

BUILT HERITAGE INVENTORY FORM



Hamilton

Appendix D Item 10.1
Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee - April 18,
2019

Address _____	Community _____		
Also known as _____	Legal Description _____		
P.I.N. _____	Roll No. _____	Ward _____	Neighbourhood _____

Heritage Status: Inventory Registered Designated (Part IV / Part V) Easement (City / OHT) NHS
Heritage Conservation District (if applicable): _____

Property Status (Observed): Occupied Building Vacant Building Vacant Lot Parking Lot

Integrity: Preserved / Intact Modified Compromised Demolished (date) _____

Construction Period: Pre 1867 1868-1900 1901-1939 1940-1955 1956-1970 Post 1970
Year (if known) _____ Architect / Builder / Craftsperson (if known) _____

Massing: Single-detached Semi-detached, related Semi-detached, unrelated Row, related Row, unrelated Other _____

Storeys: 1 1 ½ 2 2 ½ 3 3 ½ 4 or more Irregular Other _____

Foundation Construction Material: Stone Brick Concrete Wood Other _____ Finish: _____

Building Construction Material: Brick Frame (wood) Stone Log Other _____ Finish: _____

Building Cladding: Wood Stone Brick Stucco Synthetic Other _____ Finish: _____

Roof Type: Hip Flat Gambrel Mansard Gable Other _____ Type: _____

Roof Materials: Asphalt Shingle Wood Shingle Slate Tile/Terra Cotta Tar/Gravel Metal Other _____

Architectural Style / Influence:

- | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art Deco / Moderne
(1920s-1950s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Chateau
(1880-1940) | <input type="checkbox"/> Gothic Revival
(1830-1900) | <input type="checkbox"/> Neo-Gothic
(1900-1945) | <input type="checkbox"/> Romanesque Revival
(1850-1910) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beaux-Arts Classicism
(1900-1945) | <input type="checkbox"/> Craftsman / Prairie
(1900s-1930s) | <input type="checkbox"/> International
(1930-1965) | <input type="checkbox"/> Period Revivals
(1900-Present) | <input type="checkbox"/> Second Empire
(1860-1900) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brutalism
(1960-1970) | <input type="checkbox"/> Colonial Revival
(1900-Present) | <input type="checkbox"/> Italian Villa
(1830-1900) | <input type="checkbox"/> Post-Modern
(1970-Present) | <input type="checkbox"/> Vernacular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bungalow
(1900-1945) | <input type="checkbox"/> Edwardian
(1900-1930) | <input type="checkbox"/> Italianate
(1850-1900) | <input type="checkbox"/> Queen Anne
(1880-1910) | <input type="checkbox"/> Victory Housing
(1940-1950) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Classic Revival
(1830-1860) | <input type="checkbox"/> Georgian / Loyalist
(1784-1860) | <input type="checkbox"/> Neo-Classical
(1800-1860) | <input type="checkbox"/> Regency
(1830-1860) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1950s Contemporary
(1945-1965) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | | | |

Notable Building Features:

- Porch: _____ Sill(s): _____ Tower/Spire Bargeboard Eaves: _____
- Verandah: _____ Lintel(s): _____ Dome Transom Verges: _____
- Balcony: _____ Shutters: _____ Finial Side light Dormer: _____
- Door(s) : _____ Quoins: _____ Pilaster Pediment Chimney: _____
- Stairs: _____ Voussoirs: _____ Capital Woodwork Parapet: _____
- Fire wall: _____ Cornice: _____ Panel Date stone Bay: _____
- Windows: _____ Column Cresting Other _____

Notes:

Context:

- Historic Context Statement: Yes No Name of HCS Area: _____
- Streetscape (Residential / Commercial) Terrace / Row Complex / Grouping Landmark
- Multi-address parcel (list addresses): _____ Other _____
- Related buildings: _____

Plan: Square Rectangular L U T H Cross Irregular Other _____

Wings: _____ **Setback:** Shallow Deep At ROW Other _____ Corner Lot

Accessory Features and Structures:

- Features (e.g. stone wall, fountain): _____ Structures (e.g. shed, outbuilding): _____

Additional Notes:

