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CIVIC CENTRE
2141 MAJOR MACKENZIE DRIVE, MAPLE, ONTARIO L0J 1E0 TELEPHONE (416) 832-2281

August 26, 1987

The Ontario Heritage Foundation
77 Bloor St. West
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2R9

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please find enclosed a copy of By-law 291-87, being a by-law to designate the Carrville Mill Dam, 1040 Rutherford Road, Carrville. The Reasons for Designation are attached.

Yours truly,

Patricia K. Neal
Coordinator, Heritage Resources

/rt

Attach.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF VAUGHAN

BY-LAW 291-87

A By-law to designate the Carrville Mill Dam located on the property known municipally as 1040 Rutherford Road, Carrville, in the Town of Vaughan, Regional Municipality of York, as being of historical value or interest.

WHEREAS Section 29 of the Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1980, authorizes the Council of a municipality to enact by-laws to designate real property, including all buildings and structures thereon, to be of architectural or historical value or interest; and,

WHEREAS the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Vaughan has caused to be served on the owners of the lands and premises known as the Carrville Mill Dam, 1040 Rutherford Road, Carrville, being Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, in the Town of Vaughan, in the Regional Municipality of York, more particularly described in Schedule "A" attached hereto; and upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, notice of intention to so designate the aforesaid real property and has caused such notice of intention to be published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality one for each of three consecutive weeks; and,

WHEREAS no notice of objection to the proposed designation has been served on the Clerk of the Municipality:

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Corporation of the Town of Vaughan ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. There is designated as being of architectural value or interest the building known as the Carrville Mill Dam, situated at 1040 Rutherford Road, Carrville, being Part of Lot 17, Concession 2, in the Town of Vaughan, in the Regional Municipality of York, more particularly described in Schedule "A", attached hereto.
2. The reasons for designation are set out in Schedule "B", attached hereto.
3. The Town Solicitor is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be registered against the property described in Schedule "A", attached hereto, in the proper land registry office.

4. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized to cause a copy of this By-law to be served on the Owner of the aforesaid property and on the Ontario Heritage Foundation and to cause notice of the passing of this By-law to be published in the same newspaper in which notice of intention to so designate was published once of each of three consecutive weeks.

READ a FIRST and SECOND time this 17th day of August, 1987.



L. D. Jackson, Mayor



R. Panfili, Town Clerk

READ a THIRD time and finally passed, this 17th day of August, 1987.



L. D. Jackson, Mayor



R. Panfili, Town Clerk

DESCRIPTION OF LANDS

ALL AND SINGULAR that certain parcel or tract of land and premises situate lying and being in the Town of Vaughan, in the Regional Municipality of York, formerly in the Township of Vaughan in the County of York, containing by admeasurement six and eighth-tenths acres be the same more or less being composed of part of lot seventeen in the second concession of the said Town and is more particularly described as follows:

COMMENCING where a stone has now been planted at the fence for the line between the north and south halves of said lot number seventeen distant three chains and forty-eight links (229.68 feet) measured easterly along the said line fence from the high water mark on the east side of the Mill Pond connected with the Grist Mill property herein described;

THENCE SOUTH thirteen degrees and forty minutes east to and along a post and rail fence nine chains and seventy-two links (641.52 feet) to a stone monument now planted at the line of a post and board fence running westerly;

THENCE SOUTH seventy-eight degrees and thirty minutes west along the line of said fence and the westerly production of the same seven chains (462 feet) to a stone monument now planted at the line of an old fence for the boundary between the lands of W. & T. Cook;

THENCE NORTH three degrees and fifteen minutes west along the line of said old fence four chains nineteen links (276.54 feet) to a stone monument now planted at an angle on the said fence;

THENCE NORTH thirty-nine degrees thirty minutes west along the line of said old fence, one chain eighty-six links (122.76 feet) to the high water mark of said mill pond;

THENCE NORTHERLY along the line of said high water mark to the line of the fence for the line between the north and south halves of said lot seventeen;

THENCE easterly along the line of said fence for the line between the said north and south halves of said lot seventeen across said pond to the line of the fence on the easterly side of said pond for the line between the north and south halves of said lot seventeen, and along the line of said fence to the stone monument planted at the place of beginning. All courses magnetic of 10th June, 1907.

