60: 3371 Trafalgar Rd, Clements Family Farmhouse

1. Description of Property

Municipal Address	3371 Trafalgar Rd	
Name (if applicable)	Clements Family Farmhouse	
Legal Description	PCL 11-1, SEC T12 ; PT LTS 11 & 12, CON 1 TRAFALGAR, NORTH OF DUNDAS STREET , PART 1 ,	
	20R7 ; OAKVILLE/TRAFALGAR	
Location of Property	The property is located on the east side of Trafalgar Rd, north of Dundas St East, and south of	
	Burnhamthorpe Rd. East.	
Ownership	Private	
Access	Access was not granted. Photos taken from road, September 8 th , 2015. (AB, CU, ES)	
Current Use	Vacant and derelict.	
Existing Designation	Listed on the Register of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value of Interest (NOT Designated).	
	Description: "This property has potential cultural heritage value for its historic farmstead,	
	including the c. 1820 frame house and for its association with Matthew Clements".	
	The property is included in the North Oakville East Secondary Plan.	
General Description	The property contains remnants of two-storey wood-frame house; the roof has caved in and	
	the building is falling down. There are no other structures on the property. A driveway to the	
	south of the house is barely legible; it is lined with trees and overgrown with vegetation. The	
	property is currently vacant and inaccessible.	
Priority Level	Low	



Figure 1: Clements family farmhouse. (AB, 2015)



2. Key Recommendations

Priority = Low

Rationale for priority level:

- Not a strong candidate under the OHA;
- Cultural heritage resources have been lost due to neglect.

Recommendations for future action:

• Consider removal as a Listed property on the Register of Properties of Cultural Heritage Value of Interest (NOT Designated) as the property no longer has any heritage resources or cultural heritage landscape.

3. Documentation and Inventory of Built Form

List of Built Features:

- The remains of a two-storey, wood-frame house. The roof has caved in and it is barely erect. The building is located in a grove of trees and is barely visible from the road;
- The remains of a gravel laneway drive which is lined with trees and overgrown with vegetation;
- Large metal gates that block access to the property with a 'No Trespassing Sign'; and
- An old powerline running along the southern property line in an east-west direction.

4. Documentation and Inventory of Natural Form

List of Natural Features:

- Willows lining the north side of the laneway;
- Walnut trees along the north property line;
- Property is overgrown with Buckthorn, Goldenrod, Milkweed; and
- Mapping suggest a small pond on the north end of property, however this could not be confirmed from the road.

5. Design (Typology)

'X' all that apply	Categories of Cultural Heritage Landscape	Description		
	Designed Landscape	"clearly defined landscape designed and created intentionally by man."		
x	Organically Evolved Landscape	"results from an initial social, economic, administrative, and/or religious imperative and has developed in its present form in response to its natural environment"		
x	Relict Landscape (Evolved Landscape)	"in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past."		
	Continuing Landscape (Evolved Landscape)	"retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and which the evolutionary process is still in progress."		
	Associative Cultural Landscape	"justifiable by virtue of the powerful		

'X' all that apply	Categories of Cultural Heritage Landscape	Description
		religious, artistic, or cultural associations of the natural element rather than material cultural evidence, which may be insignificant or even absent."

6. Historical and Thematic Associations

The 1806 Wilmot survey shows Hugh Howard on Lot 12, Concession 1, NDS (Figure 3).¹ The municipal heritage register indicates that the frame house on the property was built c.1820.² Historical photos of the house show a one-and-a-half storey, wood-frame house with a one-storey, wood-frame wing. The house style more closely resembles a house built in the 1840s or 1850s (Figure 5).

The property is associated with the Clements family who first settled in Trafalgar Township in 1831. John Clements (1797-1873) emigrated from Ireland in 1823, settling first in Cornwall, then Little York and finally arriving in Trafalgar Township in 1831.³ He married Jane Barr in 1823, and they had ten children.⁴ Known as a 'zealous Christian and an upright man' he lived on the property until his death in 1873.⁵

Matthew Clements (1826-1909) was John and Jane's eldest son.⁶ He had a common school education and worked as a farmer for 31 years in the Township of Trafalgar. The 1877 Map of Trafalgar Township shows M. Clements on the 100-acre parcel at the north end of Lot 12 Concession I, NDS. There are two buildings and two orchards on the property. A small parcel at the northwest corner of the lot, likely one acre, is owned by E.M. McLernan (Figure 4).⁷

The property is currently vacant and the house has not been used for some time. The property is included in the North Oakville East Secondary Plan.

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¹ Wilmot Survey, 1806

² As Listed in Town of Oakville. *Heritage Register: Section F.* Last updated: October 24th, 2014.

