

First Parliament Heritage Interpretation Strategy and Master Plan

Heritage Interpretation Strategy



Prepared for the **City of Toronto**

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We respectfully acknowledge that the land at 265-271 Parliament Street, 25 Berkeley Street and the north portion of 44 Parliament Street (collectively the “First Parliament properties”) is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat Peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

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Heritage Interpretation Strategy

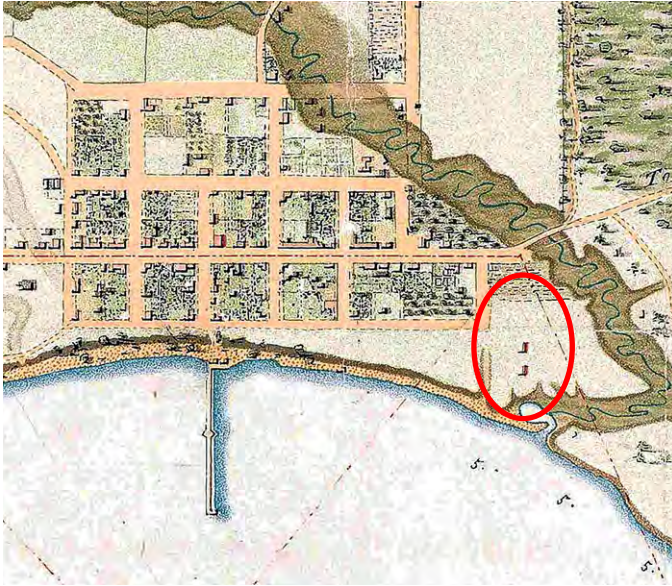
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Overview



1. First Parliament and the Town of York (Philpotts, 1818)



2. First Parliament Site in Downtown Toronto (Google)

The Heritage Interpretation Strategy

This Heritage Interpretation Strategy is the first step in imagining a new future for the First Parliament site. Before the site can be planned, the site's history and its evolution over time, including its Indigenous history needs to be explored. What happened at the site? Why is the site important and to whom? What are the stories that people want to hear when they come to the site and how will the stories be told? These are just some of the questions that, when answered, will help shape and inform a heritage interpretative strategy and a master plan.

The First Parliament site is a unique heritage interpretative project because it has no visible historic artifacts (buildings or other structures) to help illuminate its past. The known and suspected archaeological resources from the First Parliament era are fragile and embedded in contaminated soil. The key objective of this Strategy is to bring the site's history to light and ensure that people who visit, work or live near the site have compelling and meaningful interpretation experiences.

The First Parliament site is located in downtown Toronto, in the heart of the former Town of York. The entire site has been brought under public ownership through the Province of Ontario and the City of Toronto. It is currently occupied by an auto dealership, a car wash and parking lots.

The Heritage Interpretation Strategy is the first stage in planning for heritage interpretation. Built on research and public engagement, it clarifies the stories and narrative themes to be presented, identifies the primary audiences, develops an interpretation framework, and suggests possible interpretation tools. The Strategy sets the stage for site master planning and for future detailed interpretation planning and design.

A Brief History

Through historical and archaeological research and consultations with subject matter experts, stakeholders, representatives from Indigenous Nations and the general public, the Heritage Interpretation Strategy identifies four primary chapters in the history of the First Parliament site:

1. **Indigenous Peoples** in the area and region bring past and continuing stories, roles, and contributions, which constitute a fundamental chapter in the history of the First Parliament site.
2. **The Parliamentary Era** saw the construction on this site of Upper Canada's first purpose-built parliament buildings. From 1797 to 1824, the First Parliament site was the centre of governance for Upper Canada, a place where legislation was passed that would determine the future of Upper Canada and, eventually, the Province of Ontario. During this time, the site was also the focus of many cultural and religious activities associated with the rapid growth of the Town of York (Toronto).
3. **The Home District Gaol** occupied the site after the second parliament building was destroyed by fire. In service for over 20 years, the Gaol was a large, imposing structure that housed a diverse population of people including criminals, debtors and the mentally ill. Reflecting the harsh penal system of early Upper Canada, the Gaol's resident population included men and women of all ages, and even children.
4. **The Consumers' Gas Company** occupied the site from about 1880 to the 1950s. Consumers' Gas built massive industrial structures on the site to convert coal to coal gas. It was this coal gas that literally fueled the development of the Town of York (Toronto) from a little hamlet into a major focus of commerce, finance and culture.

