

The Cultural Heritage Landscapes of Leaside

**A booklet produced in conjunction with
The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) Walking Tour
May 24, 2015**

What?

The production of an illustrated booklet (5" X 7") on the Cultural Heritage Landscapes of Leaside with text, illustrations, photos and maps

Why?

To create a resource to and a souvenir from the TCLF walking tour of Leaside
To encourage and educate regarding Leaside's cultural heritage landscapes*

Who?

Partners:

North York Community Preservation Panel (NYCPP)

Leaside Matters (community heritage group)

Leaside Property Owners' Assn (LPOA)

How?

Research, writing, editing

Paul Dilse, Geoff Kettel, Connor Turnbull, Agnes Vermes

Design and printing 200 copies

When?

To be completed by May 22 2015 for TCLF Conference and Walking Tour

Costs:

Based on 5" X 7" 8 pages and 100 copies Est.

\$965 plus tax (graphical design \$250; printing \$315 research \$400)

Resources

Paul Dilse "An Illustrated History: Milestones in the development of Leaside",
November 2014

Jane Pitfield, Leaside 1999

Layers of Leaside Exhibit, web site and walking tour

Pricing:

Free publication

Geoff Kettel

April 13 2015

*The Cultural Landscapes of Leaside

Leaside features several designed landscapes over the earlier Colonial survey grid:

1. Leaside is believed to be (and likely is) the first new town in Ontario based on garden city principles. Designed as a complete community with residential (west) and industrial (east) by American born Frederick Gage Todd, the Montreal landscape architect, one of the founders of the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects, who apprenticed at Olmsted, Olmsted and Eliot in Brookline, Massachusetts and who was responsible for other model towns in Canada: Mount Royal (Montreal, PQ), Shaughnessy Heights and Port Mann (Vancouver, BC), and Bowling Green (Port Claire, PQ) and Point Grey, BC. Todd's street layout sits within the meta grid of Bayview, and Eglinton, the railway lines to the south east, and the Don River.

2. Leaside presents gently curving and diagonal streets with a rhythmic consistency of uniform setbacks and Modern Classicism architecture including Tudor and Georgian Revival, Art Moderne and Beaux Arts (former Bayview Playhouse (Agnes Macphail House)). The planned diversity of housing types includes single, semi, multi-family and bungalow house forms, and two/three storey heights.

Unique (for Canada) is a concentration of "garden apartment" style multi-family walk-up apartment buildings, i.e. Garden Court Apartments (1477 Bayview Avenue); The Talbot Apartments (3 blocks – Kelvin Grove, Strathavon, and Glen-Leven) (Bayview) and Crestview Apartments (Leacock/Mallory)

3. There are several "stranded" houses of early settlers (John Lea Jr., James Lea, Thomas Elgie) which are placed in relation to their farms, and the lanes by which they were connected to Bayview and ultimately to Yonge Street.