

2031 North Service Road West

Location: The property is located on the northwest corner of North Service Road West, where it bends northward before intersecting with Third Line.

Description: The property is comprised of the remaining portions of the Hilton Farm, approximately 12 acres, including the fieldstone farmhouse, agricultural outbuildings and part of the Hilton orchard.

Current Observed Use: The property is used as a residence.

Existing Heritage Designation: Designated under Part IV of the *Ontario Heritage Act* by By-law 1994-043.

Results of Phase I: A Cultural Heritage Evaluation of the property as a Cultural Heritage Landscape was recommended.

Phase II Background Research Findings

Pre-Contact The area around the Fourteen Mile Creek was used and/or occupied by various Indigenous groups prior to European settlement.

1806-1913 Early settlement and Hilton Farm. Survey of Trafalgar Township by Samuel Wilmot (1806). The 200-acre parcel comprising Lot 26, Concession II South of Dundas Street is 'Crown Land'. The hamlet of Merton is established in 1812 along Lower Middle Road between Bronte Road and Third Line.

In 1828, the property is granted to King's College.

Charles Hilton settles on the south 100 acres as early as 1831 and progressively clears land from five acres (1833) to fifty acres (1848). Hilton formally purchases the land in 1852.

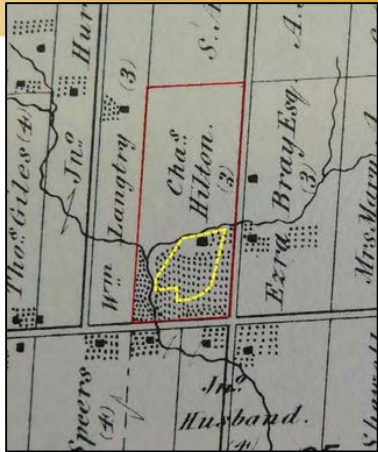
The 1871 census lists Charles Hilton Jr. as a 'fruit grower'. The Hilton's extensive orchard is shown on an 1877 map of Trafalgar South. At the time, orchards are shown in nearly every property along Lower Middle Road (Merton). The Hilton orchard is one of the largest shown in the area.

1913-1969 Transfer of ownership. The property is sold to Archibald Atkinson Speers in 1913. The farm is owned by members of the Speers family until 1969.

The construction of the QEW in the 1930s resulted in the gradual loss of portions of the property.

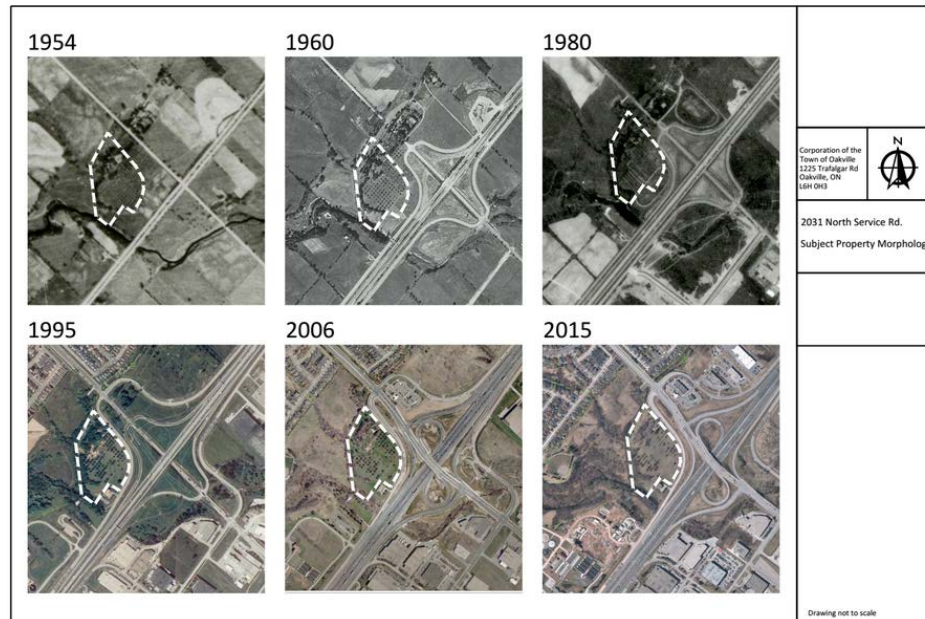
1969-present The current owners acquired the property in 1969. Many of the orchard trees are still visible from along North Service Road.

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Source: J.H. Pope, 1877

Left: Detail from 1877 Map of Trafalgar South showing Charles Hilton's property, house and orchard.
 Below: Property morphology, showing changes in the property and surrounding area since the mid-20th century.



Source: C Uchiyama, 2015



Above: Hilton Farm House.
 Left and Below: View of agricultural landscape and remnant orchard.

Source: C Uchiyama, 2016



Source: C Uchiyama, 2016