This multi-layered and complex history produces many stories that need to be communicated. Recognizing, celebrating and promoting our collective histories helps us forge a meaningful connection with the past, making it a relevant part of our present and a formative dimension of our future.

Interpretation Framework

The interpretation framework is the intellectual organization of the story that underpins the interpretation of the First Parliament site. This interpretation framework employs a thematic approach using a series of key themes, sub-themes and connecting themes to tell the story and reinforce the core message. The interpretation framework uses a series of key themes to deliver the core message and tell the central story across the site. These themes represent the foundational elements for building a capital city and by extension, building a province and nation.

The interpretation framework is a device to help people understand potentially vast amounts of information and data. The framework helps future curators and program co-ordinators to organize content and guides designers in making decisions about how the experience is laid out in physical space.

The diagram opposite illustrates the interpretation framework for the First Parliament site, together with the key themes and cross-cutting themes (connectors).

Core Message

This site and its evolution helped establish Toronto (York) as a founding capital city and directly impacted the formation, development and growth of the Province of Ontario and Canada. Toronto

became the home of Upper Canada's first dedicated parliament buildings. The diverse people, decisions and events associated with the site link the past with the present. The core message recognizes that:

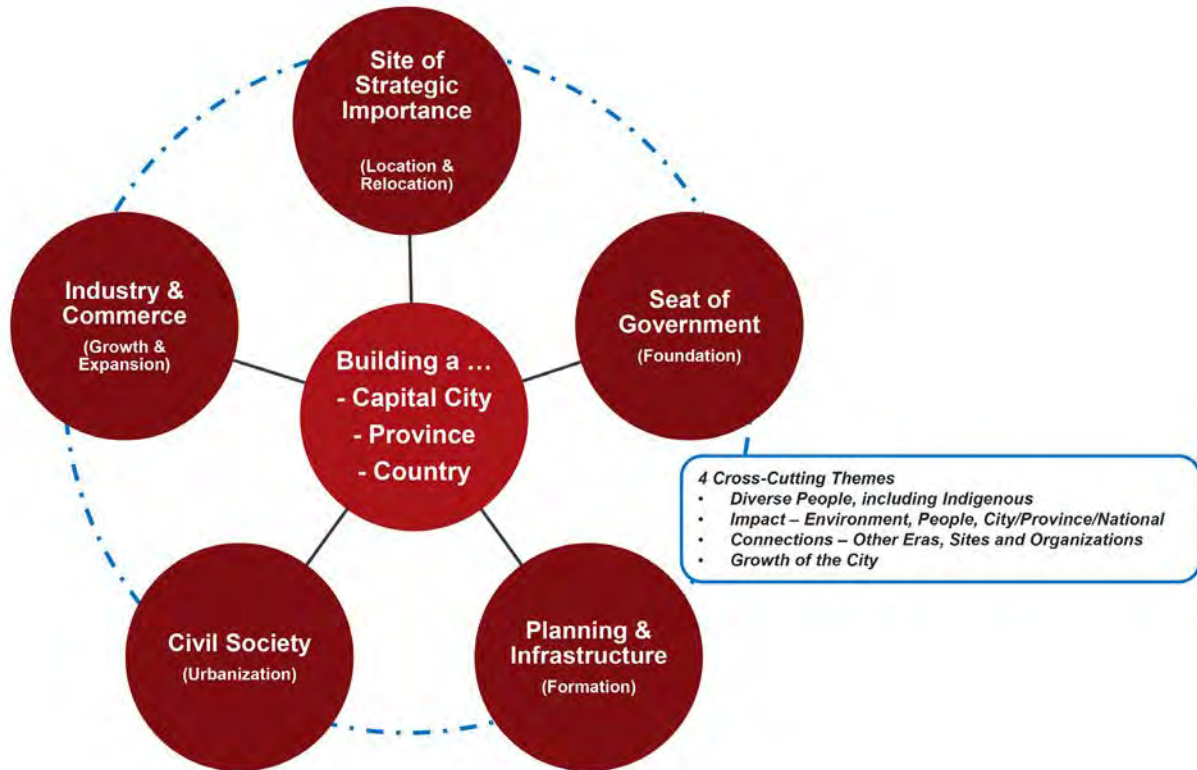
- The history of this site and Canada begins with Indigenous Nations;
- Formalizing and establishing Upper Canada's administrative headquarters at this strategic site was the first step in building York (Toronto) as an early capital city in what would become Canada;
- While the Parliament era is significant, other eras of occupation, both before and after, have supported the site's role in supporting the development of a capital city, province and nation;
- People, their impact and connections, are central to the story.