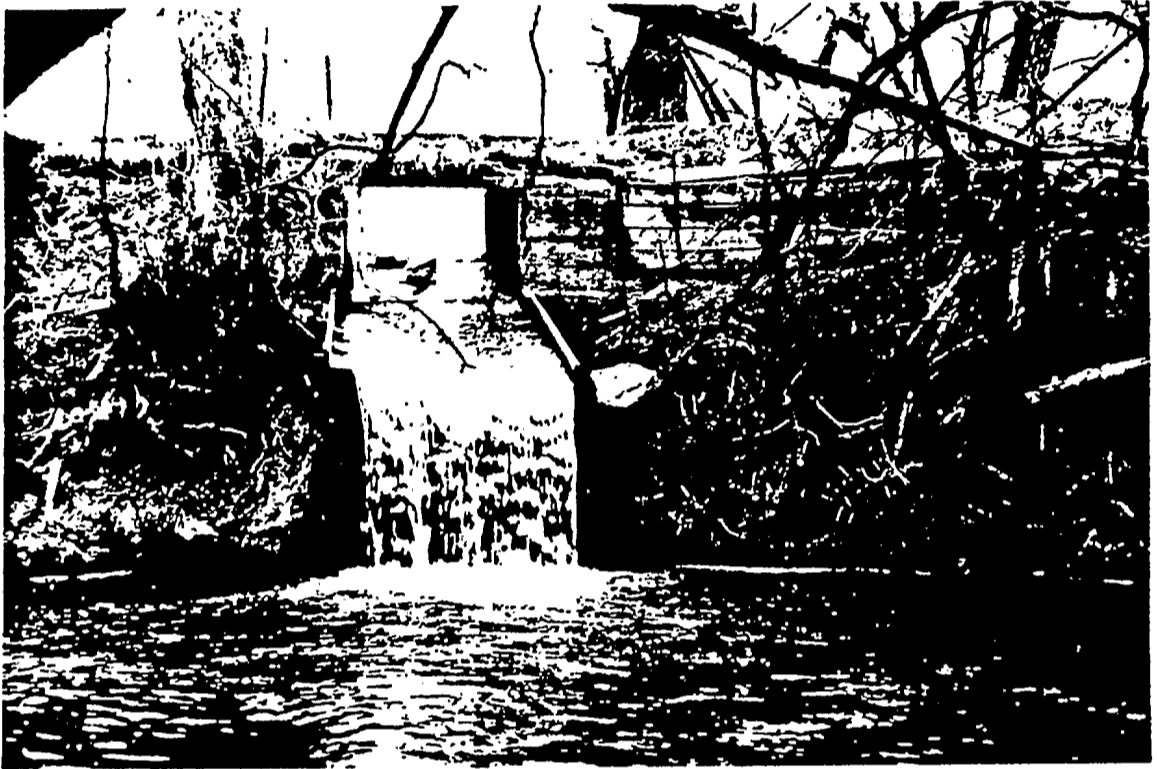
TOGETHER ALSO with an undisturbed right of way to the owner or owners from time to time of the above described lands and premises, their heirs and assigns and their servants or agents over, along and upon the present existing right of way into the lands hereby conveyed, being a right of way over that part of lot 16 in the Second Concession of the Town of Vaughan, running in a northerly direction from the side road between lots 15 and 16 in said concession to the lands hereby conveyed, which right of way is shown on a survey of part of the said lot 16 made by H.H. Gibson & Sons O.L.S. dated the 20th day of January 1942 and deposited in the Registry Division of Toronto Boroughs and York South (No. 64), formerly the registry division of the east and west ridings of the County of York, on the 19th day of February 1942 as part of Deposit number 6558, such Deposit having been made pursuant to an order of the Supreme Court of Ontario dated the 14th day of May 1941, which order is part of the said Deposit number 6558.

As in Registered Instrument No. 69480.

C A R R V I L L E M I L L D A M

1040 Rutherford Road

Carrville



Angela Pacchiarotti

May 1987

PROPERTY: Carrville Mill Dam

ADDRESS: 1040 Rutherford Road
Carrville

CONSTRUCTION DATE: Circa 1816

ORIGINAL OWNER: Michael Fisher

SIGNIFICANCE: The community of Carrville began as a mill village dependent on its mills for economic stability. The first mill in Carrville was built in 1816 by Michael Fisher on Lot 17, Concession 2. Serving this mill was the Carrville Mill Dam, controlling and regulating the water of the Don River.