Fire Insurance Mapping: 1898 Sheet No. _____ 1911 Sheet No. _____ 1949 Sheet No. _____ 1964 Sheet No. _____

Additional Documentation and Research Attached (if applicable):

Surveyed by:	Date:	Survey Area:
Staff Reviewer:	Date:	

PRELIMINARY EVALUATION

Physical / Design Value:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property's style, type or expression is: <input type="checkbox"/> rare <input type="checkbox"/> unique <input type="checkbox"/> representative <input type="checkbox"/> early
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property displays a high degree of: <input type="checkbox"/> craftsmanship <input type="checkbox"/> artistic merit
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property demonstrates a high degree of: <input type="checkbox"/> technical achievement <input type="checkbox"/> scientific achievement
Historical / Associative Value:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property has direct associations with a potentially significant: <input type="checkbox"/> theme <input type="checkbox"/> event <input type="checkbox"/> belief <input type="checkbox"/> person <input type="checkbox"/> activity <input type="checkbox"/> organization <input type="checkbox"/> institution
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of a potentially significant: <input type="checkbox"/> architect <input type="checkbox"/> artist <input type="checkbox"/> building <input type="checkbox"/> designer <input type="checkbox"/> theorist
Contextual Value:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property is important in: <input type="checkbox"/> defining <input type="checkbox"/> maintaining <input type="checkbox"/> supporting the character of the area
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property is linked to its surroundings: <input type="checkbox"/> physically <input type="checkbox"/> functionally <input type="checkbox"/> visually <input type="checkbox"/> historically
<input type="checkbox"/>	The property is a landmark

<p>Classification:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Significant Built Resource (SBR)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Character-Defining Resource (CDR)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Character-Supporting Resource (CSR)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inventory Property (IP)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Remove from Inventory (RFI)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> None</p>

<p>Recommendation:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Add to Designation Work Plan</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Include in Register (Non-designated)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Remove from Register (Non-designated)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Add to Inventory – Periodic Review</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Inventory – No Further Review (Non-extant)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No Action Required</p>
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Evaluated by:	Date:
HMHC Advice:	Date
Planning Committee Advice:	Date:
Council Decision:	Date:
Database/GIS Update:	AMANDA Update:



The Goldblatt House

45 Amelia Street, Hamilton, ON

Heritage Evaluation prepared for the Inventory and Research Working Group Subcommittee to the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee. March 25, 2019.

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Purpose and Methodology

Articles in *The Hamilton Spectator* and *The Globe and Mail* in October and November 2018 drew my attention to the Goldblatt House, 45 Amelia Street, Hamilton. As a new resident in Hamilton with training in architectural history, I volunteered to prepare a Built Heritage Inventory Form for consideration to the Inventory and Research Working Group Subcommittee of the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee. I have no vested interest in the heritage status of the property, nor have I been in contact with its owners directly.

Heritage Status

The Goldblatt House appears on the municipal heritage inventory.

