

Copy for Works Com.
Presentation, Wed. May 7/08.

Secretariat Copy
Jan. Wheel, dated Apr 30/08.

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE ROUTE CONSIDERATIONS

2008 APR 30 Dan Egan, Toronto Cycling and pedestrian planner
Shelley Carroll, Chair - City of Toronto Public Works Committee
Manager, Toronto Culture
Other interested parties

Monday, April 14, 2008

Purpose: To identify and promote the major historic paths, trails, and routes into and out of Toronto from pre 1793 to post 1850. To identify the barriers created by geology and geography, and human barriers constructed since 1850.

Synopsis: In the 1920s the City of Toronto gave consideration to the idea of various diagonal routes out of downtown Toronto to the northwest, the north, and the northeast based in part on the physiography of the Toronto landscape. Because of the Great Depression and other reasons, no action was taken until after World War II when various expressways and other routes were constructed for automotive traffic.

Identify: (1) Paths and trail routes were established and used by native peoples pre and post 1793. Where walking and/or cycling routes intersect or align with such routes they should be recognized.

(2) Between 1793 and 1850 a various immigrant pathways and early roads were established and also deserve recognition.

a) Irish immigrant trail – Corktown to the Don Pinnacle (1842-1957) ran northeast across the lower Don valley via Winchester Street bridge.

b) Weston Plank Road (1846)

c) Dawes Plank Road (1848)

d) Yorkville-Vaughan Plank Road (1849) (E) Garrison Common Foot/Horse Path (18 - 1877; Queen's Wharf to Parkdale).

Former railway rights-of-way such as the Canadian Northern Railway closed in 1932 across and along Taylor-Massey Creek.

Former TTC streetcar routes such as the "Belt Line" from Pape and Danforth across the city to Lansdowne and St. Clair via diagonal routes (ca. 1930 to Feb. 26, 1966)

(3) When cycling and pedestrian routeways are established that important crossroads/meeting places be identified and used to establish cycling, pedestrian, and cultural nodes along such routes.

a) Boston Corners (Kingston Road east of Woodbine Avenue)

b) Coleman's Corners (Dawes Road and Danforth Avenue, 1848)

c) Slattery Corners (Dundas Street West and Bloor Street West)

d) Aboriginal encampment sites

Create: If possible identification of such places and routeways by such means as the City of Toronto considers appropriate. (discovery walk pamphlet, plaques, cell phone info locations, etc)

Jan Wheel

TORONTO CLERKS DEPT
4TH YORK CIVIC CENTRE
MAY -5 A 9:52

TORONTO - RADIATING PATHS.
1860

WILLS
EGGINTON AVE.

YONGE ST.

LAUGHAN-YORK VILLE BRANT RD.
1849

ST. CLAIR

WESTON RD.
DAVENPORT RD.
1846

ST.

BLOOR ST.

ST. 1813

DUNDAS

HISWAMP

QUEEN

KING

FRONT ST.

X CORK TOWN

CHURCH ST.

ST.

ST.

ST.

BATHURST ST.

ST.

SHAW

PARKDALE
FOR PATH
GARRISON 1839-
COMMON 1877.

QUEEN'S WHARF

TO MORNEN
RIVER

DON PLANK RD.

IRISH I.
TRAIL
1842-1957.

TRAIL

↑

↑

↑

MINISTON RD.
DANE
GRATE
RD.

MARSH

ASHBRIDGE'S
BAY