

City-Wide Heritage Survey Feasibility Study Report

City Planning
Toronto Preservation Board
June 20, 2019



City-Wide Heritage Survey Feasibility Study

Why a City-Wide Heritage Survey?

A robust understanding of our heritage resources is baseline information that is necessary for good planning and to prevent the loss of heritage resources that are currently unidentified across the city. That baseline heritage information will improve predictability for all stakeholders including City Planning staff, property owners and the public.



City-Wide Heritage Survey Feasibility Study

What is a City-Wide Heritage Survey?

A city-wide heritage survey is a city-building tool that will allow City Planning to move from a reactive, case-by-case consideration of heritage resources to a proactive, systematic study throughout the City of Toronto.



The Feasibility Study



City-Wide Heritage Survey Feasibility Study

Municipalities Consulted

Canada

Hamilton

Ottawa

Brantford

Montreal

Vancouver

USA

Los Angeles

San Francisco

Dallas

Chicago

Philadelphia

Global

Historic England

Sector Scan and Stakeholder Results

Key Findings:

- Extensive use of pilot/test surveys
- Contextual approach to heritage evaluation
- Professional surveyors to ensure efficiency and consistency in evaluation
- Robust engagement and volunteer programs
- A well-resourced and integrated data management system

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Technical Expert Panel

Summary Feedback:

A group of leading experts on heritage surveys in Ontario were invited to provide advice through a Technical Expert Panel. Their advice included the following key points:

- A city-wide heritage survey should be:
 - An investment in conservation and an investment in growth
 - A living, evolving resource for the public as well as planners
 - A landmark moment for the City to achieve a holistic understanding of the City's histories and geographies
 - Reflective of the City's diversity and guided by social equity
- Evaluation approach should use City-wide Historic Context Statements
- Intensive research and community engagement required prior to evaluation

Recommendations



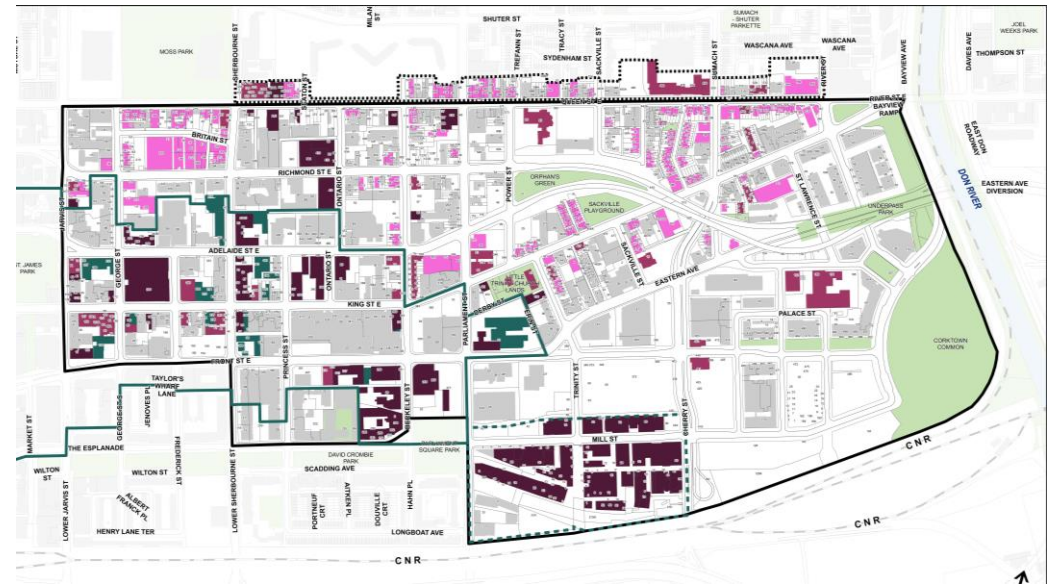
Key Recommendations:

