

1.0 PROPERTY INFORMATION

Civic Address: 411 Millard Avenue
Common Name: John Armitage House
Legal Description: Plan 222, Lot 19

2.0 PHOTOGRAPHS



Image 1: Façade of Property at 411 Millard Ave
(Photo taken on April 7, 2016; Facing North)



Image 2: Detail of Façade
(Photo taken on April 7, 2016; Facing Northwest)



Image 3: Façade and West Elevation of 411 Millard Ave
(Photo taken on April 7, 2016; Facing Northeast)



Image 4: Stone Foundation, West Elevation
(Photo taken on April 7, 2016; Facing Southeast)



Image 5: West Elevation of 411 Millard Avenue
(Photo taken on April 7, 2016; Facing Northeast)



Image 6: North Elevation of 411 Millard Avenue
(Photo taken on April 7, 2016; Facing Southeast)



Image 7: North Elevation Showing Filled Door and Window Openings and Chimney Addition
(Photo taken on April 7, 2016; Facing Southwest)

3.0 MAPS



**Map 1: Location of the Property at 411 Millard Avenue
(Queen’s Printer for Ontario 2015)**

4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

4.1 Architecture or Design

- Vernacular two storey yellow brick house with a Queen Anne elements
- L-shaped floor plan
- Yellow brick laid in stretcher bond
- Field stone foundation
- All window and door openings have wood sills and exhibit radiating brick voussoirs topped with a course of headers
- Side gable roof with a central steep-pitch gabled two storey projection and a projecting gabled west wing with a two storey two-window bay
 - The centrally located projection consists of one small upper storey window opening (that looks to have been partially filled in) and one large rectangular window opening below; the entranceway is in the east elevation of the projection above which was a large rectangular opening that is now filled in
 - The two storey bay has two window openings on each storey and is decorated with gingerbread at the gable roofline
- There is a sun room addition between the two projections – built in 1989 according to information provided by the city
- The façade has one first storey window opening beside the entranceway
- A shed roof covered verandah with supporting columns and decorative spandrels, extends eastward and wraps around the house
- The west elevation has one window opening on each storey and one basement window opening
- The north elevation had two window openings and a door opening in the front gable portion, two first storey openings were filled in and a new chimney was installed; the side gable portion has one visible window opening, the majority of this portion of the elevation is obscured by a new one storey addition
- The east elevation had an entranceway from the verandah that has since been filled in, a second storey window opening and a basement window opening

4.2 History

- Constructed in 1892 (Newmarket Era 1892)
- Owned by John Armitage (1822–1904)
 - Armitage family were pioneers to Newmarket, John Armitage is the grandson of pioneer Amos Armitage
 - Amos Armitage was instrumental in the founding of the Orthodox Quaker Meeting House in Newmarket at 17030 Yonge Street (Beers & Co. 1907:453)
 - Armitage was a carpenter in Newmarket and member of the Society of Friends (Quakers)

- Woodwork in the gable may represent the type of carpentry that John Armitage would have designed
- Prior to the settlement of the Millard Avenue neighbourhood, Armitage owned a portion of Lot 94, Concession 1 East of Yonge Street in the Township of Whitchurch, west of the subject property (Miles & Co. Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of York 1878)
- The construction date of the house aligns with the year that the widower married his second wife, Harriet Soules (his first wife Caroline died in 1888)
- According to the abstract index, the property was purchased by Armitage's daughter Martha Jane in 1891 and sold by another daughter, Jennie, following his death in 1905

4.3 Context

- The house is set on a rise from the road at a prominent location on the corner of Millard Ave
- Supports the rich heritage character of the historic neighbourhood

5.0 EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

Table 1: Evaluation of the Cultural Heritage Value or Interest of the Property According to *Ontario Regulation 9/06*

EVALUATION OF PROPERTY		
Criteria	Description	✓
Design or Physical Value	Is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method	✓
	Displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic value	
	Displays a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	
Historical or Associative Value	Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community	✓
	Yields or has the potential to yield information that contributes to the understanding of a community or culture	
	Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, builder, artist, designer or theorist who is significant to a community	
Contextual Value	Is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area	✓
	Is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings	
	Is a landmark	

6.0 RECOMMENDATION

RECOMMENDATION FOR PROPERTY	
Recommendation	✓
The property has no cultural heritage value or interest, therefore it requires no further work.	
The property should be considered for addition to the Municipal Heritage Register.	
The property should be considered for designation under Part IV of the <i>Ontario Heritage Act</i> .	✓

7.0 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Armitage House, located at 411 Millard Avenue, is situated on the north side of the road, in the Town of Newmarket. The property contains a two storey yellow brick house constructed in 1892.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value/Statement of Significance

Physical/Design Value

The John Armitage House is a representative example of a two storey Ontario vernacular house with Queen Anne elements. The L-shaped plan two storey house is constructed with yellow brick laid in stretcher bond on field stone foundation. The two storey bay with two windows on each of the storeys has a gable roof with gingerbread, reminiscent of the Queen Anne style. Typical of the Queen Anne style the house also has a centrally located steep-pitch gabled two storey projection. The centrally located projection consisted of identical upper and lower storey window openings, the upper is now partially filled in. The entranceway is in the east elevation of the projection. A shed roof covered verandah with supporting columns and decorative spandrels wraps around the house from the central projection to the east elevation. All window openings have wood sills and exhibit the same radiating brick voussoirs topped with a course of headers.

