

# Students' letter-writing campaign brings recycling back

BY HANNELORE VOLPE  
Staff Writer

Recycling is again being picked up at St. Mark Catholic School and at St. Brigid Catholic School in Stouffville, as well.

It means Susan Whitebread, who teaches a Grade 5/6 class at St. Mark, and her students won't have to take the school's recycling home to put on the curb anymore.

The debacle started last fall when Turtle Island Recycling took

over the town's garbage and recycling contract. Recycling pick-up ceased at the school, since the company did the recycling pick-up for residences only.

## NEW TOWN CONTRACTOR

Mrs. Whitebread's students objected and began a letter-writing campaign to politicians, would-be politicians just before last fall's provincial election, town officials, the school board and The Sun-Tribune. "What option does this leave

... her students won't have to take the school's recycling home to put on the curb anymore.

the school but to throw the recycle into the garbage?" Mrs. Whitebread

wrote.

"This is against all the training our students receive at home and at school. The class is outraged."

## 'CLASS OUTRAGED'

The letter-writing campaign by the 10 and 11-year-old students apparently worked.

Oak Ridges Markham MPP Dr. Helena Jaczek wrote to the York Catholic District School Board advocating on the school's behalf, Mrs. Whitebread said.

Two other provincial candidates in the riding and Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmer-son also responded.

A representative from the school board visited her classroom to tell students of the board's decision to reinstate recycling pick-up.

Mrs. Whitebread's class at the Glad Park Avenue school has written thank-you letters to all who helped bring back the recycling program.