1. City Council approve the phased implementation of the Toronto Heritage Survey as outlined in this report, and as summarized in Attachment 2 and Attachment 3.
2. City Council request the Chief Planner & Executive Director, City Planning to report back through the City's 2020 Budget process, on a funding approach that will be required to support the first phase of the Toronto Heritage Survey.
3. City Council request the Chief Planner & Executive Director, City Planning to report back to City Council in 2021 following the completion of the first phase of the Toronto Heritage Survey work plan, and to make recommendations on future phases of work.
4. City Council request the Chief Planner & Executive Director, City Planning to develop a comprehensive public engagement program including potential partnerships, and a communications strategy, to support the Toronto Heritage Survey.
5. City Council request the Chief Planner & Executive Director, City Planning to work with the City's four Community Preservation Panels and Heritage Toronto to develop a volunteer program that will support the Toronto Heritage Survey, including the development of a fundraising strategy for community-based initiatives.
6. City Council request the Chief Planner & Executive Director, City Planning to prioritize outstanding nominations for the inclusion of properties on the Heritage Register in the first phase of the Toronto Heritage Survey.

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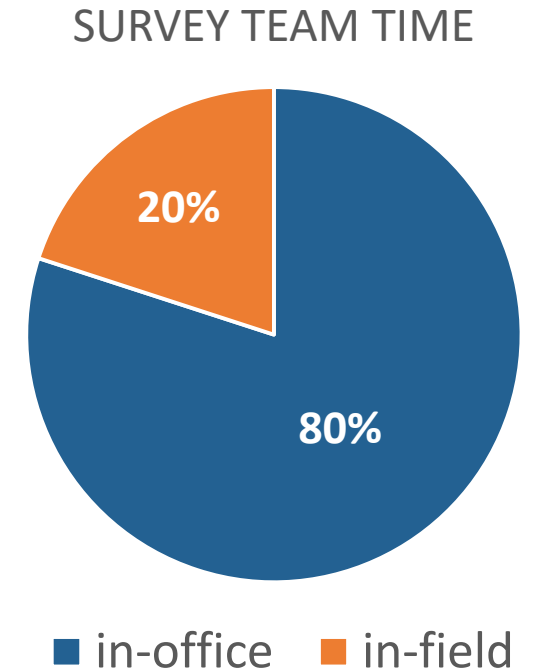
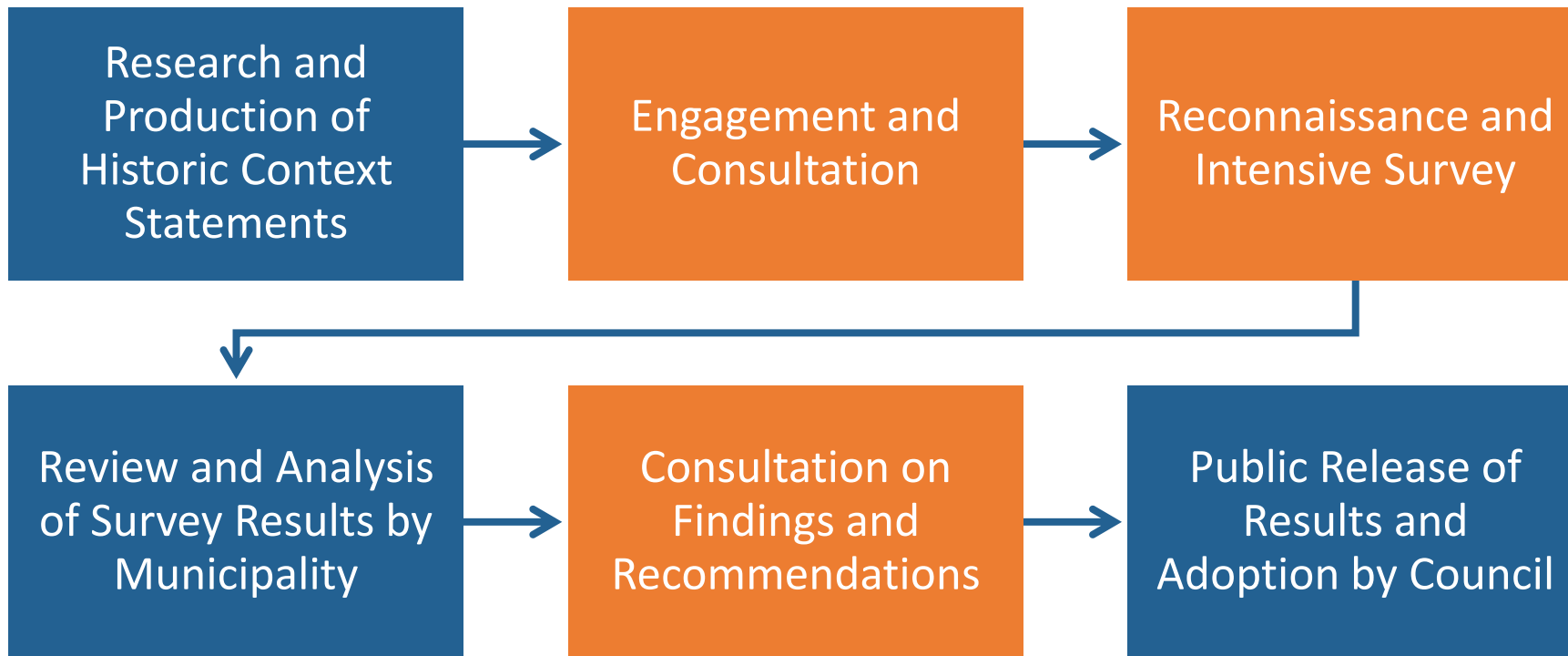
Survey Methodology

