

**Heritage Report:
Reasons for Heritage Designation**



Kennedy Valley – 7745 Kennedy Road South and 0 Clipper Court

June 2025

Profile of Subject Property

Municipal Address	7745 Kennedy Road South & 0 Clipper Court
PIN & Roll Number	Roll number: 10-14-0-118-00398-0000 PIN: 143000014 Roll Number: 10-14-0-118-00397-0000 PIN: 143000040
Legal Description	PL M947 BLKS 11,12 PL M1008 BLKS 3,4
Ward Number	3
Property Name	Kennedy Valley
Current Zoning	Floodplain & Open Space
Current Use(s)	Park & River
Construction Date	Early 19 th century
Notable Owners or Occupants	Graham family, Rutledge family
Heritage Resources on Subject Property	Cemetery, Monuments, River, Quarry
Relevant Council Resolutions	
Additional Information	

1. Current Situation:

The property known as Kennedy Valley is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value or interest. The property meets the criteria for designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the *Ontario Heritage Act*, Regulation 9/06 for the categories of historical/associative value and contextual value. It was listed to the Municipal Register in 2005.

2. Description of Property

The Kennedy Valley property consists of a public park within a creek valley, located on the northeast side of Kennedy Road South, approximately 135 metres southwest of First Gulf Boulevard. 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 part of the property. The Graham Family Cemetery, which likely dates to the early nineteenth century, is located 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.

3. Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Historical/Associative Value:

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.

Contextual Value:

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.

Ontario Regulation 9/06 Evaluation:

Criteria for Determining Cultural Heritage Value or Interest	Assessment (Yes/No)	Rationale
Design or physical value		
a) Is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material or construction method	No	The property is generally naturalized and does not contain a rare, unique, representative, or early example of a style, type, expression, material, or construction method.
b) Displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit	No	The property is generally naturalized and does not display a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit.
c) Demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement	No	The property is generally naturalized and does not demonstrate a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.
Historical or Associative Value		
a) Has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person,	Yes	The Etobicoke Creek was utilized by the Indigenous peoples that

activity, organization, or institution that is significant to a community		<p>lived in and travelled through the area for fresh water and fishing. The Etobicoke Creek watershed was part of the traditional territory and/or treaty lands of a number of Indigenous Nations, including the Haudenosaunee, the Huron-Wendat, the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Six Nations of the GrandRiver.</p> <p>The property is associated with two important early settler families in Brampton: the Graham Family, who are among the earliest European settlers and the area and for whom Grahamsville is named, and the Rutledge family. 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.</p>
b) Yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture	Yes	The subject property contains a cemetery which has the potential to yield information that contributes to an understanding of a community or culture. The subject property meets this criterion.
c) Demonstrates or reflects the work or ideas of an architect, artist, builder, designer or theorist who is significant to the community.	No	The rural agricultural context in which the subject property was developed is no longer intact, as it is now within a suburban context with mixed residential and

		industrial developments and a sporting complex in the immediate vicinity. The subject property is a naturalized public park in a valley and is not important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area.
Contextual Value		
a) Is important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of an area	No	The house, shed, and cottages are not important in defining, maintaining, or supporting the character of the area. The surrounding area is generally residential properties with heights ranging from one to two storeys, however, the character defining elements of the property that support the context have been altered.
b) Is physically, functionally, visually, or historically linked to its surroundings	Yes	The subject property is located on a former farmstead developed in the early nineteenth century. 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.
c) Is a landmark	No	The property is a part of a public trail system which is likely used by many local residents, however the portion of the trailway within

		<p>the subject property is similar to other sections of the trail and there are no distinctive structures or landforms within the valley.</p> <p>The dense trees and vegetation as well as its position in a valley below the roadway block views of the property from Kennedy Road South and Highway 410, obscuring it from view from both roadways, so the property is also not considered to be a landmark to motorists.</p>
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4. Description of Heritage Attributes/Character Defining Elements

The heritage attributes comprise all physical remnants, monuments, plaques as well as significant landscape elements and important vistas. The detailed heritage attributes/character defining elements include, but are not limited to:

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

5. Alteration History and Heritage Integrity

Monument and Interpretive Panel

At the entrance to the Kennedy Valley there is a stone archway and interpretive panel commemorating the Graham-Rutledge Farmstead near the Kennedy Road South. The archway is constructed of two stone pillars connected by a concrete cross-piece which is engraved with the phrase "In memory of the Graham-Rutledge Farmhouse, built circa 1840s, lost to fire 2010". There is also an interpretive panel in front of the archway which discusses the Graham and Rutledge families, the history of the property, and the fire that destroyed the farmhouse.