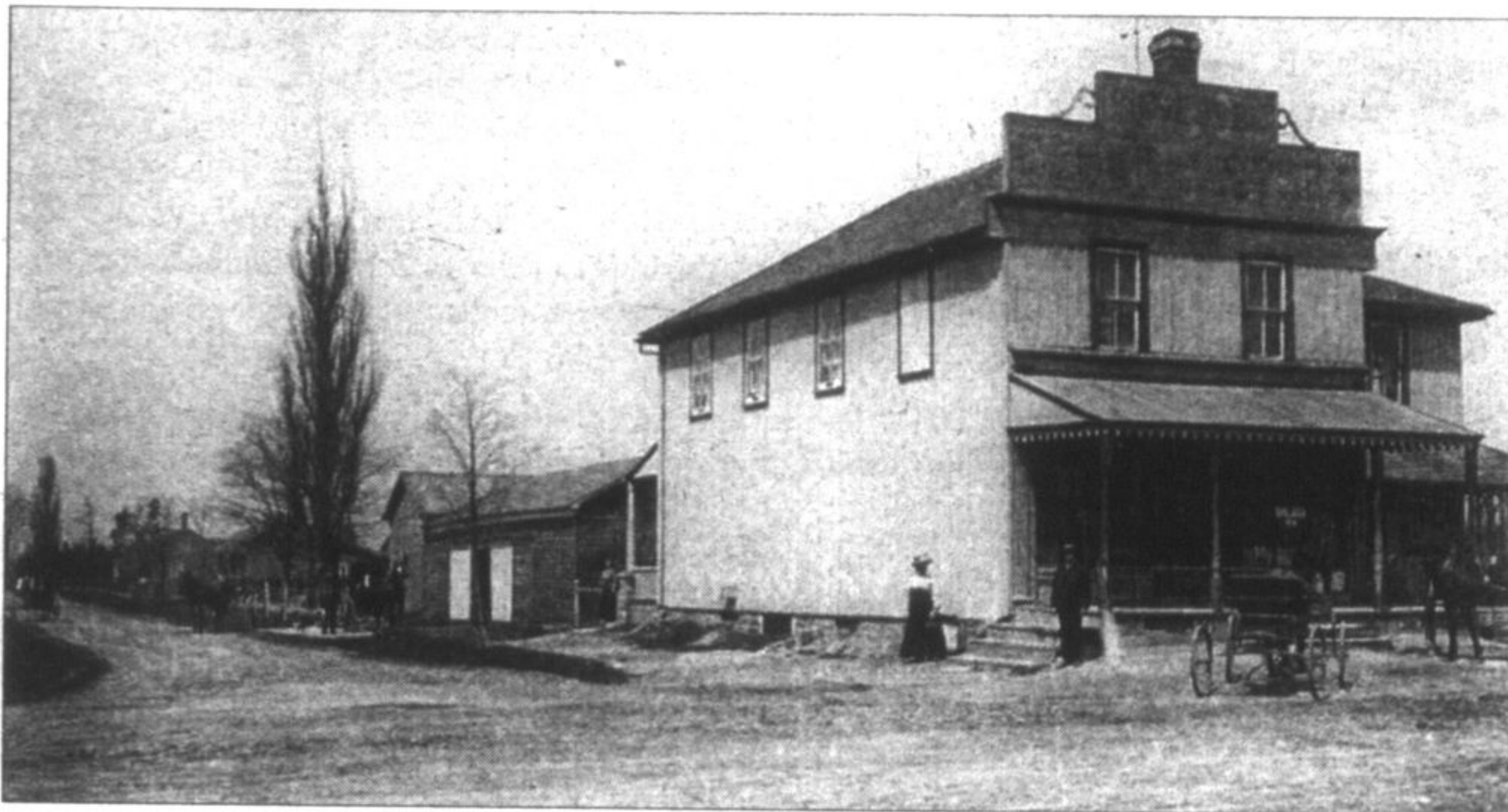
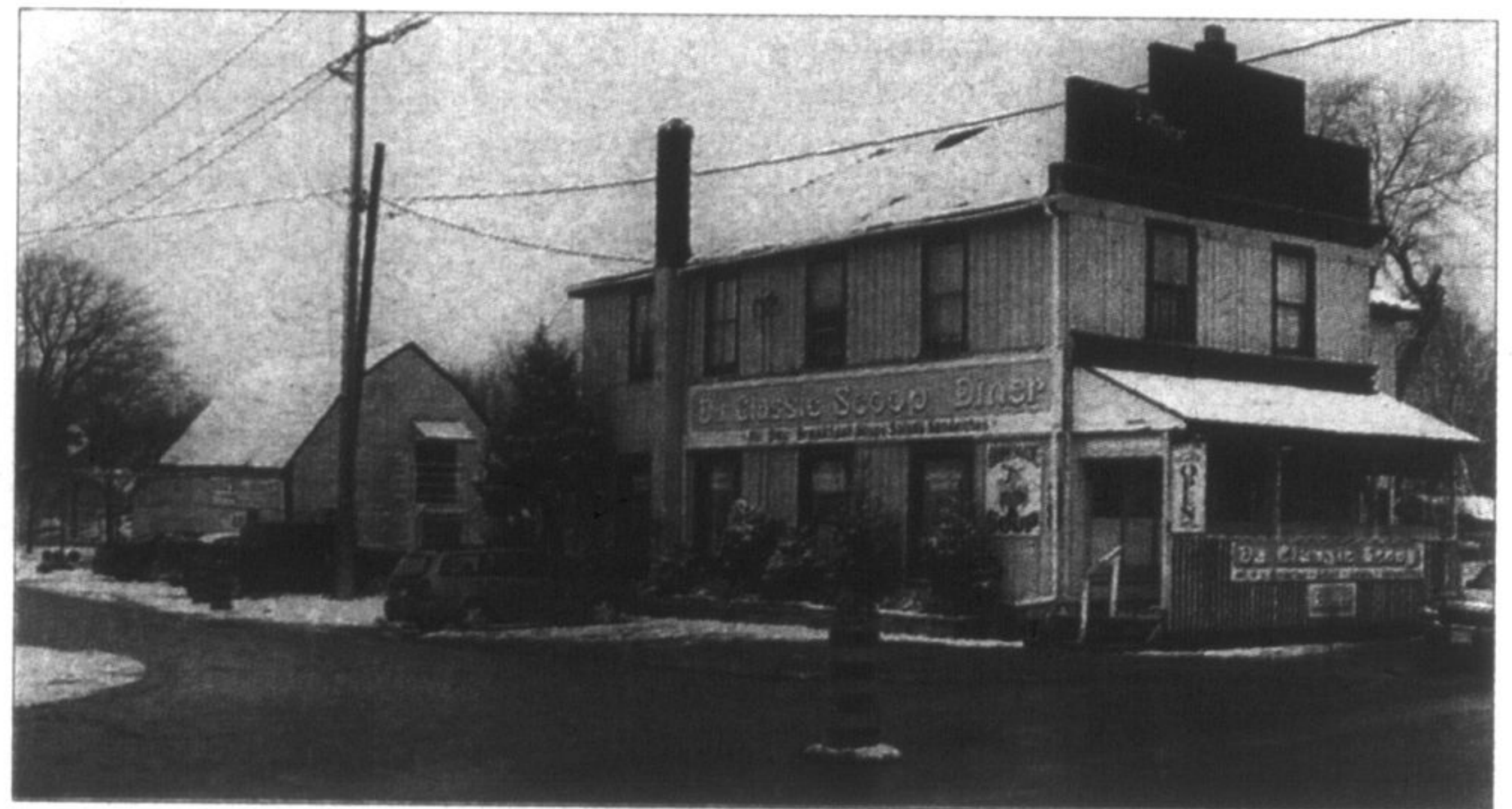


