



Report
Staff Report
The Corporation of the City of Brampton
7/15/2025

Date: 2025-06-30

Subject: **Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report and Heritage Impact Assessment, Kennedy Valley – Ward 3**

Contact: Tom Tran, Heritage Planner, Integrated City Planning

Report number: Planning, Bld & Growth Mgt-2025-562

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the report from Tom Tran, Heritage Planner, Integrated City Planning to the Brampton Heritage Board Meeting of July 15th, 2025, re: **Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report and Heritage Impact Assessment, Kennedy Valley – Ward 3**, be received;
2. That the following recommendations of the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report prepared by ASI dated May 2025 be received:
 - I. That the property meets at least two criteria presented in Ontario Regulation 9/06 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and therefore, the municipality may consider designation of this property under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
3. That the following recommendations of the Heritage Impact Assessment prepared by ASI dated May 2025 be received and followed:
 - I. Construction crews should be advised of the heritage status and heritage attributes of the Kennedy Valley prior to any work in its vicinity.
 - II. Staging and construction should be suitably planned and executed to ensure that unintended negative impacts to the identified heritage attributes of the Kennedy Valley are avoided. Mitigation measures may also include establishing no-go zones with fencing and directing working crews to avoid identified heritage attributes.
 - III. Where the proposed work cannot be revised to avoid temporary land disturbances and impacts, the removal of trees and vegetation should be limited to the extent possible, and where removal cannot be avoided, post-construction rehabilitation with sympathetic plantings should be implemented.

4. That Heritage Staff work with Cemetery Services to explore ways to rehabilitate the Grahamsville Cemetery including clearing vegetation and repairing headstones and stabilization of erosion along the bank of Etobicoke Creek where it passes the cemetery.

OVERVIEW:

- **Kennedy Valley is a listed heritage property in the Municipal Heritage Register and is owned by the City of Brampton.**
- **In June 2019, the Region of Peel commenced an Environmental Assessment (EA) study for trunk sewer improvements and upgrades along the Etobicoke Creek.**
- **In support of the EA, a Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report was completed in March 2025 by ASI. It identified that the property possesses Cultural Heritage Value or Interest.**
- **The Heritage Impact Assessment was also completed by ASI in March 2025 and evaluated that there would be no impacts to the identified heritage resources from the proposed sewer trunk improvement works.**
- **The Cultural Heritage Assessment Report and Heritage Impact Assessment are considered to be complete as per the City's Terms of Reference.**

BACKGROUND:

The Etobicoke Creek Trunk Sanitary Sewer (ECTS), from Kennedy Road to Derry Road in the City of Brampton, provides service to a large area extending north as far north as Mayfield Road. Upgrades are required to address issues with the existing sanitary sewers and provide reliable sanitary service to future growth forecasted for the area.

In 2019, A Schedule 'C' Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (EA) Study for the ECTS Improvements and Upgrades Project was undertaken to identify the preferred means to implement these upgrades.

The subject property at Kennedy Valley contains part of the Deep Trunk Alignment which is a 1.5m diameter pipe spanning approximately 3.7 km in length from Kennedy Road South to Dixie Road. The majority of the alignment is located within valley lands, with the impacts mitigated through tunnelling.

The subject property requires a CHER as it was identified in the ECTS Improvements and Upgrades Project Background Review Gap Analysis as a listed property in the Brampton Heritage Register, and a preliminary impact assessment indicated that there

would be direct impacts to the Kennedy Valley property including the construction of Shaft 1 and the Biscayne Connection on the property as well as construction related to site access for Shaft 1 and re-grading at the Biscayne Connection shaft site.

The CHER, completed by ASI. in December 2024 and updated in February and May 2025 by ASI determined that the property retained CHVI. As such, an HIA was subsequently completed in March 2025 to determine potential impacts to the property and recommend appropriate mitigation measures.

Property Location

The Kennedy Valley property consists of a public park with a walking trail within a creek valley. The Etobicoke Creek meanders through the valley in a generally east-west direction. The valley is largely wooded with some open marshy areas with shorter vegetation and shrubs. The Etobicoke Creek Trail roughly follows the alignment of the creek on its north side, sometimes running along the northern property line.