Graham Family Cemetery

The Graham Family Cemetery is located approximately 200 metres east of Kennedy Road South on an embankment high above the north side of Etobicoke Creek, where the pathway begins to angle to the southeast. There is no signage indicating the presence of the cemetery nor are any monuments or headstones visible from the pathway. The ground to the south of the cemetery is a steep hill/cliff and shows considerable signs of erosion and it is likely that many of the burials and headstones have been lost to the river below. Very near the edge of the cliff in the undergrowth is the top of a stone that may be one of the two carved headstones that were reportedly at the cemetery. The stone is nearly completely covered in vegetation and appears to be partially buried. No carvings were visible on the exposed part of the stone. No fieldstone headstones were visible at the site, though there may be some that remain beneath the undergrowth.

Former Quarry

The site of the former quarry is densely overgrown with trees and vegetation. No indications of the site's use as a quarry can be seen looking down from the pathway, however the area on the south side of the river where the quarry was likely located is flatter than the northern side and the areas to the immediate east and west.

6. Archaeological Potential

Graham Cemetery

Graham Family Cemetery among the 12 heritage cemeteries in the city yet to receive heritage designation.

The date of the first burial at the Graham Family Cemetery on the subject property is unknown but as the last burial is believed to be Hugh Graham in 1853 and the fact that there were some 25 to 30 burials on the site, the cemetery could date to as early as the 1820s, soon after the Grahams settled on the land. The Grahams were some of the earliest European settlers in the area and were influential in the development of Brampton and the surrounding areas. The cemetery cannot be seen from the trail on the property and few remnants of the site remain aboveground save a possible carved headstone which is mostly buried and obscured by vegetation. There are no markers of the cemetery boundaries and it is possible that some of the burials are now below the trail, or have been destroyed due to the erosion of the creek bed. What remains of the family cemetery appears to be at imminent risk of damage or destruction due to the erosion.

7. Policy Framework

In the context of land use planning, the Province of Ontario has declared that the wise use and management of Ontario's cultural heritage resources is a key provincial interest.

A set of Provincial Policy Statements (PPS) provides planning policy direction on matters of provincial interest in Ontario. These statements set the policy framework for regulating the development and use of land. The relevant heritage policy statement is PPS 2.6.1, which states that "significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved". PPS 2.6.1 is tied to Section 3 of the *Ontario Planning Act*, which stipulates that land use planning decisions by municipalities "shall be consistent with" the Provincial Policy Statements.

The policy is also integrated with the Ontario Heritage Act. This piece of legislation grants municipalities powers to preserve locally significant cultural heritage resources through heritage designation. Decisions as to whether a property should be designated heritage or not is based solely on its inherent cultural heritage value or interest.

City Council prefers to designate heritage properties with the support of property owners. However, Council will designate a property proactively, without the concurrence of a property owner as required. These principles are reflected in Brampton's Official Plan. The relevant policies are as follows:

Section 4.10.1.3: All significant heritage resources shall be designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest in accordance with the Ontario Heritage Act to help ensure effective protection and their continuing maintenance, conservation and restoration.

Section 4.10.1.5: Priority will be given to designating all heritage cemeteries and all Class A heritage resources in the Cultural Heritage Resources Register under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Section 4.10.1.6: The City will give immediate consideration to the designation of any heritage resource under the Ontario Heritage Act if that resource is threatened with demolition, significant alterations or other potentially adverse impacts.

In 2015, the City Council adopted a new Strategic Plan to guide the evolution, growth and development of the city. Heritage preservation is one of the goals of this new Strategic Plan.

These principles are also guided by recognized best practices in the field of heritage conservation.

