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Wednesday, November 20, 1985

Peat Marwick: Expanding its business

By STEVE HOUSTON

Staff Reporter

As a result of rapid commercial growth in the area, one of Canada's 'big nine' accounting firms has located in Markham.

The accounting firm of Peat Marwick opened its John St. office in August after leaving its previous Willowdale location. Its goal is servicing what partner Colin Shimmin called 'owner-managed' businesses in the Town.

"Markham is an area where business is growing the most," Mr. Shimmin explained. "We wanted to show independent businessmen that we were willing to come to them."

The services Peat Marwick offers business clients include preparing tax statements, plan-

ing financing proposals for company expansions, micro-computer advisory services and the traditional services accounting firms have come to be known for including audits and financial reports.

"The market is becoming less enamored with the traditional services," said partner Michael Trites. "We changed our services as the needs changed."

Both admit that the prospects for commercial growth in Markham is such that the services Peat Marwick offers will be successful for area firms. They said the theory they subscribe to is to provide business services when needed and not when demanded.

"The climate the Town Coun-

cil has created for business in Markham is attractive," Mr. Trites noted. "If you name it (a service) we'll try it."

There are other financial areas the firm has already dabbled in and one it is currently implementing.

Firm personnel have entered the area of legal litigations or 'forensic accounting' as it pertains to cases before the courts such as frauds and loss of profit suits. Employees give expert testimony after researching cases. One such case involved Douglas Flood who was convicted of defrauding the Town of Markham out of \$200,000 earlier this year.

"We draw experts from our

downtown office," Mr. Shimmin said, referring to forensic accounting. "That is one of the things we see as an expanding area."

Another area of expansion services that Peat Marwick is implementing is the process of helping privately owned businesses 'go public'.

The firm would oversee and advise businessmen who want to change their privately held company to one which offers its securities to the general public.

"What we want to do is build and develop our skills in these and other areas," Mr. Trites said. "It's growth that we look for because with that growth you usually have the profitability."



MICHAEL TRITES



COLIN SHIMMIN



A hot tub and spa has been added



This Markham home lists at \$239,900.

Home of the Week

Large brick home in Markham

A two-storey brick home on a landscaped lot in Markham has been chosen Home of the Week.

Located at 19 Fry Court, this home has many added features including an indoor spa.

An interlocking brick driveway leads up to a three-car garage and walkway to the front entrance. The lot is fully fenced with steps from the garage to the backyard and is set behind a

row of mature trees for maximum privacy.

The foyer features double-entry doors, ceramic tile flooring, mirrored closet, and a circular oak staircase leading to the upper and lower levels.

The master bedroom has double doors, a cathedral ceiling, dressing room, sunken tub and separate shower stall. Four more bedrooms with broadloom are also featured.

A sunken studio is also located on the

second level and features a hot tub spa, cathedral ceiling with exposed beam and sliding doors to a glass covered deck.

On the main floor, a living room with French doors, broadloom and a large window is featured.

A solarium style kitchen features lots of cupboard space, skylight, built-in dishwasher and custom vertical blinds. The breakfast area has lots of

window space with sliding glass doors to a large deck. French doors lead to the dining room with a large window facing the backyard.

The family room has an oak-pegged floor, brick fireplace with glass screen and oak trim on the ceiling and door frames.

A two-piece powder room is also located on the main floor.

A first floor laundry room with a

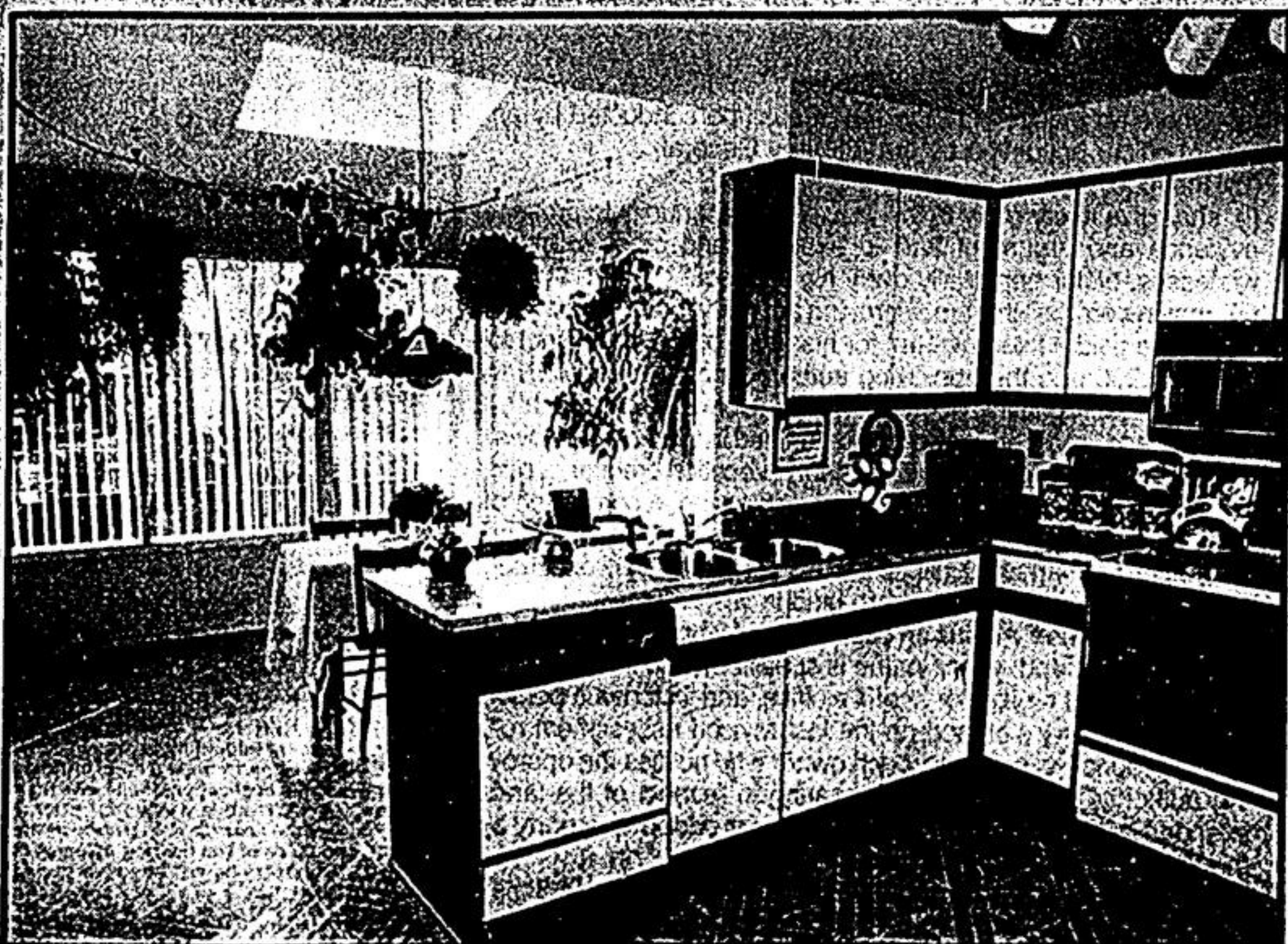
door to the garage and side door has a built-in sink and cupboards.

Other features of this home are a central air conditioning and vacuum system, forced air gas furnace, gazebo and an intercom.

The four-year-old home has an asking price of \$239,900 and is listed with Stouffville Real Estate Ltd. For more information, call listing agent Valerie Infurnari at 640-1200 or 640-4575.



Living and dining room are combined



Modern kitchen is well equipped