Qualifications of the Author

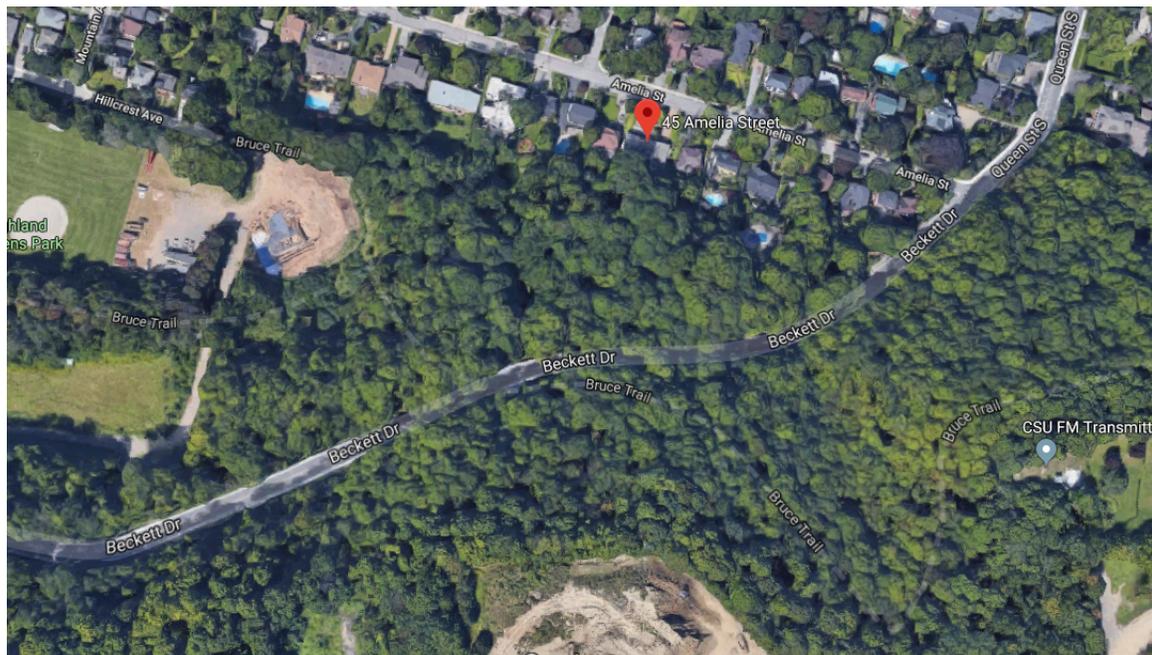
I hold a BA Honours and MA in art/architectural history from York University, Toronto, and studied Heritage Conservation as part of the PhD programme at Carleton University, Ottawa. My research has been awarded two Bombardier Scholarships from the Social Sciences and Humanities Council of Canada, and I've presented at conferences across the country.

Location

The municipal address is 45 Amelia Street, Kirkendall (Ward 1). It is on the south side of the street, backing onto the Niagara Escarpment.



Heritage Property Map, City of Hamilton.



Google (2019).

Description of Historic Place:

The subject property, 45 Amelia Street in Hamilton, is referred to as the Goldblatt House for its original owners, George and Jessie Goldblatt. Their business was steel: International Iron & Metal, then Intermetco, according to Kathy Renwald. It was built in 1955 to the designs of Mrs. Goldblatt's nephew, Jerome Markson, a recent graduate of University of Toronto (1953).

Amelia is a quiet dead-end street, characterized by large single-family homes, mainly of the late 19th and mid-20th centuries. #45 is a 2200 square foot one bedroom, 2 bath home, custom designed for a mature married couple. The L-shaped longitudinal plan of the subject house, with its expansive floor to ceiling windows, offers spectacular and private views of the wooded Niagara Escarpment. Oriented north, the house is deeply set back from the street by an expansive front lawn and driveway, consistent with the neighbouring homes on Amelia. The lot is approximately ½ acre.

The house has only had four owners in its 64 year history, and its original design features remain remarkably intact.

Ownership:

1955 Goldblatt, George and Jessie

1973 ? House listed on MLS

1976 Holton, Chick and Gabby

2018 Mark and JoAnne Clem

Heritage Value:

- Markson is an important and well-known architect in Ontario
- Of his three designs on Amelia, the original elements of the Goldblatt House are remarkably unchanged; it retains its character-defining elements
- “We have a lot of very good Mid-Century Modern architecture. It speaks to what Hamilton was like in the '50s and '60s. There was money. There was culture. People were commissioning architects to build special houses. They didn't want something from a book.”¹
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Character-Defining Elements:

- Overall neutral colour exterior, including the garage door, punctuated by a distinctive and bright red front door
- Streamlined modern aesthetic
- Floating steel staircase leading to a covered entry set back and flanked by the projecting kitchen and master bedroom at opposite ends
- High-fired imported brick on exterior and interior, unpainted
- “curtain wall” windows facing backyard
- wooded lot
- Steel frame construction
- walnut panelling and built-in furniture (buffet, bar, shelves, cabinets, closets)
- cream terrazzo floors
- glass mosaic tile in the master bath
- “Adam and Eve” relief sculpture by Don Wallace in the master bedroom

Contextual Value

- Markson designed two others on Amelia Street. #125 (1958), known as Minden House, and #75 (1957). #75 has suffered some unsympathetic alterations and additions, which compromise its character-defining elements, according to Markson and Allen.
- “These houses (on Amelia Street) are amongst some of Markson's earliest work in an extensive resume of modern and postmodern design,” writes Thomas Allen, a modern enthusiast who writes for *The Inlet*.