8. Resources

- Cultural Heritage Evaluation Report by A.S.I, dated May 2025
- City of Brampton, Heritage Listing Candidate Summary, August 2005

9. Appendix

Figure 1: Location of Kennedy Valley (CHER, ASI)

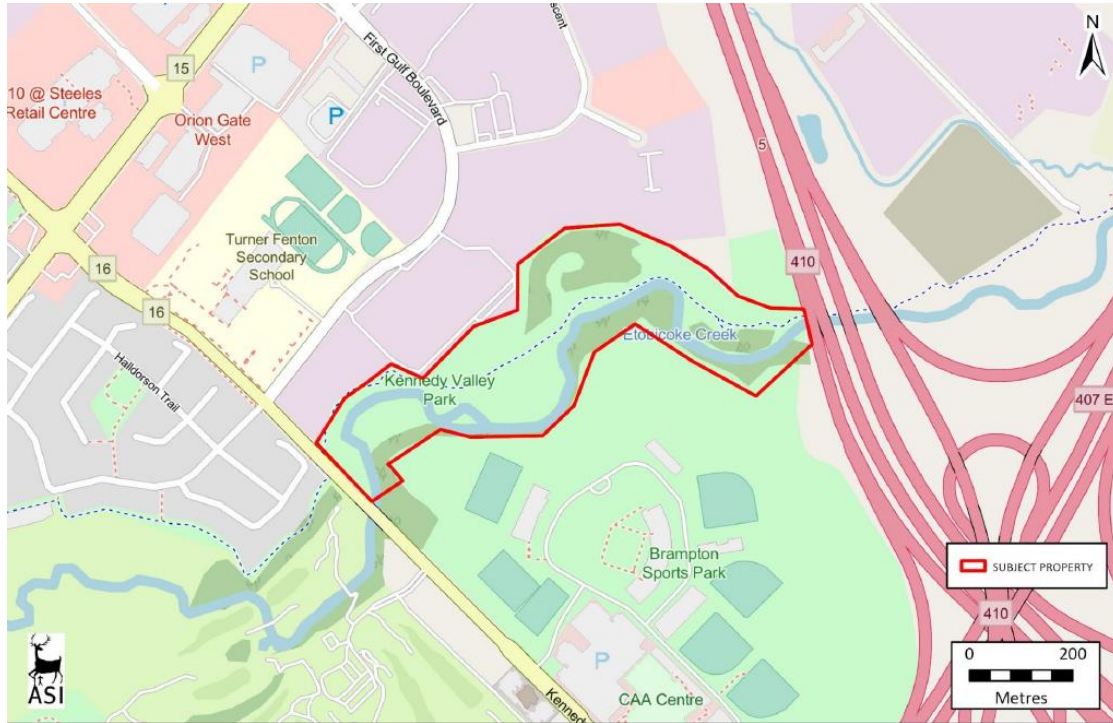


Figure 2: Property parcel boundary (AIMS)