- Follow industry best practices with use of city-wide Historic Context Statements
- Document only properties and areas of cultural heritage value
- Use Reg. 9/06 to evaluate for cultural heritage value
- Focus on properties 40 years old or older (e.g. pre-1985)



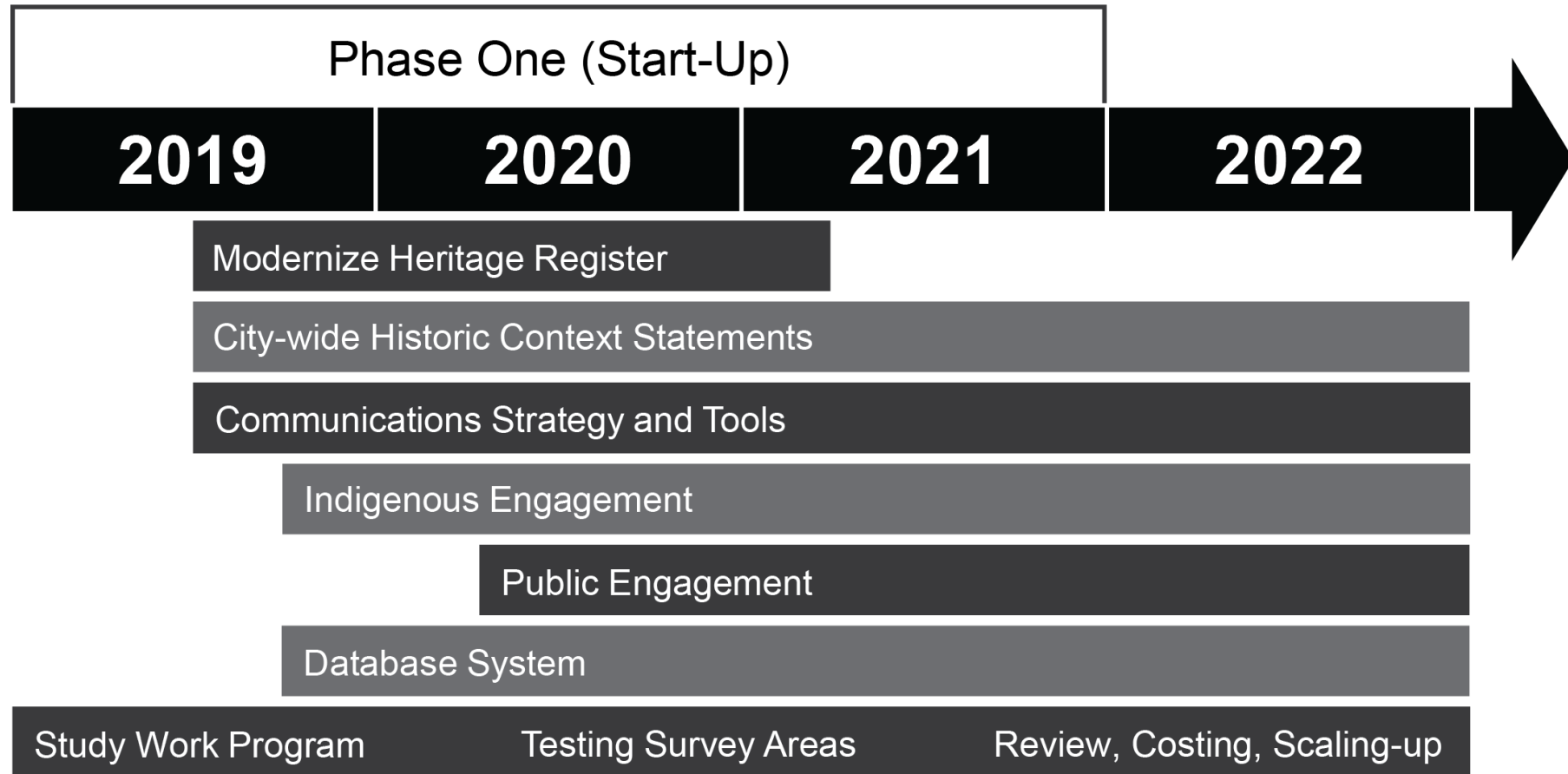
Heritage Mapping for King-Parliament Secondary Plan Review

