

NOTICE

In accordance with Procedure By-law 160-2004, and in the matter of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18, and the matter of the lands and premises, located at 3448 Castlemore Road in the City of Brampton, in the Province of Ontario:

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the City of Brampton intends to designate property situated at 3448 Castlemore Road in the City of Brampton, in the Province of Ontario, as a property of cultural heritage value or interest under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter O. 18.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

The property at 3448 Castlemore Road is approximately 39 acres in size and located within valley land situated at the north-west corner of Goreway Drive and Castlemore Road. A tributary of the West Humber River meanders in a south-easterly direction through the subject lands, from Airport Road and the former hamlet of Stanley's Mills. The mill site was located above the tributary on the west side. The land is undeveloped open space, conveyed as floodplain to the City of Brampton.

SHORT STATEMENT OF THE REASON FOR THE DESIGNATION

The property at 3448 Castlemore Road 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* c.1 s. 27 (3) (b) for the categories of design/physical value and contextual value.

DESIGN/PHYSICAL VALUE:

The cultural heritage value of 3448 Castlemore Road is related to its design/ physical value as an example of a 19th century grist mill site in Brampton. The site contains the ruins of the circa 1842 Thomas Burrell Grist Mill. There are deep trenches still present, which served as sluices to direct the water to the mill, as well as remnants of foundation walls. The site is also distinguished by open meadows and groves of trees.

A grist mill is a mill that grinds grains such as wheat, rye and oats, into flour. In the 19th century they were most often water powered, thus located by streams and rivers. Such mills were crucial to Euro-

Canadian settlements in Ontario. Typically, in a water powered grist mill, water was diverted from the nearby water source and contained in a mill pound. Once diverted, the water would be controlled by various channels (sluices) and sluice gates, and the water movement would power the water wheel that would, in turn, power the movement of the mill stones to ground the grains into flour.

HISTORICAL/ASSOCIATIVE VALUE:

The cultural heritage value of the property also lies in its association with at least three generations of the Burrell family and the mill. The Burrell Grist Mill was an early business serving the Township of Toronto-Gore area, and the changing landscape of the former Township of Toronto-Gore from the early settlements of Euro-Canadian settlers, to the rise of small villages and industries that in turn evolved into open farmland and the horse industry in Peel. On October 31, 1828, the 200 acres of Lot 11, Concession 7 in the Township of Toronto Gore was granted by the Crown to Bishop Strachan as part of the Clergy Reserve lands. On February 10, 1838, John Sanderson bought the land from Bishop Strachan, and on May 15, 1838, he sold it to Thomas Burrell for £1000.00.

William Thomas Burrell was born in 1782 to a well-respected family in Lincolnshire, England. Thomas held a prominent position in the Lincolnshire Militia, where his main responsibility was training soldiers. He married Ann Standerlin while still in England and they immigrated to Upper Canada around 1816 and arrived in Peel County around 1825 with their young son, Christopher.

Thomas quickly became involved in local politics, and wrote to *The Colonial Advocate* in the fall of 1827, suggesting that the “infallible remedy against executive influence is that inhabitants of York should refuse to deal with any merchant or tradesman who voted for government placemen.” Burrell was a supporter of William Lyon Mackenzie, and using his knowledge from Lincolnshire Militia experience, not only trained his own sons to fight but also helped to train some of the other rebels.

Once Burrell and his wife settled down on Concession 7, Lot 11 in Toronto Gore, he became a very successful local businessman. One of his first undertakings was a tannery. In 1842, he built a substantial grist mill, which had two runs of grindstones. The mill was located in the middle of the valley, above the river. It was accessible from what is now Airport Road by a long lane, as well as from Goreway Drive.

The mill supplied flour to the neighbouring communities of Stanley’s Mills, Castlemore and Tullamore, as well as other parts of the Township. In addition to the tannery and grist mill, Burrell sold his grains and skins wholesale, and also ran a store, brewery, smithy (blacksmith’s shop) and other properties. Further cementing his role in the community, he was appointed a magistrate.

Thomas Burrell died on October 29, 1858, when he fell through a hole in the floor of the mill. He was buried in St. Mary’s Anglican cemetery (Lot 17, Con. 6 E., Chinguacousy Township). Unfortunately, the original monument for Thomas Burrell, his wife Ann and their son William cannot be found in the cemetery. Apparently, the monument was damaged and was placed behind a barn located in Lot 17

Con. 6E Chinguacousy Township and a new one was to be erected. However, the original disappeared and there is no replacement stone for them currently in the cemetery.