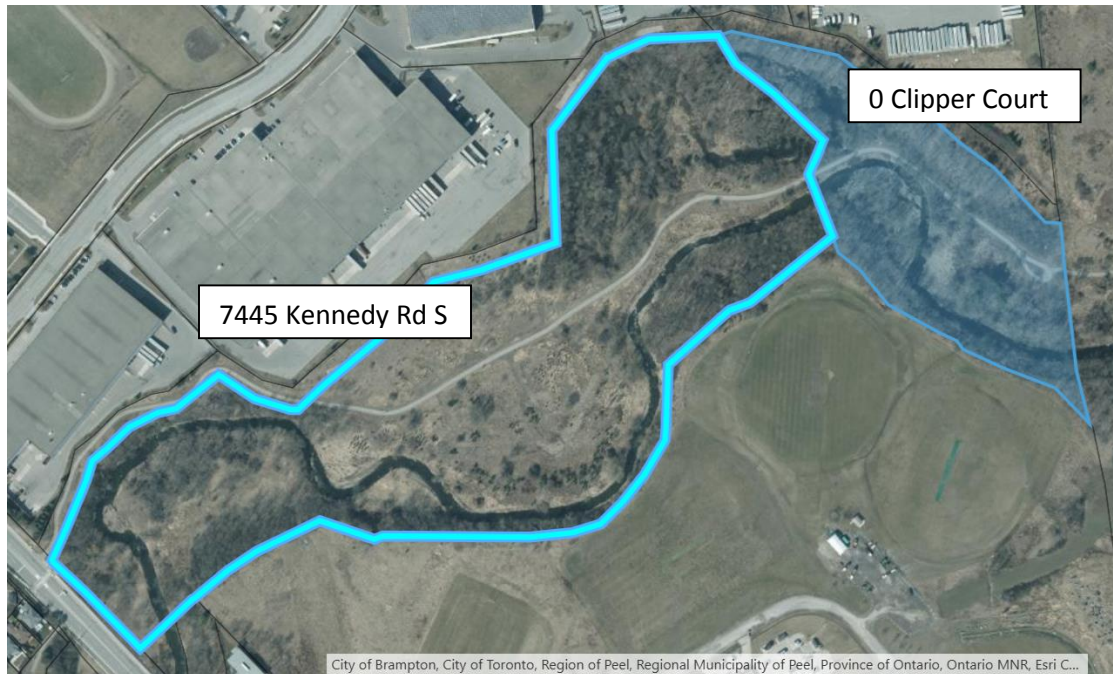


Figure 3: Location of heritage attributes within Kennedy Valley (CHER, ASI)



Figure 4: Aerial photography of Kennedy Valley in Nov 2020 (Source: AIMS)

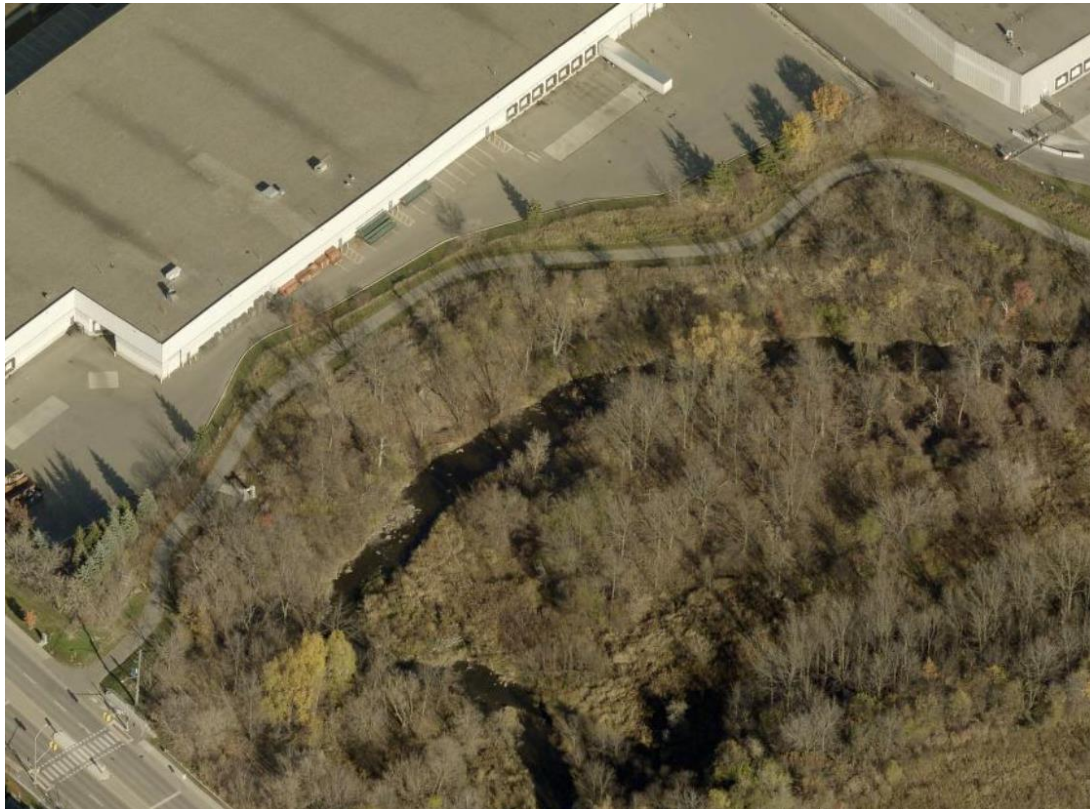


Figure 5: Adjacent heritage property at 7715 Kennedy Rd S (CHER, ASI)



Figure 6: Historical maps of the property (CHER, ASI)