Attachment 2: Survey Methodology



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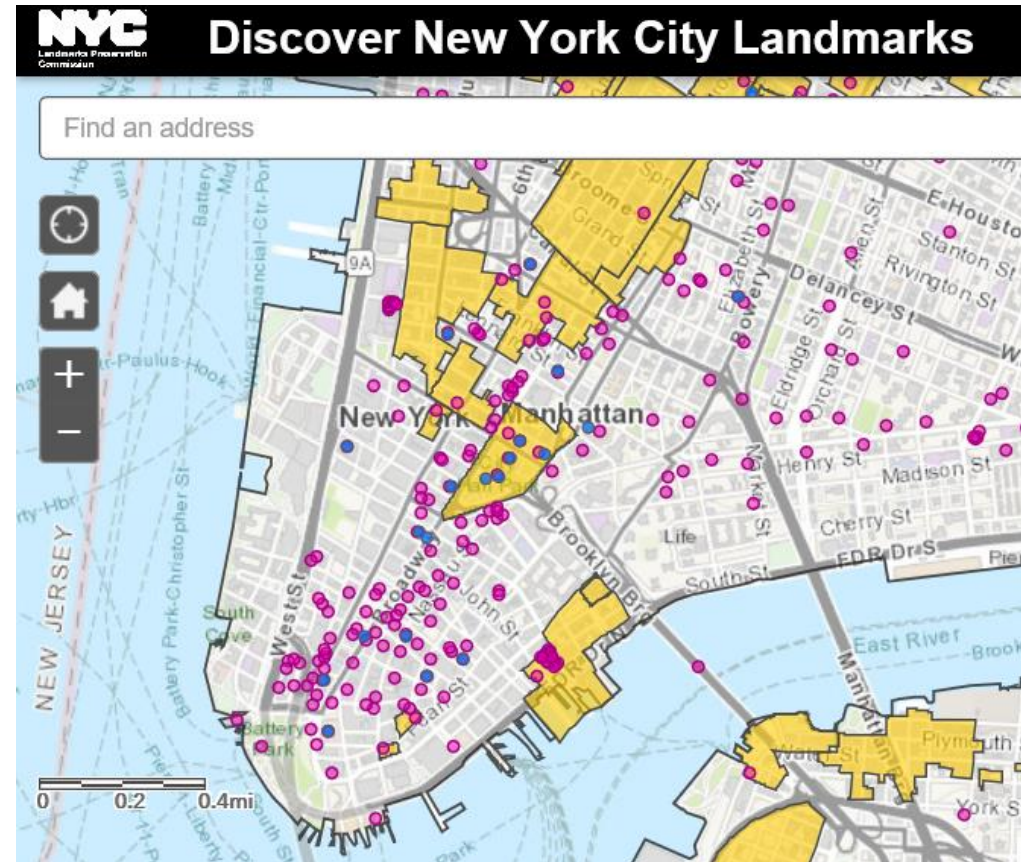
Attachment 3: Phased Work Plan (2019-2022)



