

## Lavender Creek

Lavender Creek, a tributary of the Black Creek, rises first east of Dufferin Street and south of Eglinton Avenue in what was called Fairbanks in the City of York (now Toronto). Fairbanks school is just to the north of the creek's original source.

This upland with rolling sand hills, is just west of Castle Frank Brook (Don Watershed).

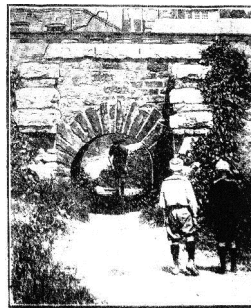
Lavender Creek flowed west because of an east-west ridge of sand hills located across Caledonia and Rogers Roads. The creek then turned south-west under the CN-CPR Weston suburbs and across Weston Road to enter the Black Creek just north of the old Packing House-Stockyard area.

Two or three short tributaries (Norman Creek) flowed west into Lavender Creek. Please see Aug 30, 1923 Toronto Telegram photo of old dry water culvert over Norman Creek (see copy below).

I remember a similar stone culvert over Lavender Creek, east side of Weston Road, in 1961. A more substantial stone arch culvert was located over Lavender Creek in 1852 which carried Toronto's first railway across Hogs Bank Embankment, now in Bert Robinson Park.

There is still much to see of a sand hill from the Lake Iroquois indentation (northward valley) of 12,000 years ago. Lavender Creek ran west along Hillary Avenue (Mount Dennis, see Toronto Telegram Sept. 22, 1923 for reference), new homes were built along the creek with plank bridges spanning the creek to each house. Six of these houses were flooded by an old, 6 inch cast iron, water pipe bursting on the south side of Hillary Avenue on January 3, 2010 with serious basement flooding and evacuation of residents. A large sink hole developed on Hillary Avenue and was quickly filled in.

West of Weston Road Lavender Creek disappeared under landfill before re-appearing in the deep Black Creek floodplain.



Aug 30, 1923;  
The Toronto  
Telegram

The creek just before  
it empties into  
the Black Creek.