The dam and mills on the Michael Fisher Estate were sold to Thomas and William Cook, two prominent members of the Carrville community.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

In 1816, Michael Fisher built a flour mill on Lot 17, Concession 2. In 1826, Fisher built a second flour mill a little west of a saw mill on the same dam. The mills on the Michael Fisher estate were the first mills to be built in the community of Carrville, and the first mills to be built along the east branch of the Don River at Bathurst Street and Rutherford Road. These mills which were important to the Carrville community for over 100 years.

Thomas Cook emigrated from England with his younger brother William in 1831, and that year Thomas Cook bought Lots 17 and 18 in Concession 2 from Michael Fisher. Thomas Cook built a saw mill in 1838, 75 rods south of the flour mill on Lot 16. In 1841, Jacob Baker put a new water wheel with a water-pitch in the saw mill, receiving a patent for this water-pitch and wheel. In 1842, Thomas Cook was granted all of Lot 16 by the Crown. In 1848 Thomas Cook built a new saw mill with an over-shot wheel of 18 feet a few rods west of the old mill on Lot 16 using, again, the same dam.

Thomas Cook was a prominent member of the Carrville community, contributing extensively to its growth. The 1851 census indicates that Thomas, born in 1801 in England, was married with three sons, William, Thomas and George. The family built a two-storey red brick house in 1856. The Thomas Cook store served the community for 70 years, containing the Carrville post-office (1865 to 1923). Thomas Cook was Carrville's first post master. Thomas served on the Vaughan Township Council as a councillor and in 1857 donated land and money for the construction of the Carrville Primitive Methodist Church (today called the Carrville United Church).

William Cook purchased from his brother, Thomas, all two hundred acres of Lot 17 in Concession 2 in 1841. Shortly after receiving title to the land, William leased the land to Nathaniel Kirby and left for England. Thomas remained behind to continue operating the mills.

In 1847 or 1848, William returned from England to Carrville with his new wife Elizabeth and their three children. William served on the Vaughan Township Council between 1861-63 as Deputy Reeve and was, as his brother, a prominent member in his community.

Thomas Cook died on December 25, 1877 and his brother William on February 23, 1878. Both left their property to their sons. The land has since been sold to others, no longer remaining in the Cook family. The grist mill on the original Cook property was destroyed by a fire on November 16, 1933.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

In Upper Canada the large number of settlers following the American Revolution created a need for saw mills and grist mills. The settlers had a need for lumber from the saw mills and flour from the grist mills. The higher the population in an area, the greater the need for saw and grist mills in the area.

A successful mill attracted blacksmiths, wheelwrights, wagon makers and other skilled craftsmen that would provide their skills to those settlers who needed their services. A community would develop due to the establishment of a mill in the area. The community in Carrville, by 1860, already had two churches, a school and a store to serve the area.

In 1843, Britain permitted Canadian flour to enter its country duty-free. For the next six years, Canada's grain milling capacity doubled in production. However, the industry's boom was short lived as in 1846 free-trade started with Britain and the Canadian flour mill industry slowly declined due to extensive competition amongst millers.

Another change in the milling industry was the introduction of steam powered mills that increased production and made it difficult for the smaller water mills to compete with the new steam powered mills.

Mills on the Don River were a significant factor in initiating various communities along tributaries of the river. These mills relied on running water for power. The dams were created to contain and control the water for the mills to use. In the 1840's, 59 grist mills and saw mills were located on the Don River's banks.

Mill dams became so numerous in certain areas that in dry seasons the scarce water of a stream was contained and held from one mill pond to another. The race for more water resulted in disputes amongst the millers and farmers of the area.

Carrville was a mill village dependent on the Cook brothers' mills and other mills near it. The community's population flourished with the development of these mills. The Carrville Mill Dam located on Lot 17 in Concession 2, served the grist and saw mills of Lots 16, 17 and 18. The dam has engraved on it, "Howard Cook" and "Geo. Kirby". Howard Cook was a descendent of the first William Cook who settled in Carrville. He was an executor of William Cook's estate and in 1916 sold off the 145 acres on Lots 16 and 17 in Concession 2.