¹ Graham Crawford quoted by Mark McNeil. “Just Call Them Sleek,” *The Hamilton Spectator*, November 11, 2011.

THE ARCHITECT: JEROME MARKSON

Markson's work is the subject of a forthcoming monologue, *Toronto's Inclusive Modernity: The Architecture of Jerome Markson* by Laura J. Miller, Associate Professor at University of Toronto Daniels Faculty of Architecture.

Miller describes that Markson's career coincided with "Toronto's emergence as a cosmopolitan city," that his work was diverse and inventive, and that "his buildings were harbingers of cultural change...they registered important shifts in socio-political attitudes, urban policies, and modes of architectural production shaped during the post-war decades." Markson's work is characterized by:

- "Nuanced responsiveness to Toronto's fast-evolving urban and suburban geographies"
- A "pluralistic, materially-oriented approach," inspired by not only Aalto, but Britain's Townscape movement and vernacular building traditions, in a marked departure from late modern formalism
- "His prescient use of photography to situate architecture as an inclusive cultural medium and object of human desire"

In reference to Canadian architect George Baird, *Canadian Architect* states:

Jerome Markson was his mentor, and colleagues from his (Baird's) studies in architecture at the University of Toronto had ambitions to promote a new kind of Modern architecture based on different architectural and community-based sensibilities inspired by Scandinavian models and *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* by Jane Jacobs.²

² "George Baird's Provocative Wisdom," *Canadian Architect*. 2010.

JEROME MARKSON BIO

- Born 1929, graduated from University of Toronto School of Architecture in 1953, began practicing in 1955, retired 2017
- lifetime member of the Ontario Association of Architects, and winner of many awards for his designs and contribution to the field, most recently the 2017 Arbor Alumni Award, University of Toronto
- Designer of residences – single-family, multi-family, high-rise condominiums, and social housing projects – restaurants, small and large office buildings – community centres, school, public buildings
- Alexandra Park Housing Co-operative, 585-599 Dundas Street West (also 113-117 Denison Avenue), Kensington-Chinatown, Toronto. (1967-1969) – won the 1967 Canadian Housing Design Council Award for National Design, and Honourable Mention in 1969 upon its completed construction.
- Other notable designs: Front Street Market Square luxury condominium (1980), characterized as “the best residential architecture produced in Toronto in the 1970s and 1980s” in *East/West: A Guide to Where People Live in Downtown Toronto* (Coach House, 2000).
- Overall he designed 10 projects for Ontario Housing Corp. (King St W/Springhurst Ave)
- “Markson Modern:” bay window, circular plan, exposed steel beams, swoopy curves
- Described as a “legendary architect” by ERA³
- In 2009, Ryerson University created the Markson *fonds*: 18 references to Markson from the archives of *Canadian Architect*
- 21 images on Toronto Architectural Conservancy TO Built site: of them, none may yet have heritage status
- Markson was inspired by Wright, Mies, Aalto, and is a contemporary of Frank Gehry

³ “Jerome Markson: Houses and Housing, 1955-1980,” *ERA Blog* (2009).
<http://www.eraarch.ca/2009/jerome-markson-houses-and-housing-1957-1980/>,
accessed March 25, 2019.

ILLUSTRATIONS:

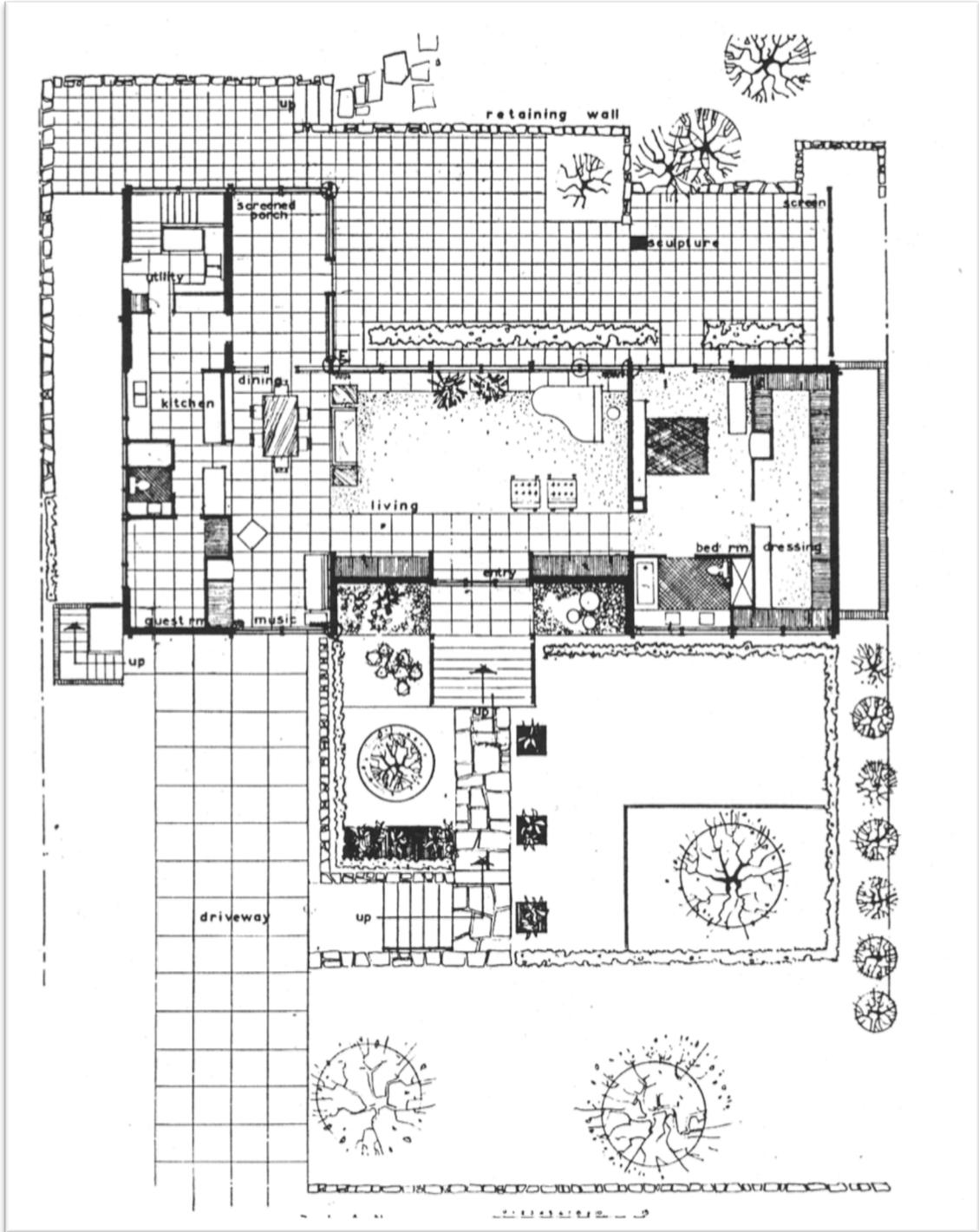
SITE PHOTOS 45 AMELIA



Photo above: Jeff Tessier. SLEEK, 2010.