It was Thomas's oldest son, Christopher Burrell, who eventually took over the running and ownership of the mill and property. Christopher first married in 1835, and soon after immigrated to the United States with his wife, Catherine, in search of cheap land in Illinois. While in the U.S., both his wife and brother-in-law died, and Christopher returned to Peel in the early 1850's with his new wife (and former sister-in-law), Elizabeth, and young son, Richard. They rejoined the family interests in running the mill, and it is Christopher who is credited for adding a distillery to the family business. The new distillery, by all accounts, made a very fine whiskey. Workmen were allowed at least one drink per day, but anyone found drunk was immediately dismissed. Prior to his death in 1858, Thomas Burrell sold the holdings to his son Christopher on February 19, 1855, for £2000.

A mere 2 years after buying the mill from his father, Christopher sold the mill to Gordon Tucker for £4000 in March 1857. In 1859, Christopher Burrell was named the postmaster of Stanley's Mills (and again from 1864-1886) and was also a magistrate like his father. In 1861, the Census listed the occupation of Christopher Burrell as "Private". However, for unknown reasons Christopher Burrell bought back the mill few years later from Gordon Tucker. By the 1871 Census, his son, William, is listed as a miller, and in the 1877 Peel County Atlas Christopher Burrell is noted as the owner of the entire property again. Although there were many employees and head millers, the business was essentially run by his sons, William and Richard, until 1895.

But by the mid-1880s, the village of Stanley's Mills began to decline as did the fortunes of the mill. This may be partially attributed to the development of the railways that were located in the Town of Brampton, thus encouraging business to relocate to more central areas. The passing of first the *Dunkin Act* of 1864, which allowed communities to enact prohibition, as well as the 1878 *Canada Temperance Act*, may have also negatively impacted the mill.

Christopher Burrell sold all 200 acres "excepting the mill property" to Noah Chant in March 1885 for \$11,150. The remaining mill property itself was sold in 1892 by Richard Burrell to John Chant for \$300.

Christopher Burrell died on January 13, 1893, at age 82. His wife, Elizabeth, died on January 17, 1876, at age 67. They are buried in St. Mary's Anglican Cemetery, Tullamore. Richard Burrell and his wife, Anne Noble, moved to Caledon where he continued in the grain business and owned a successful store in Lockton. He died in 1929.

The Chant family held onto and farmed the original 200 acres for 15 years, until they sold it to Stephen Payne in 1910 for \$10,000. In 1928, Albert Payne split the property and sold the west 100 acres to James Hosie, and the east 100 acres to Robert and Martha Peacock. It is the east half of the property that contains the remains of the mill and, although the mill operations ceased in the 1890's the property has continued to be known for the remains of the Burrell mill.

Eventually in 1956, James E. Cotrelle purchased the east half of the site, and it became part of Cottrelle's family farm and horse stables known as "Springpark". The property was purchased for a residential development prior to 2004, and the lands that currently comprise 3448 Castlemore Road were conveyed to the City of Brampton in October 2004 in part because of the significant cultural heritage.

CONTEXTUAL VALUE:

The property also holds contextual value as it is important in defining a significant cultural heritage landscape with its scenic open space, meandering stream, vegetation and intact vistas and the physical remains of the mill.

DESCRIPTION OF THE HERITAGE ATTRIBUTES OF THE PROPERTY:

The heritage attributes comprise all façades, architectural detailing, construction materials and associated building techniques, as well as significant landscape elements and important vistas. The detailed heritage attributes/character defining elements include, but are not limited to:

Design/Physical Elements:

The heritage attributes comprise all of the physical remnants of the former mill complex including, construction materials and associated building techniques, as well as significant landscape elements and important vistas. The detailed heritage attributes/character defining elements include, but are not limited to:

- remnants of mill (e.g. foundation walls);
- trenches for sluices that directed water to the mill;
- meandering tributary of the West Humber River; and
- scenic open space.

The short statement of reason for the designation, including a description of the heritage attributes along with all other components of the detailed Heritage Report: Statement of Reason for Heritage Designation, constitute the "reason for heritage designation" required under the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Please contact Johanna Keus, Assistant Heritage Planner, at Johanna.keus@brampton.ca to view this document, and for further information. Any objections to this proposed designation must be filed with the City Clerk no later than 4:30 p.m. on July 4, 2025 (within 30 days of the publication of this notice).

Dated: June 4, 2025

Genevieve Scharback, City Clerk

2 Wellington St. W., Brampton, ON L6Y 4R2

905-874-2172 (voice), 905-874-2119 (fax) 905-874-2130 (TTY)

cityclerksoffice@brampton.ca