Modernize Heritage Register

Future State

- Advanced search functions
- Rich information (photographs, maps, staff reports)
- Clear presentation of database
- On-line submission process for nominations



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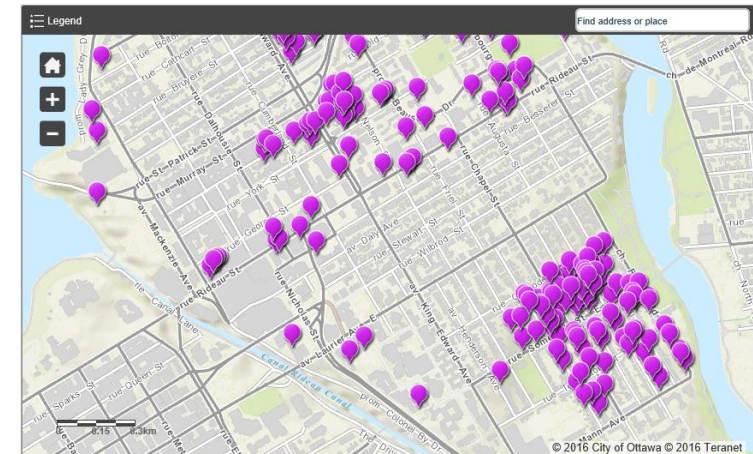
Develop Database System

A sophisticated data management system is required to serve the city-wide heritage survey, with the following considerations:

- Mobile app to allow seamless collection and streaming of data from field to database
- GIS-based for mapping visualization
- Layers of access for public and staff
- Integration with internal systems
- Crowd-sourcing functionality
- Storage and presentation of multiple types of data



Arches is a leading open-source data management platform for cultural heritage



Some municipalities, including Hamilton, have developed their own data management system

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Develop Communications Strategy

City Planning to develop a communications strategy to support the Toronto Heritage Survey

Build a clearer understanding of:

- how the Toronto Heritage Survey can help us understand and improve Toronto
- the ‘why’, ‘how’, and ‘what’ of heritage identification
- what it means to own an identified property

The screenshot shows the City of Toronto website's 'Planning for Heritage' page. The header includes the City of Toronto logo, a search bar, and navigation links for 'Services & Payments', 'Community & People', 'Business & Economy', and 'Explore & Enjoy'. The breadcrumb trail reads: 'City of Toronto / City Government / Planning & Development / Planning for Heritage'. The main heading is 'Planning for Heritage' with a 'Share' button. Below the heading is a sub-heading: 'Preserving Toronto's past and what you need to know if you are restoring or planning to restore an historic building.' The page features six content boxes: 'Heritage Conservation Districts & Studies', 'Heritage Register', 'Heritage Tax Rebate & Grant Programs', 'Toronto Preservation Board', 'Archaeology', and 'City-wide Heritage Survey Feasibility Study'. On the right side, there is a 'Contact Information' section for 'Heritage Preservation Services' and a 'Related Information' section with links to 'Ontario Heritage Act', 'Standards & Guidelines', 'Heritage Toronto', and 'Ontario Heritage Trust'.