³ Ancestry.com. *Nelles/Milburn Family Tree*. Accessed Oct, from http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/56334/person/-2106630082

⁴ Ancestry.com. Nelles/Milburn Family Tree. Accessed Oct, from <u>http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/56334/person/-2106630082</u>. Their

children were: Matthew (1826-1909), Margaret (1829-1909), Mary (1830-1908), Sarah (1833-1910), John (1835-1857), Ann (1837-1865), Ellen (1839-1932), William (1841-1915), Joseph (1844-1924), Isabella (1848-1900) and James (1851-1861).

⁵ Rose, 1886.

⁶ Rose. 1886.

⁷ Illustrated Historical Atlas of the County of Halton, 1877.



Figure 3: Detail of 1806 survey map showing Hugh Howard on Lot 11, Con 1 (NDS), and William Rose on Lot 11, Con 1 (NDS) (Wilmot Survey, 1806)

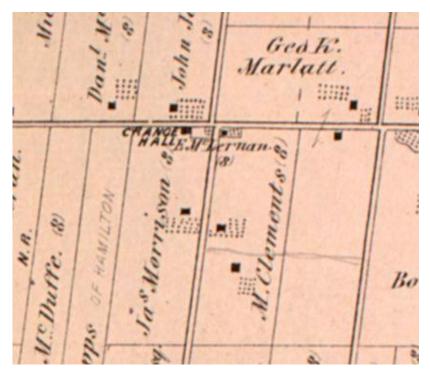


Figure 4: 1877 Map of Trafalgar Township showing James Morrison on Lot 11, Concession I (NDS) and M. Clements on Lot 12, Concession I (NDS) (Pope, 1877).



Figure 5: Historic Photo of the original frame house (Source: Unknown. Images provided by Town of Oakville Staff).

7. Contextual Associations

The property is located on the west side of Trafalgar Road and is surrounded by open fields to the east and south. To the north is the property associated with John's son Matthew Clements (3437 Trafalgar Rd). On the other side of Trafalgar road is a residential property surrounded by open agricultural fields. The property was originally associated with the farm land surrounding the property as the Clements family spent many decades living there and farming the land.

O.Reg.9/06 Criteria	Criteria Potentially Met (Y/N)	Potential Justification
1. The property has design value or physical value because it,		
i. is a rare, unique, representative or early example of a style, type, expression, material, or construction method,	N	Not shown.
ii. displays a high degree of craftsmanship or artistic merit, or	N	Not shown.
iii. demonstrates a high degree of technical or scientific achievement.	N	Not shown.
2. The property has historical value or associative value because it,		
i. has direct associations with a theme, event, belief, person, activity, organization or institution that is significant to a community,	N	The property is associated with the Clements Family who are considered one of the founding families of Trafalgar Township. However, there are no resources or cultural heritage landscape left on the property.
ii. yields, or has the potential to yield, information that contributes to an	Ν	Not known.

8. Evaluation (O. Reg 9/06)

O.Reg.9/06 Criteria	Criteria Potentially Met (Y/N)	Potential Justification
understanding of a community or		
culture, or		
iii. demonstrates or reflects the work orideas of an architect, artist, builder,designer or theorist who is significant toa community.	Ν	Not known.
3. The property has contextual value		
because it,		
i. is important in defining, maintaining or supporting the character of an area,	Ν	Not shown.
ii. is physically, functionally, visually or historically linked to its surroundings, or	Ν	There are no linkages between this property and others, as there are no resources or cultural heritage landscape remaining.
iii. is a landmark.	N	Not shown.

9. Photographic Documentation



Figure 6: View of remaining original house. (AB, 2015).



Figure 7: View of the original drive, fencing and treeline, which is currently overgrown. (AB, 2015).

10. Analysis & Recommendations

Potential Heritage Value:

The property no longer has potential heritage value as there are no heritage resources and no cultural heritage landscape on the property. The former farmhouse has caved in and collapsed, the laneway is overgrown, and there are no other resources on the property.

Actions:

Consider removing property from the Heritage Registry.

A 'low' priority level is recommended for the following reasons:

- Not a strong candidate under the OHA; and
- Cultural heritage resources have been lost due to neglect.

11. Sources

Ancestry.com. *Nelles/Milburn Family Tree*, at <u>http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/56334/person/-2106630082</u>. Accessed October 2015.

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Rose, George. *A Cyclopedia of Canadian Biography: Being Chiefly Men of the Time. Vol 1*. (Rose Publishing Company, 1886). Accessed online through Ancestory.ca from <u>http://trees.ancestry.com/tree/56334/person/-2096830352/photo/f4346e68-a92f-4878-b222-4c706484c943?src=search</u>

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