The Future of the Strategy

The Heritage Interpretation Strategy will help in the development and interpretation of the First Parliament site well into the future. In the short term, the Strategy will serve as one key footing for the Master Plan, guiding decisions at all levels and scales. In the longer term, the Strategy will inform the detailed planning and design of exhibits and other interpretation media and strategies.

It is expected that both documents - the Strategy and the Master Plan - will evolve as living documents that will continue to support ongoing planning and design. They will be used by architects and designers, heritage interpretation planners, City and Provincial staff, and community partners including Indigenous Nations, to guide the interpretation and communication of First Parliament's heritage as the site is developed over time.

Interpretation Framework - Building a Capital City, Province, Country



3. Interpretive Framework (Lord)

A Site of Strategic Importance - This theme would examine the strategic importance of this site including its early history as a gathering place, its significance as the location for the capital of Upper Canada, and the competition for the capital in the lead up to a united Province of Canada and Confederation.

Seat of Government - This theme interprets how the Parliament for Upper Canada was established as a legal entity and the seat of government, what early proceedings took place, who made the decisions, how those decisions came about, and the impact they had then and continue to have now.

Planning and Infrastructure - This theme would interpret construction of the first and second parliament buildings, how this was part of the wider urban planning of York (Toronto), how its presence

made the city a target for attack and how several founding decisions regarding land use and tenure made here impacted the development of the rest of the province (and the country).