George Kirby purchased all of Lot 18 Concession 2 in 1907, later selling it in 1917 to John Wilson. George Kirby was a descendent of Nathaniel Kirby who first leased Lot 17 Concession 2 from William Cook in 1841. This would date reparations on the dam as having occurred between 1907 and 1916. One can assume that the two men repaired the dam and left their names inscribed on the dam wall.

It is recorded that on April 6, 1912, extreme flooding occurring along the Don River, burst six dams along the river. Flooding also occurred in 1914, but to a much lesser degree than the 1912 flooding. It may have been that the repairs to the Carrville Mill Dam of Carrville took place in 1912 or 1914.

SOURCES

1851 Census

1881 Census

History of Vaughan Township, G. E. Reaman, 1971

History of Toronto and the County of York, C. B. Robinson, 1885

A History of Vaughan Township Churches, Catherine MacFarlane and Patricia Somerville, 1984

The Harold and York County Intelligencies, No. 40, Feb. 28, 1878
(Obituary of William Cook)

Registry Office Records for Lots 16, 17, 18, in Concession 2

The Don Valley Conservation Report, 1950

The Merchant Millers of the Humber Valley, Sidney Thomson Fisher, 1985

Canadian Encyclopedia, 1966 see Mills and Dams

Don Valley Legacy, A Pioneer History, Ann Autherie, 1986

The Settlement of York County, John Mitchele

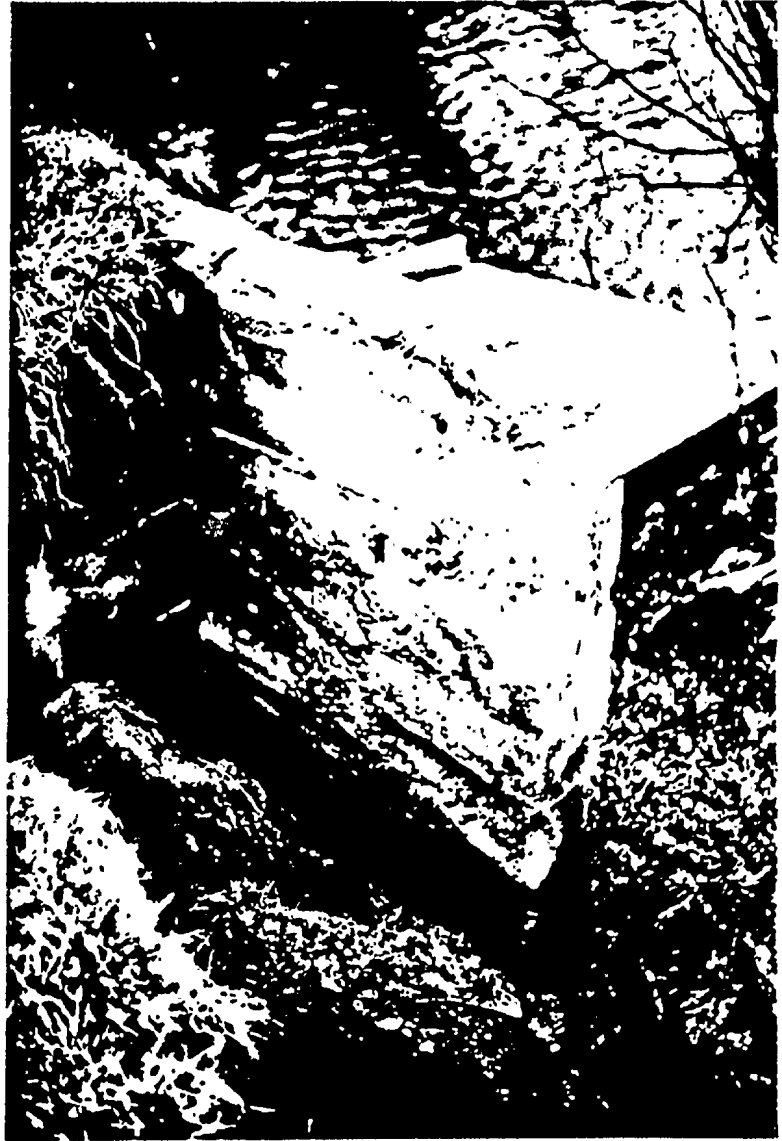


View inside dam facing south.



View of dam facing east following storm (1986).

Detail of
inscriptions:
Geo Kirby
Howard Cook.



Dam wall facing east. Two views.



View of dam facing south.



View of dam following storm (1986) facing northwest.