Current webpage for heritage planning in City of Toronto

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Develop Engagement Programs

City Planning to develop a comprehensive public engagement program including potential partnerships to support the Toronto Heritage Survey

- Indigenous Engagement Program in collaboration with the City's Indigenous Affairs Office
- City-wide Public Engagement



Innovative engagement during the High Park Apartment Neighbourhood Area Character Study community consultation process

Develop Volunteer Program

City Planning to work with the Community Preservation Panels and Heritage Toronto to develop a volunteer program that will support the Toronto Heritage Survey, including the development of a fundraising strategy for community-based initiatives.

Possible Roles:

- Local History Specialists
- Researchers
- Local Community Engagement Activators
- Advisory Panels



Volunteer members of the Toronto and East York Community Preservation Panel, 2019.

Prioritize Outstanding Nominations

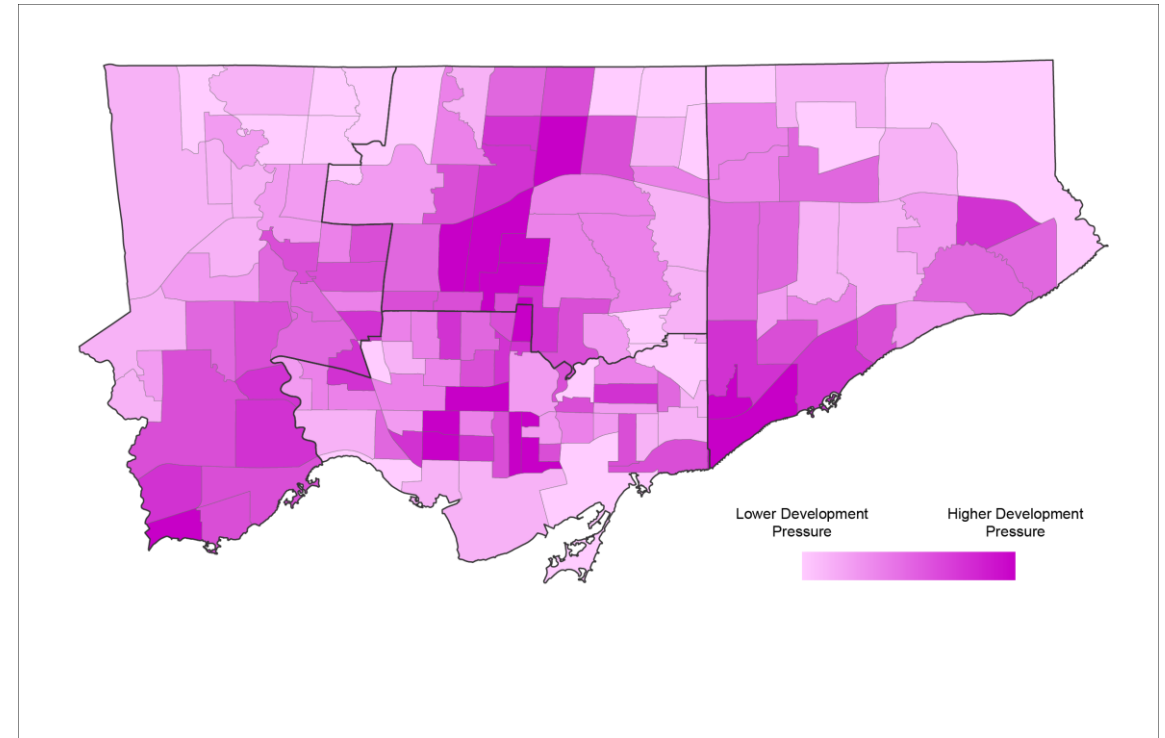
City Planning to prioritize outstanding nominations for the inclusion of properties on the Heritage Register in the first phase of the Toronto Heritage Survey.

	Councillor Requests	Community Preservation Panel Requests	General Public Requests
Number of Properties	190	42	54

A City-Wide Approach

A city-wide approach to the Toronto Heritage Survey will be represented in the prioritization of survey areas.