Approximately 50 metres from the Kennedy Road South entrance to the park, along the trail, is a stone monument and interpretive panel commemorating the Graham-Rutledge farmstead and farmhouse which was formerly on the property but burnt down in 2010. The Graham Family Cemetery is within the valley, on the south side of the trail, approximately 180 metres east of Kennedy Road South. On the south side of the creek is a remnant nineteenth-century quarry.

The subject property is located within a mixed suburban context. North of the subject property is an industrial area with large warehouses that back onto the valley. The area south of the property is occupied by a sports arena and various outdoor sports fields. Also south of the subject property, on the east side of Kennedy Road South, is a small commercial development which occupies the former site of the Graham farmhouse.

CURRENT SITUATION:

CHVI of the property

The property was evaluated and found to meet three criteria under Reg. 9/06 of the Ontario Heritage Act for historical/associative and contextual. The draft statement of cultural heritage significance states the following:

“The Kennedy Valley has historical and associative value for its associations with the Indigenous peoples that lived around it and used the watercourse, as well as two prominent early settler families in Brampton.

The Etobicoke Creek was utilized by the Indigenous peoples that lived in and travelled through the area for fresh water and fishing. The Graham family, who

are among the earliest European settlers and the area and for whom Grahamsville is named, were the first to settle the property. The Graham Family Cemetery, which remains on the property contains the grave of Hugh Graham and it is reported that the cemetery also contains the burials of 25-30 other individuals. The property is also associated with the Rutledge family, who were also among the earliest European settlers and the area. William Rutledge who owned the property in the late 1800s, was a very prominent figure in the local community, serving as a Deputy Reeve, then Reeve, and Councillor for Toronto Township, before rising to the rank of Warden of the Township in 1914 and 1915.

The Kennedy Valley property also has contextual value for its historical and physical links to its surroundings. While the property has been mostly naturalized, features of the historical use of the property as an early settler farmstead remain in the Graham Family Cemetery and the remnant quarry, which provided the stone for the construction of the farmhouse which once stood on the property and the extant yard wall of the Peel County Jail.”

Key attributes of the property that reflect its historical and associative value and its contextual value include:

- The Etobicoke Creek
- The Graham Family Cemetery:
 - Original markers and monuments
 - Location on the former Graham-Rutledge Farmstead
- Remnant Quarry
- Commemorative stone monument and interpretive panel

Impact Assessment and Mitigation Measures

The E.C.T.S. alignment crosses under a portion of the remnant quarry and under Etobicoke Creek at four points, however, as the construction of the alignment is to be completed by micro-tunnel boring well below the depth of the remnant quarry and the creek, no adverse direct or indirect impacts are anticipated to the remnant quarry or Etobicoke Creek

Direct impacts to the Kennedy Valley property include:

- Boring at the sites of Shaft 1, Shaft 2, and the Biscayne Shaft.
- Temporary land disturbances and the removal of mature trees and vegetation at the shaft sites.

However, these impacts are not located near the identified heritage attributes of the property and are not anticipated to adversely impact the heritage value of the property.

The impacts are expected to be minor and temporary if proper mitigation measures are implemented.

As a result, the following mitigation measures are recommended:

- Construction crews should be advised of the heritage status and heritage attributes of the Kennedy Valley prior to any work in its vicinity.
- Staging and construction should be suitably planned and executed to ensure that unintended negative impacts to the identified heritage attributes of the Kennedy Valley are avoided. Mitigation measures may also include establishing no-go zones with fencing and directing working crews to avoid identified heritage attributes.
- Where the proposed work cannot be revised to avoid temporary land disturbances and impacts, the removal of trees and vegetation should be limited to the extent possible, and where removal cannot be avoided, post-construction rehabilitation with sympathetic plantings should be implemented.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS:

None

Financial Implications:

None

STRATEGIC FOCUS AREA:

The approval of the Heritage Impact Assessment Addendum noted within this report supports the Culture & Diversity Focus Area and the Environmental Resilience & Sustainability Focus Areas. The recommendations therein facilitate the ongoing protection of a unique heritage resource that contributes to the understanding of Brampton's early cultural development and history, as well as the improvement of a key water management project in the area.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report and Heritage Impact Assessment, Kennedy Valley be received by the Brampton Heritage Board as being complete.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

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Integrated City Planning

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Attachments:

- Attachment 1 - Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report - Kennedy Valley ASI
- Attachment 2 - Heritage Impact Assessment - Kennedy Valley – ASI
- Attachment 3 – Highlights of CHER and HIA for Kennedy Valley