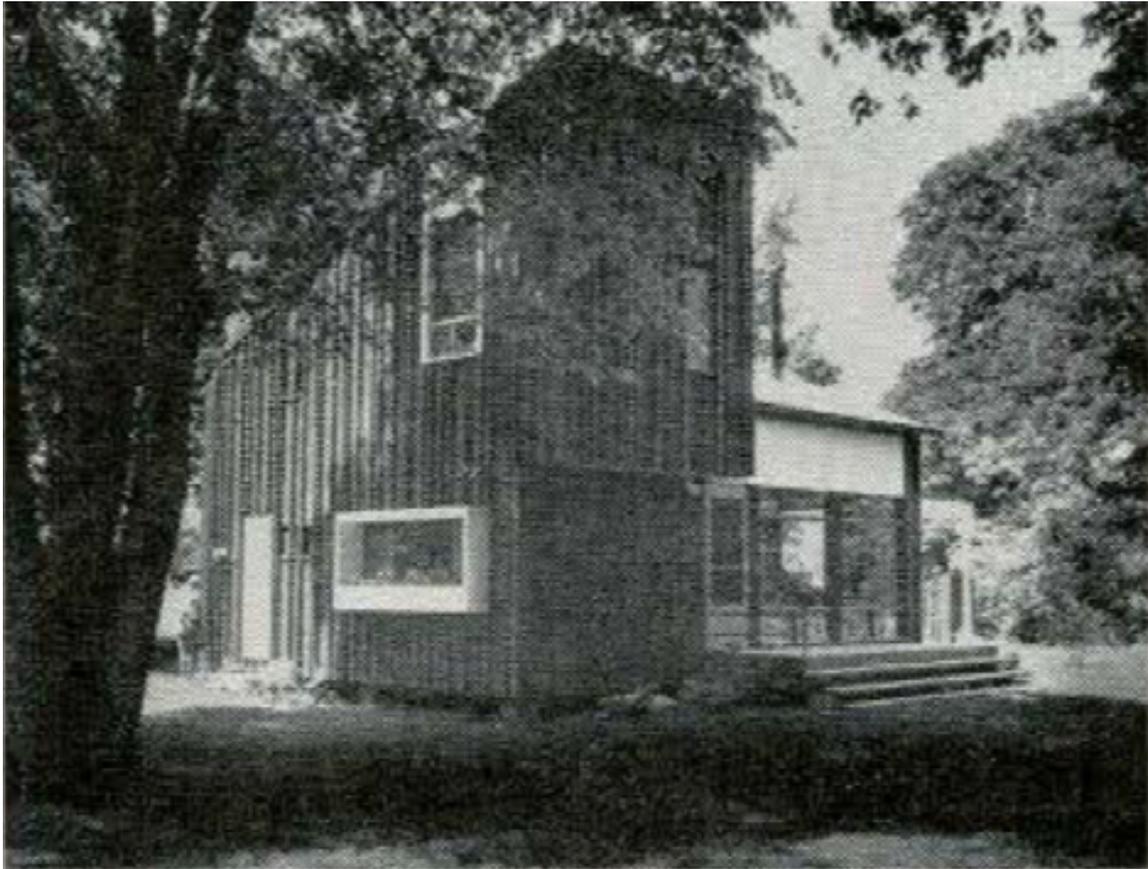


Photo: Barry Gray. *The Spectator*, 2018.



Plan, 45 Amelia. Courtesy: G. Crawford.

A SAMPLE OF MARKSON'S OTHER RESIDENTIAL DESIGNS



Markson's Vaile Cottage, Lake Simcoe, Ontario design was one of four winners (of 112 entries) of the inaugural Wood Design Awards program, awarded by the National Design Council, Canadian Wood Council, and the Department of Industry.⁴

⁴ "News," *Journal RAIC/L'IRAC* 6/66, 6.



53 Monstressor Drive, St-Andrew-Windfields, North York, ON. 1962. Photo: Bob Krawczyk, ACO Toronto, 2016.⁵

⁵ ACO Toronto, https://www.acotoronto.ca/show_building.php?BuildingID=7750, accessed March 25, 2019.



32 Saintfield Avenue, Bridle Path-Sunnybrook-York Mills, North York, ON. 1961.
Photo: Bob Krawczyk/ACO Toronto, 2016.⁶

⁶ https://www.acotoronto.ca/show_building.php?BuildingID=9680, accessed March 25, 2019.

HAMILTON DESIGNS –

Markson designed seven Hamilton homes in total over his career.



Minden House, 125 Amelia Street, 1958. Photo: Thomas Allen, *The Inlet*, 2017.⁷



Moses House, 8 Mayfair Place, Westdale. 1960. Photo: Thomas Allen, *The Inlet*, 2018.⁸

⁷ <http://theinletonline.com/jeromemarkson/>, accessed March 25, 2019.

⁸ <http://theinletonline.com/the-moses-residence/>, accessed March 25, 2019.

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