



Black Earth Creek Valley

You are standing on the second recessional moraine in Pope Farm Park. The Black Earth Creek Valley is in front (north) of you. Meltwater draining from the Green Bay Lobe flowed westward down this valley from about 18,000 to 15,000 years ago. At that time the river consisted of many channels that formed a braided pattern. The broad sandy plains that form the valley floor today are the deposits of those braided channels. Up to 200 feet of sand and gravel underlie these sandy outwash plains. Locally these deposits are mined for sand and gravel to be used for building roads and many other construction purposes.

The photograph of a braided glacial meltwater river in Alaska shows what the Black Earth Creek Valley likely looked like about 15,000 years ago.

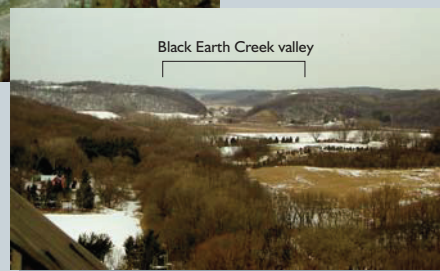


Photo taken from ski jump looking westward.

