



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BRAMPTON

# BY-LAW

Number 328-2013

To designate the property at 0 Gorewood Drive (Wiley Bridge)  
as being of cultural heritage value or interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18 (as amended) authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all the buildings and structures thereon, to be of cultural heritage value or interest;

WHEREAS the Brampton Heritage Board supports the designation of the properties described herein;

WHEREAS a Notice of Intention to Designate has been published and served in accordance with the Act, and there has been no Notice of Objection served on the Clerk;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the City of Brampton HEREBY ENACTS as follows:

1. The property at 0 Gorewood Drive (Wiley Bridge), more particularly described in Schedule "A", is hereby designated as being of cultural heritage value or interest pursuant to Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.
2. City Council shall cause a copy of this by-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A" to this by-law in the proper Land Registry Office.
3. The City Clerk shall cause a copy of this by-law to be served upon the owners of the property at 0 Gorewood Drive (Wiley Bridge) and upon the Ontario Heritage Trust, and cause notice of this by-law to be published on the City's website in accordance with Council's Procedure By-law.
4. The short statement of the reason for the designation of the property, including a description of the heritage attributes are set out in Schedule "B" to this by-law.

READ A FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD TIME AND PASSED IN OPEN COUNCIL  
THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013.

Approved as to form
Nov 13

SUSAN FENNELL - MAYOR

PETER FAY- CLERK

Approved as to content:

Henrik Zhogar, Acting Director, Planning Policy and Growth Management

**SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW 328-2013**

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

Wiley Bridge, crossing over Humber River in Claireville Conservation Area, being part of Road Allowance between Concession 8 and 9, East of Hurontario Street, lying south of Highway #7, as closed by VS155441; City of Brampton (Formerly Township of Toronto Gore)

PIN No. 14021-1221 (LT)

## SCHEDULE "B" TO BY-LAW 328-2013

### **SHORT STATEMENT OF THE REASON FOR THE DESIGNATION OF WILEY BRIDGE ON 0 GOREWOOD DRIVE:**

The property at 0 Gorewood Drive (Wiley Bridge) is worthy of designation under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for its cultural heritage value. The property meets the criteria for designation prescribed by the Province of Ontario under the three categories of design or physical value, historical value and contextual value.

The cultural heritage value of Wiley Bridge is related to its design or physical value as a rare example of a concrete bowstring bridge in Brampton. Along with the Bowstring Arch Bridge on Creditview Road, the Wiley Bridge is one of two examples of its kind in Brampton. The use of concrete in the construction of bridges became popular in Ontario at the turn of the century. Concrete bridges were typically designed in the simple arch form. They were favoured for their simplicity and because they allowed for the use of local materials and labour.

As an excellent example of civic engineering, Wiley Bridge also demonstrates a technical and architectural achievement. Elements that reflect the structure's engineering technology include a continuous span deck, with two fixed hinge-less "bowstring" arches, three concrete girders that tie the tops of the arches, concrete vertical hangers, and parapets. The bridge has the classic lines of a concrete bowstring bridge with its graceful arches. It was constructed circa 1930 by Langton & Bartho of Toronto, from a design by N.L. Powell, a Peel County Engineer.

The cultural heritage value of Wiley Bridge also lies in its association with the history of the Claireville Conservation Area. Heritage bridges enabled the growth and development of communities across Ontario. Settlers arrived in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century and began to survey land for parcel allotment and allocation, and cleared much of the land for agricultural uses. Ontario's prevalent riverways were substantial obstacles to the safety and efficiency of these tasks. The first bridges were built using timber that had been cleared to create roadways. A few later structures were built with stone and cast iron (following European examples), however, the practice never became popular due to a limited amount of local materials and skilled craftsmen.

Shortly after the turn of the century, concrete challenged steel as the primary bridge construction material. Concrete bridges became popular because they offered simplicity in traversing the many creeks and streams that weaved through Ontario. By the mid 1920s, approximately 65 bridges of this type were built in Canada, most of which were

located in Ontario. The Wiley Bridge reflects this period of bridge construction in Ontario. By World War II, the construction of concrete bowstring bridges had significantly declined, and several early concrete arch bridges have since been demolished and replaced with newer constructions. The Wiley Bridge has been able to survive by becoming a pedestrian footbridge in the scenic Claireville Conservation Area.

The Wiley Bridge reflects the work of local community members, including builders, engineers, and policy makers, and the use of local resources. The construction of the bridge was part of a flurry of bridge building and repairs directed by Peel County Council beginning in the 1920s. The agenda was likely a response to the economic depression that occurred in the late 1920s.

The site was named "Wiley Bridge" in honour of an important family of settlers that resided on a nearby farm. The Wiley family had occupied and farmed on the "River-view Farm" for over 100 years. John and Rebecca Wiley immigrated to Canada in 1836 and settled in Toronto Gore Township. Upon his death in 1864, John left fifty acres of the farm to his two sons, Leonard and William. The farm remained under the ownership of the Wiley family until the land was taken over by the Metropolitan Conservation Authority in 1962. Due to their importance and longevity within the Village of Castlemore community, the Wiley family was appropriately commemorated through the naming of the bowstring bridge.

The property holds contextual value due to its landmark status in the Claireville Conservation Area. As a unique manmade structure in the vast cultural heritage landscape, the Wiley Bridge is a striking and familiar site in the area. Furthermore, the bridge is physically and historically linked to its surroundings. While the area was once home to a community of settlers and farmers, today it is used as a recreational site for horseback riding, hiking, dog walking, etc. The contextual value of the Wiley Bridge also lies in its association with the Humber River. In 1999, the Humber River was designated a Canadian Heritage River by the Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) Board, as part of Canada's national river conservation program. The designation recognized the Humber River's contribution to the development of Ontario and its importance with regards to First Nations peoples and early Euro-Canadian explorers and settlers.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES OF THE PROPERTY:**

To ensure that the cultural heritage value of this property is conserved, certain heritage attributes that contribute to its value have been identified. They include:

- Rare concrete bridge construction – only a few examples survive

- Two fixed, hinge-less "bow-string" arches
- Three concrete girders that tie the tops of the arches
- Built on a bias
- Concrete balustrades
- Constructed by Toronto firm Langton & Bartho
- Designed by Peel County Engineer, N.L. Powell
- Reflects former human settlement and vehicular transportation of the area
- Associated with the Humber River, designated a heritage river by the CHRS Board of Canada
- Familiar landmark in the Claireville Conservation Area