses: Traditions in Local Architecture by Tom Cruickshank (2009)





Appendix 4 – Photos of Prairie style building from Old Ontario Houses: Traditions in Local Architecture by Tom Cruickshank (2009)



## Connors House

### Ottawa

Frank Lloyd Wright had a disciple in Francis Sullivan, an Ottawa architect who studied under the great innovator. As the brains behind what came to be known as the Prairie style, Wright freed himself from the conventions of his craft to create his own uniquely 20th-century approach to homebuilding. The old rules of symmetry and ornament were gone in favour of a style more organic and responsive to earth, sun and site.

You can see Wright's influence in the trademark wide eaves and the decided horizontal emphasis of Sullivan's 1914 design for a home for Edward P. Connors. Although in its day a dramatic departure from the ordinary, the Connors house is more conventional than anything ever produced by the master. Indeed, Wright would never have placed a front door in such an obvious place. Nevertheless, the house shines as a handsome representative of the Prairie school, a style that is remarkably rare in Ontario.



Appendix 5 – Photos of Arts and Crafts / Bungalows from Ontario Architecture: A guide to style and building terms 1784 to the present by John Blumenson (1990)

**Bungalow (1900-1945)**

*While from the street many Bungalows appear to be modest dwellings, the side elevations reveal two and even three floors of living space. (19-7, Brampton; 19-8, Wellington; 19-9, Leamington; 19-10, Thunder Bay; and 19-11, Petrolia)*

19-7



19-8

