Markham Street Name Origin Index
(a work in progress by the Heritage Section)
Sources are identified at the end of the document

The following streets include historic streets found within the current boundaries of the Town of Markham or newer streets named in honour of an individual or subject.

Name (alphabetical)	Origin
Aileen Lewis Court	Named to honour John Lunau's mother. Street in Markham Heritage Estates subdivision.(2)
Alexander Hunter Place	Named to recognize early property owner. Street in Markham Heritage Estates subdivision.(2)
Bayview Avenue	Named in 1930 to recognize a house built by J.S. McLean called Bay View (extension of a Toronto street into Markham) (1)
Berczy Gate	Named after William Berczy, founder of Markham.(2)
Bur Oak	Named by Markham Council to honour the Town's official tree (2)
Burr Crescent	
Byer Drive	
Captain Armstrong's Lane	
Christian Reesor Ave	Named to honour early Markham settler.(2)
Clendenen Court	Named to honour the Clendenen family. John came to Upper Canada from the US with sons John, William and Adam in 1803. Family burial area in Greensborough.
Colborne Street	Named after John Colborne, Lt. Governor of Upper Canada (1828-1836) (3)
Cricklewood Crescent	Named after the historic house on the street which began as a cottage in 1803 and owned and enlarged over the years by a number of prominent individuals (John Brunskill, George Hughes Watson) (3)
David Gohn Circle	Named to honour David Gohn, early settler on Leslie Street, south of current Hwy 407. The David Gohn House was the first to be relocated to Markham Heritage Estates subdivision.(2)
Deanbank Drive	In 1952, W.A. Dean registered a plan of subdivision on his land and named one of the streets Deanbank Drive. (2)
Donald Cousens Parkway	For a short time known as the new Markham By-pass. Named in 2007 to honour Markham's MPP (1981-1994) and Mayor (1994-2006).
Donald Sim Ave	
Eckardt Avenue	

MARKHAM

Name (alphabetical)	Origin
Elgin Mills Road	Originally Eighteenth Avenue (sideroad between lots 25 and 26). Takes its name from the Markham and Elgin Mills Plank Road in the 1850s. The road was a major connector from north Markham hamlets to Yonge Street. Elgin Mills was a small community on Yonge Street north of Richmond Hill. (1)
Eliza Street	Eliza was the daughter of Captain Richard Sutton Frizzell who lived on Colborne Street in Thornhill (3)
Eyer Drive	
Fred Varley Drive	Named to honour Group of Seven painter Fred Varley who resided at 197 Main Street Unionville with the McKay family for the last 12 years of his life
Gordon Weeden	To honour WWII veteran. Mr. Weeden was employed at the CIBC bank in Thornhill before enlisting. He was trained and flew Lancaster bombers. He was reported missing in action over France in Dec 1943. His burial plot is at Maharicourt Cemetery in central France.(2)
Hagerman Boulevard	
Hare Court	
Heisey Drive	
Henricks Road	
Holm Crescent	
Hoover Drive	
James Walker Court	Named to honour James "Scotty" Walker. He was Police Chief and entire force for 18 years in Markham Village, relief officer and dog catcher. Veteran, twice wounded in WW2
John Street	Named after John Colborne, Lt. Governor of Upper Canada (1828-1836) Formerly known as Milburn Road.(3)
Johnson Street	May have been named to honour Asa Johnson who was the first official settler on Yonge Street (received land grant for Lot 29 Vaughan south of present day Arnold Street in 1796).(2) Named after M.J. Johnson a market gardener and strawberry breeder who owned property in the area.(3)
Kathleen McKay Lane	Pending approval. Former concession road east of Main Street in Unionville. McKay owned 197 Main Street and donated her Fred Varley art collection and substantial cash donation to create the Frederick Horsman Varley Art Gallery in Unionville.
Kennedy Road	Named after James Kennedy who arrived in the Agincourt area in 1800 from New York state. (extension of a Toronto street into Markham)(1)
Leslie Street	Named after George Leslie who owned a nursery at the corner of Queen Street in what was called the 'village of Leslieville'(extension of a Toronto street into Markham)(1)

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Name (alphabetical)	Origin
Liebeck Crescent	
Lunau Lane	Named to honour the Lunau family.
Major Mackenzie Drive	Originally Seventeenth Avenue (sideroad between lots 20 and 21). Named to honour 'Lex' Mackenzie who was the MPP for Markham and Vaughan for over 35 years until he was defeated by Donald Deacon in the 1969 election. He died in 1969.(1)
Markham Road	Also known as Main Street in Markham Village and Highway 48. Takes its name from the Markham and Scarborough Plank Road which was the main route south from Markham to Scarborough and then Kingston Road to Toronto (1)
McCowan Road	Named after the McCowan family in Scarborough (extension of a Toronto street into Markham). Originally the 7th Line in Markham.
Mew Gate	Named after Stephen and Mary Mew. The Mew family lived at 249 Main Street Unionville (Crown Inn) from the 1940-70s. She was a lay minister at St Philips Anglican and he served in WW1 (Vimy Ridge) and WW2
Meyer Circle	Mary Meyer was wife of Albert Wideman (2)
Miller Avenue	
Mingay Avenue	Named to honour Mingay family (Donald- killed in action in WW2) (2)
Morgan Street	Historic Maps of 1853-54, 1860 and 1878 show the land around Morgan Street owned by John Morgan, early Thornhill landowner.(2)
Ninth Line	Original concession road
Quantz Court	Margaret Quantz was wife of David Wismer (2)
Ramer's Way	A.B. Ramer gave Mount Joy its name; local land owner in northern part of Markham Village (2)
Raymerville Drive	Should have been Ramerville.(1)
Reesor Road	Originally the Tenth Line or 10th concession road. Names Reesor Road in 1992 as an extension of Reesor Road in Scarborough (extension of a Toronto street into Markham)and to honour the Reesor families in Markham. Christian Reesor came to Markham from Pennsylvania in 1804 (1)
Richard Maynard Crescent	Named to honour veteran
Ritter Crescent	
Royal Albert Street	Originally named Albert Street in Victoria Square, the name was changed by by-law in 2004 as there was already an Albert Street in Markham Village
Senator Reesor's Drive	Named after David Reesor, part owner of the German Tannery.(2)

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Name (alphabetical)	Origin
Steeles Avenue	Named after John Steele who owned the Steele's Hotel built circa 1847 at Steeles and Yonge Street,
Stiver Court	
Summerfeldt Crescent	
Tiers Gate	
Waggoners Wells Lane	
Wideman Street	Named to honour the Wideman family, a prominent Markham family (Andrew & Susannah Wideman, Albert and Mary Wideman, Harvey and Benetta Wideman) (2)
William Berczy Parkway	Named after William Berczy, founder of Markham.(2)
Wismer Place	Named the honour the Wismer family, early Markham settlers (David and Mary). Street in Markham Heritage Estates subdivision
Woodbine Avenue	Named in 1875 to recognize the Woodbine Tavern and Woodbine Racetrack owned by Wm. J. Howell (extension of a Toronto street into Markham)(1)
Yonge Street	Named by Lt. Governor John Graves Simcoe after Sir George Yonge, Secretary of War (extension of a Toronto street into Markham) (1)

Sources
1   Newsletter of the Markham Historical Society, "What's in a Road Name", Lorne Smith, February 1999.
2   Heritage Section files, Town of Markham, Regan Hutcheson, Manager-Heritage Planning
3   Society for the Preservation of Historic Thornhill files/newsletters