PHOTO COURTESY WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE MUSEUM



STAFF PHOTO/HANNELORE VOLPE

The Ringwood General Store (left) in undated photo believed to be about 100 years old and today as Da Classic Scoop restaurant. It's future is in doubt due to the widening of roads.

*Moving, not demolishing, Da Classic Scoop for road widening preferred by heritage committee*

# Ringwood 'landmark' may have to come down

BY HANNELORE VOLPE  
Staff Writer

The historic building housing Da Classic Scoop at the corner of Hwy. 48 and Main Street in Ringwood has got to go.

It will either be moved back farther on the property or be demolished. Whitchurch-Stouffville council agreed Tuesday to start expropriation of part of the property owned by Mario Greco.

About 1,000 square meters is needed to accommodate a wider Main Street.

The ongoing widening of the street means the road would encroach on about half the building.

The land is required sooner than anticipated because York Region has stepped up its schedule of widening Hwy. 48 and wants to start construction in 2008. The town and region have to co-ordinate construction of the intersection.

The town has been negotiating

with Mr. Greco and will continue to do so, Dave Cash, the town's CAO, said.

*Stouffville resident*

*Clarence Fockler*

*remembers the general*

*store in Ringwood when*

*it was run by Roy Grove*

*in the 1930s and 1940s.*

*The post office was there*

*as well. Residents came*

*in to collect their mail*

*from the shopkeeper.*

Parcels of land have been purchased off two other nearby properties Mr. Greco owns.

As it stands now, Da Classic Scoop building's porch is already

encroaching on the road allowance, Mr. Cash said.

The building dates from between 1851 and 1875, said Dorie Billich, the town's manager of museum and cultural services. It has served mainly as a general store since that time.

Moving the building back onto the property was suggested by the Whitchurch-Stouffville heritage advisory committee.

"It has been the entrance to Stouffville for the past hundred years," Gleyne Beatty, chairperson of the committee, said. "It is a landmark to people outside of Stouffville."

He wants the town to look at options for the preservation of the building.

"We are looking at all of the options, including whether that building could be moved," Mr. Cash told The Sun-Tribune.

From the start of the expropriation process to the time the

town acquires the land is about six months.

However, any property owner who receives a notice of expropriation is entitled to request a hearing of necessity to confirm that the taking of the land is fair, sound and reasonably necessary. That could take an additional three months.

Mr. Greco has owned the building since the 1970s and has run his eatery there since the early 1990s. He has some doubts about whether the old building can actually be moved.

He'd like to continue his business as long as he can.

Stouffville resident Clarence Fockler remembers the general store in Ringwood when it was run by Roy Grove in the 1930s and 1940s. The post office was there as well. Residents came in to collect their mail from the shopkeeper.

During those years, the general store carried everyday necessities such as rubber boots, hoes,

**'It has been the entrance to Stouffville for the past hundred years. It is a landmark to people outside of Stouffville.'**

Gleyne Beatty,  
chairperson of the  
Whitchurch-Stouffville  
heritage advisory committee.

shovels "and overalls for the working man," Mr. Fockler said.

Competition was stiff in those days, too. Mr. Fockler remembers another general store across the street during those times.

Traffic, however, was sparser. Mr. Fockler recalls the neighbourhood children playing hockey at the side of the road, where the snow would get packed down.



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