- Multi-Criteria Evaluation (MCE) Tool
- Draft Criteria:
 - Amount of Development Activity
 - Fragility of the Area
 - City Planning Priorities
 - Potential Cultural Heritage Value
 - Geographical Equity



Map showing development application intensity by neighbourhood and Community Council area.

Outcomes

Survey results will inform how City Planning helps to manage the growth and physical form of the city, and will help Torontonians better understand and value their distinctive neighbourhoods.

- Public resource
- Inform planning policies and guidelines to manage change
- Recommend identified properties to Council for inclusion on the Heritage Register



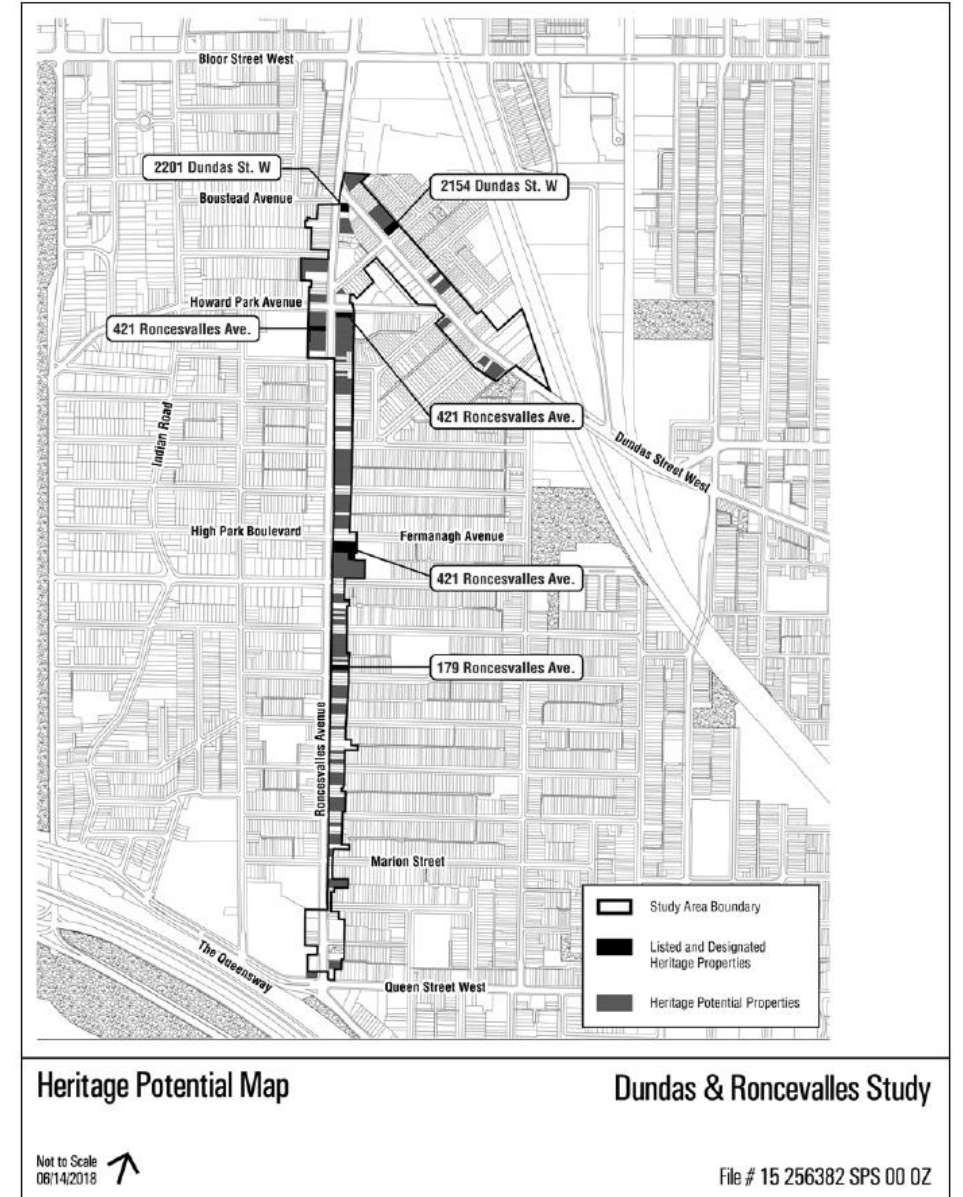
Map layer produced by Archaeological Management Plan