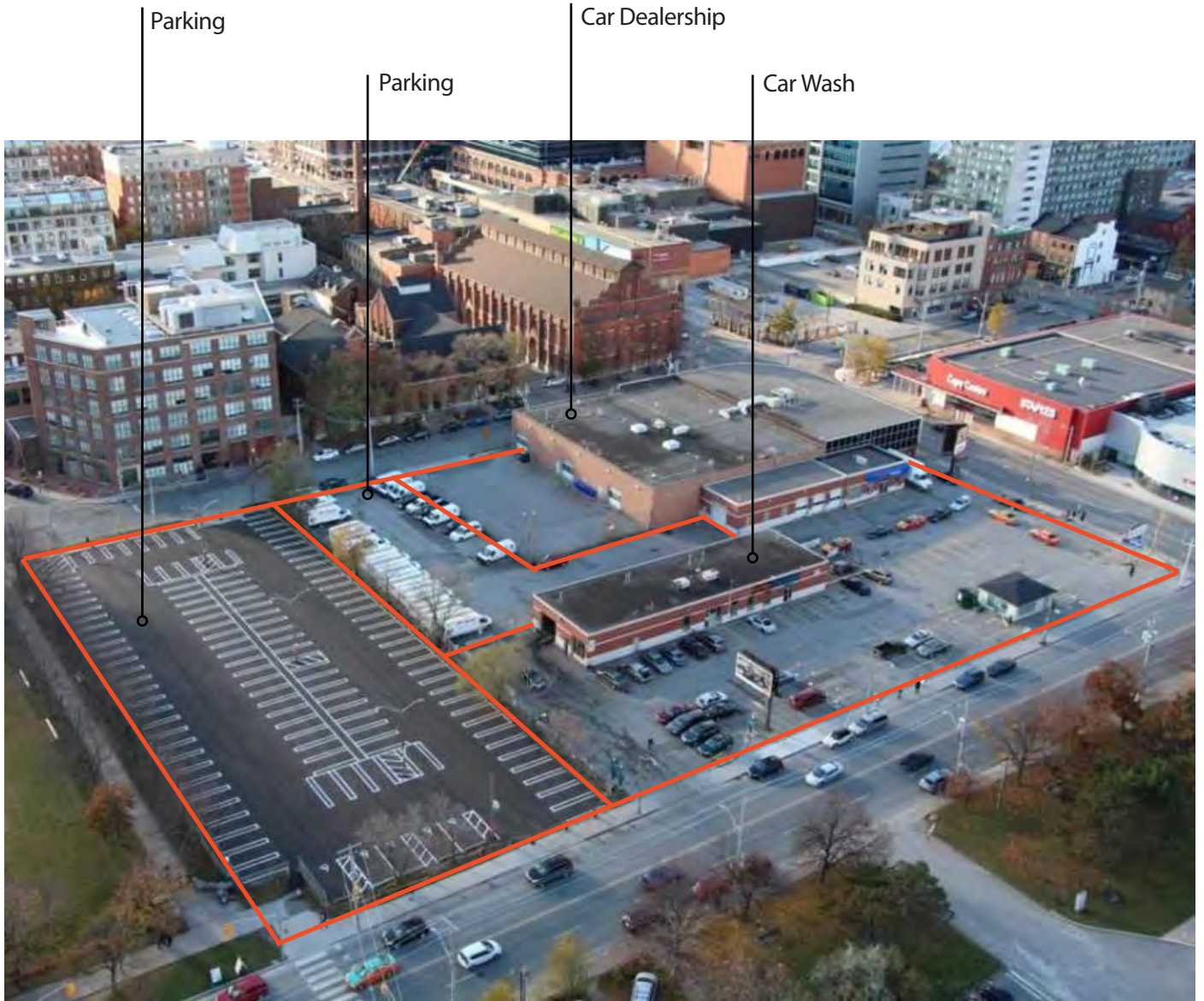
Civil Society - This theme would interpret how capital city status began to attract people to York (Toronto), who these immigrants were, how they lived, and how Toronto (York) has become one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world.

Industry and Commerce - This theme would interpret how the site became an important centre of industry and commerce. During the First Parliament era, legislation enacted here helped establish the Province's first banking structure. The site later became a hub of industry as the home to Consumers' Gas Company, the railway and the automotive sector.

1.0

Introduction

This section briefly describes the First Parliament site in terms of current ownership, use and heritage designation. The section also describes what a Heritage Interpretation Strategy is and why it is required.



4. First Parliament - Current Land Uses (Google annotated by DTAH)

1.1 Background

The First Parliament site is an historically important piece of land. Archaeological and historical evidence reveal that the site is directly related to the evolution and maturation of the City of Toronto, the Province of Ontario and the country of Canada.

The land that Toronto currently occupies has been a site of human activity for thousands of years and is within the traditional territory of many nations. This includes the Mississaugas of the Credit River, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat. The past and continued presence, stories, roles and contributions of Indigenous Nations in the area and region constitute a fundamental chapter in the history of the First Parliament site.

As the name suggests, the First Parliament site is the location of the first Parliament Buildings of Upper Canada. From 1797 to 1824, important legislation and policies emerged from this place that would chart the path of a new nation and affect the lives of countless people.

After the time of the First and Second Parliaments, the site was occupied by the Home District Gaol. From 1840 to 1860, the British Crown incarcerated convicted felons, the mentally ill and debtors. Men, women and children shared the same jail space.