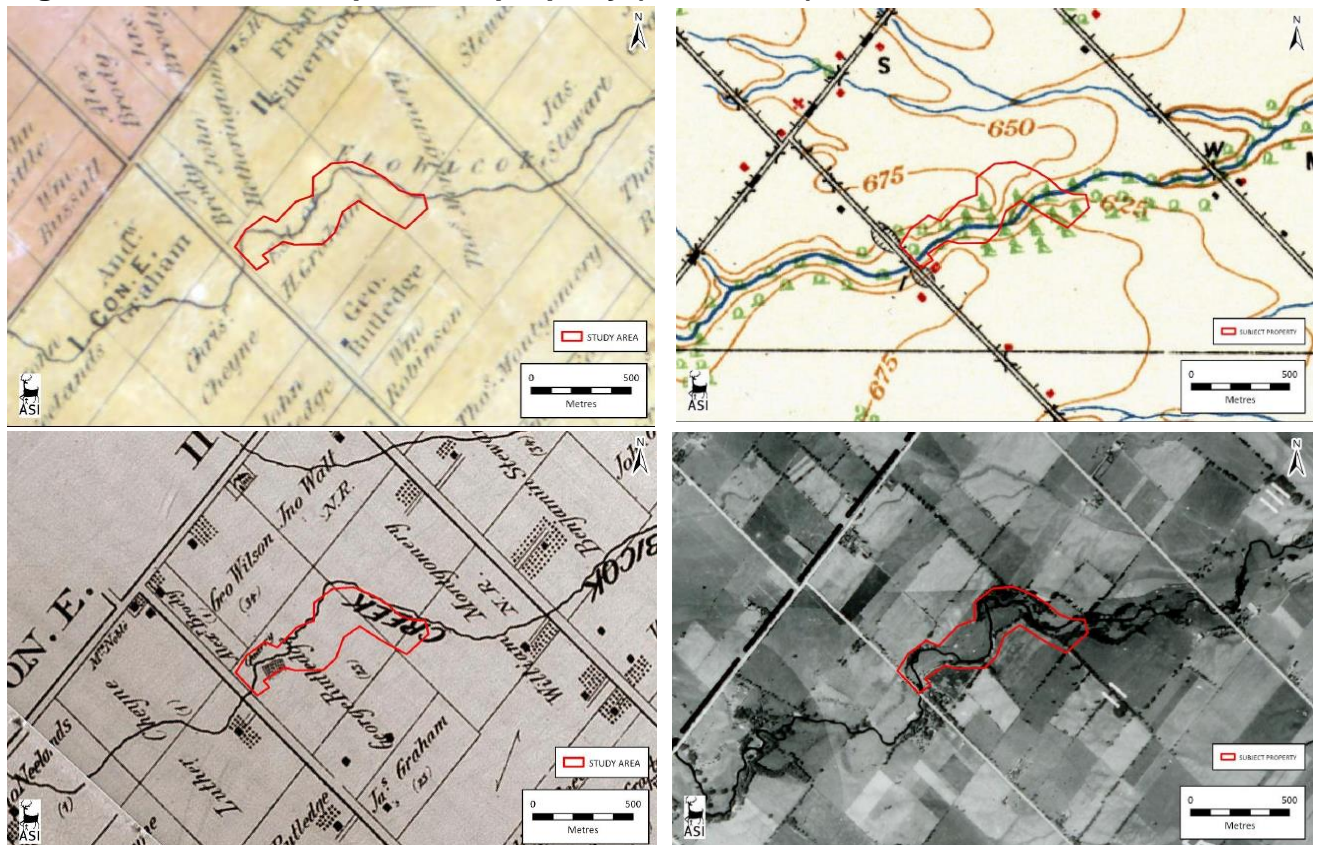


Figure 7: The stone house built by Hugh Graham (Perkins Bull, 1936). The original image of the house was painted before 1935