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Expanding the Tool Kit

New Tools:

- Cultural Heritage Resource Map Layer at city-wide scale
- Publicly accessible database of survey results

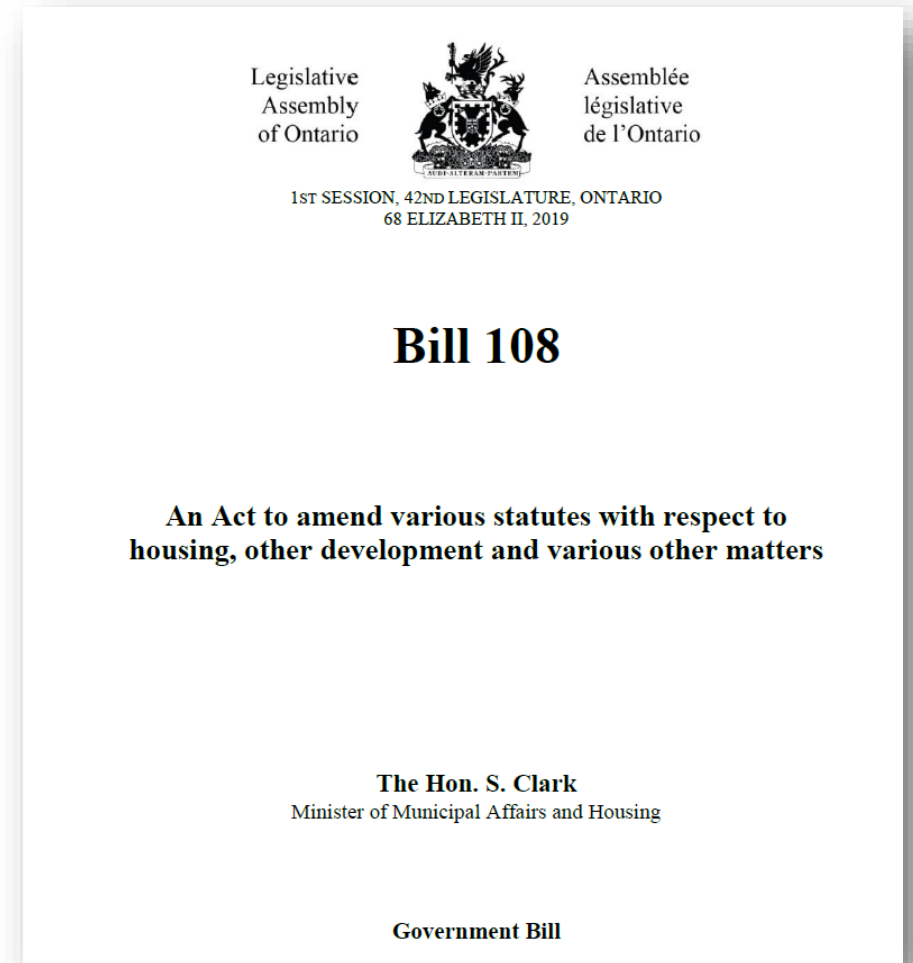


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Legislative Framework

Bill 108

- Bill 108 has further underlined the importance of conducting a city-wide heritage survey as an early identification tool for City Planning
- Though uncertainty exists about its full implications, Bill 108 proposes shortened timelines for many aspects of the legislation
- Timely identification of heritage properties, prior to the submission of development applications, will put City Planning in a stronger position to conserve important heritage resources



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Next Steps

If the City-wide Heritage Survey Feasibility Study staff report is adopted at City Council, City Planning will proceed with Phase One of the survey.

Following the completion of Phase One in 2021, City Planning will return to Council with analysis and recommendations for future work.



Kensington Market



Questions?