

1075 Gorham St. Newmarket On.

September 13, 2002.

Legal Description: Plan 383 Lot 2., 0.41acre, irregular
Assessment Roll: 040 198 650

Present Owner: Tony Drew 905-895-6211

This property was historically a part of lot 33 in the 2nd concession of Whitchurch Township, consisting of 200 acres measuring 1 ¼ miles running west to east by ¼ mile north to south.

Very early after the survey of the township, Gorham Street was laid out running from the 2nd Concession (Bayview,) Newmarket, (Water St.,) to the 3rd Concession, (Leslie St.) which divided the property into a 100 acre lot on the north side of Gorham and a similar size lot on the south side of the Street.

It was originally designated a Crown Reserve, and there is evidence, (Township Papers, #00285,) the whole lot was first leased to Joseph Hill, July 13, 1802, and then May 21, 1820. to Elisha Beman. This early activity has to do with the front of the property, actually in Newmarket at the dam and mill site of Hill, (Bayview ended in the mill pond,) Newmarket's first miller, which he lost to Elisha Beman, but that is another story.

On January 3rd 1824, The Crown sold the 200 acre property to King's College, (the first patentee,) part of the University and Colleges at Toronto. We don't think they occupied the land but leased it to local farmers for pasturage, etc., although there is no evidence of this.

On August 18th, 1853, David Buchan, Bursar of the University and Colleges at Toronto sold the 100 acre north half lot for 175 Pounds to William *Beverley* Robinson, James Henderson and William Roe, Executors under the Will of the late John Thomson of Newmarket.

Note: William Beverley Robinson QC. A stepson of Elisha Beman and prominent Toronto Lawyer and member of the Provincial legislature, and William Roe Newmarket's first Post master and prominent business man. John Thomson had been a physician and surgeon in Newmarket. His executors were investing some of his money to benefit his estate.

Then, On October 31, 1853 Thomson's executors sold the same property to William Andrew Clarke, a merchant in the City of Toronto, for 800 pounds.

In November of the same year Clarke using the property as security gets a mortgage from Edmund Samuel Lally et ux,(he passes title to them,) but in May of 1854 he pays off the

mortgage and regains title to the property. It is in this instrument of 1854 there is a first mention of, "Land and Premises."

Clarke subdivides the 100 acres into "Villa Lots," and disposes of much of them to various other people and for various considerations depending on the size and location of the lots, the majority of which were within Newmarket's village limits. Note: The survey of subdivision was by J.J. Passmore Provincial Land surveyor on the 8th day of May 1854 and Registered in the Registry Office for the County of York

At some point in early 1854 Clarke dies, and on October 13th, 1854, William McMaster, James Mitchell, and Robert James the Younger, assignees of his estate, sell villa lots 34 and 35 to Henry Minthorn (Mintren) a carpenter and resident of East Gwillimberry for 700 pounds.

We are not sure of the quantity of land in this transaction though some records suggest it was some 13 acres as lot 35 was of irregular shape while lot 34 was a proper rectangle, whereas in the Census records of 1861 it is listed as 15 acres.

The first listing of a house on this property is from the Whitchurch Twp. Census of 1861, (Stouffville Public Library.) It lists Henry (47), his wife Elizabeth (Lundy) (44) and children Charles (23) and William (19), occupying a frame one story house on 15 acres of which 8 acres are under cultivation and 7 classified as wild.

The house in question is situated on the corner property facing south on Gorham St., and the east side lot on Leslie Street. There was a barn further west along the street since demolished and built over.

At some later point the frontage of the 2 lots along Gorham Street are subdivided into 8 lots. Fronting on Gorham Street and is registered as 383-2, a plan of subdivision of lot 35 and part 34, Plan 103 Township of Whitchurch.

Dating of the house has been very difficult as the land was first a Crown Reserve until 1824 and then the property of an absentee landowner until 1853. There is no evidence of any building activity, except in the Lally deed of 1854 when "Premises," is noted. We know the property was leased during the earlier period but cannot believe any tenant would build a house and barn and face the consequences of losing them through the termination of a lease and cannot see that the previous landowners did so. There is a sort of chronology of ownership from Minthorn (Mintren) forward taken from the Tweedmuir Papers, a series of documents prepared by the local Women's Institutes during, we believe,) the 1930's.

With all of the above we can only conclude that house was built by Henry Minthorn (Mintren,) carpenter in 1855.

M.Paul Millard

File Summary

Street Name: GORHAM

Street Number: ~~107~~ 1075

Assessments Role #: 040 198 650-00

Date File Started: Aug. 6th /02

Legal Description: PL 383 LOT 2

Photograph Included: yes ☐ no ☐

Lot Area (sf.): 0.41 AC irregular

Map Included: yes ☐ no ☐

Lot Frontage (ft.): 71.00

Lot Depth (ft.): _____

Title Search Included: yes ☐ no ☐

Plaque Status: _____

First Owner: _____

Occupation: _____

Date of Construction: _____

Building Inventory Completed:

yes ☐ no ☐

Builder: _____

Architect: _____

Structure & Style: _____

Designation Status: _____

Documents Included in the File:

Miscellaneous Info:

current Owner
Tony Drew
(905) 895-6211

- used to be "Bogart Town"
Whitchurch Township
NW corner of Gochon and Leslie
Farmhouse: owners description
describes the house is 1010
- original door is missing
altered to be a
large window
- Clapboard Siding

- originally owned by
Mrs. McIntosh
Whitchurch County became
Newmarket in 1971