Historical/Associative Value

The John Armitage House is associated with John Armitage (1822–1904) a carpenter in Newmarket and a member of the Society of Friends (Quakers). He owned a portion of Lot 94, Concession 1, East of Yonge Street in the Township of Whitchurch (west of the subject property) before the Millard Avenue neighbourhood was settled. The house was constructed in 1892, which aligns with the year widower John Armitage married his second wife, Harriet Soules (his first wife Caroline died in 1888). The Millard Avenue property was purchased by Armitage's daughter Martha Jane in 1891 and sold in 1905 by another daughter Jennie following his death.

Contextual Value

The John Armitage House's unique architecture and situation on a slight rise from the street makes it a landmark at the corner of Millard Avenue and Church Street. The house supports the heritage character of the historic neighbourhood.

Cultural Heritage Attributes

- Two storey yellow brick construction
- Field stone foundation
- L-shaped floor plan with cross gable roof

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- All window openings including the basement openings have wooden sills as well as radiating brick voussoirs topped with a course of headers
 - Central located two storey projection with one window opening on each storey and the entrance way in the east elevation
 - Two storey projecting bay with two window openings on each storey with gingerbread in the gable
 - Shed roof covered verandah with supporting columns and decorative spandrels

8.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES

Beers, J.H & Co.

1907 **Commemorative Biographical Record of the County of York, Ontario.**

Toronto: J.H. Beers & Co. accessed at:

<http://www.ourroots.ca/e/page.aspx?id=781711>

Carter, Robert Terence

2011 **Stories of Newmarket: An Old Town Ontario.** Toronto: Dundurn Natural Heritage.

City of Newmarket

2016 Information Provided by the City.

'Abstract Index' for Plan 222, Part Lot 19

County of York

1904 *John Armitage* in Schedule C (Deaths). Accessed at: ancestry.ca

1892 *John Armitage and Harriet Soules* in Schedule B (Marriages). Accessed online at: ancestry.ca

Miles & Co.

1878 **Whitchurch** in *Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of York*. Toronto: Miles & Co.

The Newmarket Era

1904 *Armitage* in "The Tomb" in **The Newmarket Era**. March 11, 1904. Accessed online at: <http://news.ourontario.ca/newmarket/2425166/page/2?n=>

Special thanks to the volunteers at the Ellman Campbell Museum for their research assistance.

Appendix A: Background Material

His Name.	John Armitage
Age.	68 years
Residence when Married.	Newmarket Co York
Place of Birth.	Newmarket Co York
Single or Widower. (s. or w.)	W
Rank or Profession.	Gentleman
Names of Parents.	Seth Armitage Ann Armitage
Her Name.	Harriet Soules
Age.	57 years
Residence when Married.	Toronto
Place of Birth.	Sharon Co York
Single or Widower. (s. or w.)	W
Names of Parents.	Jonathan Hartley Matilda Hartley
Names and Residences of Witnesses.	William Armitage-Toronto Mary Wilson - Toronto
Date and place of Marriage.	Toronto 26 th Decr 1892
Religious Denomination of Bridegroom.	Friends or Quakers
Religious Denomination of Bride.	Christian Church
By whom Married.	John Alexander

Image 8: John Armitage and Harriet Soules Marriage
(County of York 1892:Schedule 'B')

11. Rosamond Bertha	F	29	25 yrs	Victoria Ave	OOO. Maid M. or B. Single
12. Armitage John	M	March 7 th	82-11-15	Millard Ave	OOO. Carpenter M. or B. Married
13. Fitchell, Sabelle	F	12	13 y	Main Street	OOO. Housewife M. or B. Married OOO. Carpenter

Image 9: John Armitage Death, March 7, 1904 (part 1)
(County of York 1904:439)

Dr. Simcal	Chronic Indigestion	W. B. Richardson	Episcopal	C. Richardson	031668
Sp. of Whitechurch	Complication of the trip	A. Webb & Co.	Wholesale	H. J. Roadhouse	031669
Markham	Heart disease 9 days	J. H. Wesley	Presbyterian	J. H. Wesley	031670

Image 10: John Armitage Death, March 7, 1904 (part 2)
(County of York 1904:439)

ARMITAGE—In Newmarket, March 7th, 1904, John Armitage—aged 82 years, 4 mos. and 15 days.

Image 11: John Armitage Obituary
(The Newmarket Era 1904:2)