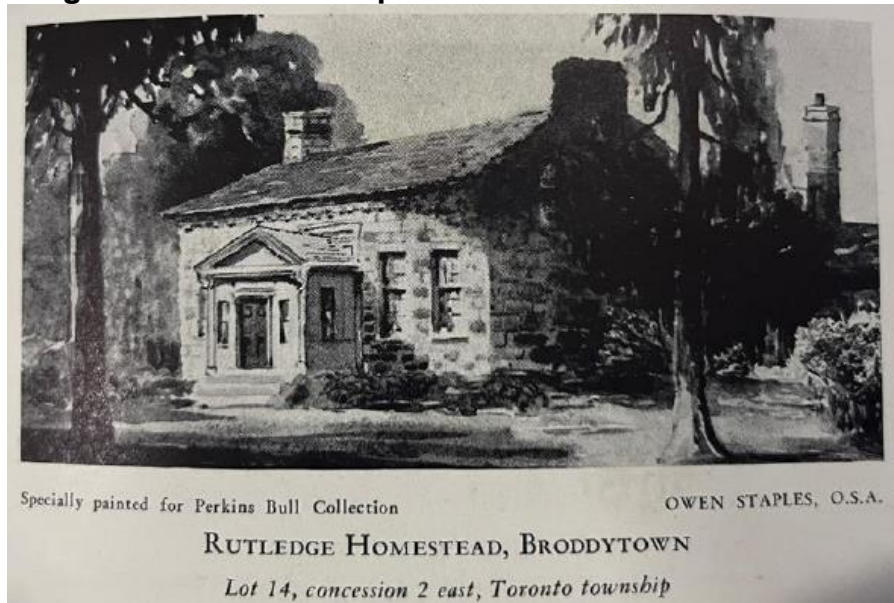


Figure 8: The location of the Graham Family Cemetery, looking north (Perkins Bull, 1936). Photographed in 1936 or before (CHER, ASI)

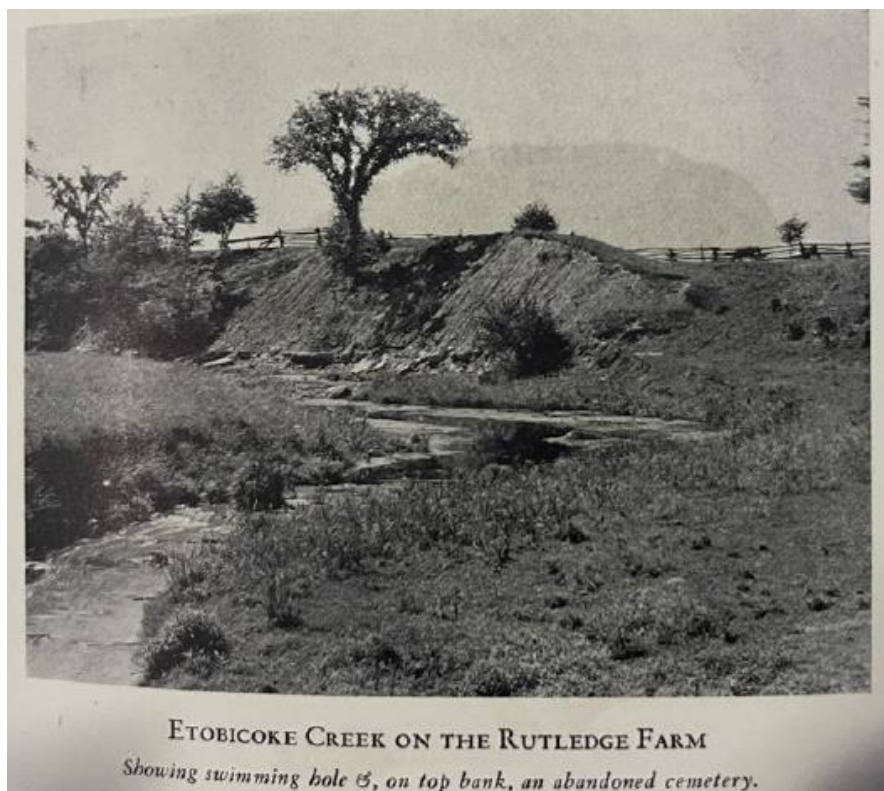


Figure 9: Photograph of the farm property, circa 1933 (image provided by the Region of Peel Archives, William Perkins Bull fonds)



Figure 10: The yard wall at the Peel County Jail, constructed from stone from the former Kennedy Valley Quarry (CHER, ASI)



Figure 11: The stone farmhouse after the 2010 fire (CHER, ASI)



Figure 12: Looking southwest along Etobicoke Creek near the western end of the subject property (CHER, ASI)



Figure 13: Detail view of the commemorative stone archway (CHER, ASI)



Figure 14: Detail view of the interpretive panel (CHER, ASI)



Figure 15: The site of the Graham Family Cemetery, looking northwest from the trail (CHER, ASI)



Figure 16: Detailed view of the buried headstone (CHER, ASI)



Figure 17: Looking south, across the creek from the Graham-Rutledge farmstead with the former quarry site on the left (CHER, ASI)

