

Crewson's Corners becoming prestigious address

Old Crewson barn showpiece for 17 luxury homes

Buying or selling a house? Real estate agents are in agreement about the importance of location.

"Location, location, location" they insist, is one of the prime ingredients in purchasing a home.

However, one article in a Toronto daily newspaper on August 25 even moved the Thomasfield Homes Crewson Ridge site in Crewson's Corners to Rockwood. It's only about two kilometers from Acton. Rockwood has to be at least seven or eight kilometers from Crewson's Corners. The site is actually in the Town of Erin, which now encompasses all of the township of Erin.

Easily Confused

It isn't too difficult to

get confused. The hamlet of Crewson's Corners was at one time at the intersection of four townships, Esquesing, Nassagaweya, Eramosa and Erin. Since regional government, it now bordered by Halton Hills, Milton, Erin and Guelph-Eramosa.

The site for 17 new luxury homes on the Erin side of the Town Line between Halton Hills and Erin will boost the population of "The Corners." Residents that have long insisted



CREWSON BARN: First stone barn in Erin township, built by Crewson Corners Founder Morgan Crewson over 10 years was finished in 1847. The barn has been transformed into a home as a show piece for 17 luxury homes to be built on the site. Prices start around \$720,00.



LANDMOVERS: work is going on to transform the old Morgan Crewson farm into exclusive estate lots.

that when the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR) was laying out the rail lines 157 years ago (1850) the company wanted to build a station and switches on the Morgan Crewson farm.

Crewson, founder of the hamlet named after him, is reputed to have refused the GTR's offer and the station was built in Acton.

Both the Corners and

Acton were busy hamlets it 1850. There must have been some sort of rivalry for business. The Corners, originally called Morgantown, boasted a hotel, a general store, saw and shingle mills, a Disciples church, (1860) and a town hall. Acton's Early Days says the Corners also had a tannery, a tavern, Jigo's Glove Works and Hank Stacey's oil well in the 1800s.

Acton, of course, had tanneries, glove works, flour and saw mills and an assortment of other businesses as well as churches. From 1844 to 1873 the hamlet was part of the Township of Esquesing. It didn't become an incorporated village until 1873. The railway came through in 1856.

It's likely Crewson's Corner would have also been a station much like Limehouse's. Had Morgan Crewson not been opposed. In any event, neither Acton or the Corners have a station now.

Morgan Crewson was an interesting character. He was born in New York and travelled as a young man down the Mississippi River to New Orleans and

back. In 1820 he came to Canada to work for a Welland Canal builder, the Honourable William Merritt, probably in what is now St. Catharines. There he met and married Mary Soper, the daughter of a United Empire Loyalist (U.E.I).

As a UEI's daughter, Mary was entitled to 200 acres of land in Upper Canada (Ontario). She chose Lot one, Concession one in Erin Township where the newlyweds built a log home around 1820. By 1832 Morgan Crewson had built and moved into a stone home, still standing on the property. He then started working on a stone barn which he completed in 1847 helped no doubt, in the construction by some of his eight children.

That stone home and barn become landmarks in this neck of the Up-

per Canada woods. The 1834 assessment roll of Erin Township listed 165 households in the township. The only stone home was that of Morgan Crewson. His stone barn, not an oddity is the area now, was certainly one in 1847. It was recognized as a heritage site by the Town of Erin in 2004.

The Crewson name, already established in the community's name, will again be honoured by Thomasfield Homes who are calling the prestigious 17 home subdivision Crewson Ridge. The old stone barn is now a luxury stone home and real estate office. Morgan Crewson would certainly be astonished.

When Morgan Crewson died in 1869 he left the remaining acres of the farm to his wife and children. Several parcels of the farm had been severed during his lifetime so the family began leaving home, moving to Acton, Guelph and other cities. Acton people will remember the late Fred Crewson family who lived on Wellington Street for many years. Fred Crewson was a direct descendant of Morgan Crewson.

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NOTICE

Thomasfield Homes will be undertaking stabilization work for original Crewson's house and renovations of the Crewson's stone barn to preserve it and renovate the barn into a residential dwelling in consultation with the Town of Erin and the Town of Erin Heritage Committee