The site was later purchased by the Consumers' Gas Company who demolished the jail and constructed large retort houses for manufacturing coal gas. Consumers' Gas remained on the site until the 1950s. The Consumers' Gas buildings were demolished in the 1960s. Today, a car dealership, car wash and parking lots occupy the site.

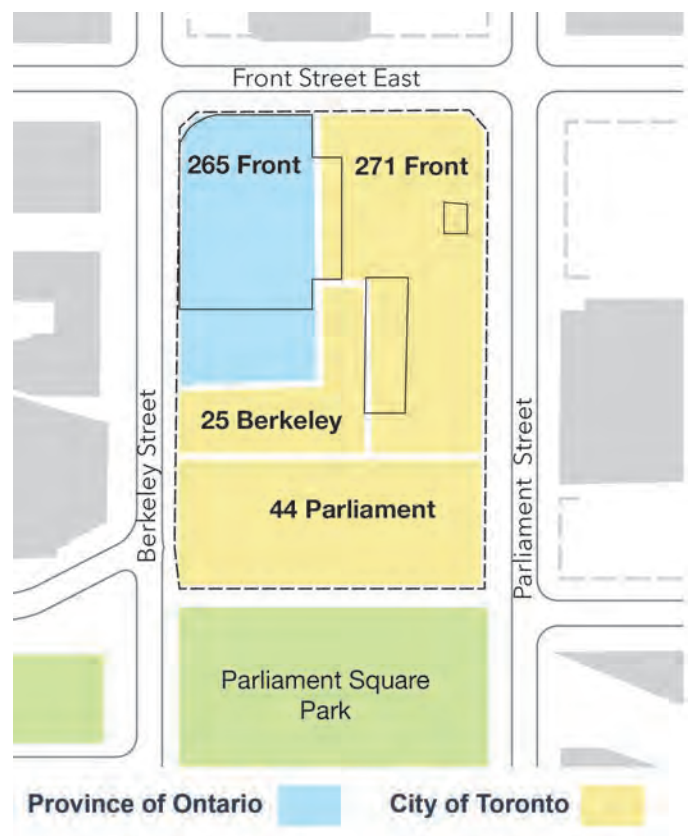
1.2 Property Ownership

The Province of Ontario, through the Ontario Heritage Trust, owns the northwest quadrant of

the site (265 Front Street East). The City of Toronto owns the remainder of the site (271 Front Street East, 44 Parliament Street and 25 Berkeley Street).

With respect to the First Parliament site, the Ontario Heritage Trust is not only a co-owner but also has a broad, Province-wide mandate to identify, protect, promote and conserve Ontario's heritage in all its forms. This mandate has three main areas of responsibility:

- Owning, managing and protecting a portfolio of provincially significant heritage properties;
- Acting as a centre of expertise in the protection and conservation of provincially and locally significant heritage properties;
- Promoting heritage and educating the public in its role and importance to the community.



5. First Parliament - Property Ownership (DTAH)

1.3 Heritage Designation and Statement of Significance

The historical value of the First Parliament site has received formal recognition at both the provincial and municipal levels. Consequently, a variety of mechanisms are currently in place to ensure the protection and management of the site and its heritage resources:

- The First Parliament site is registered in the Ontario Archaeological Site Database maintained by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (Site Record AjGu-41);
- The 265-271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street properties were designated by City Council under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act (Bylaw - 1997-0091) as being of historical value or interest;
- The 265-271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street properties are also recognized as constituting an Archaeologically Sensitive Area (ASA) by the City of Toronto Archaeological Management Plan and by the St. Lawrence Heritage Conservation District Plan;
- The Ontario Heritage Trust (OHT) has a Statement of Significance (SOS) identifying the historical, architectural, archaeological and contextual values of the site, and the character-defining features that contribute to those values for its portion of the First Parliament site. (See Appendix B for the full OHT SOS.)

One of the objectives of the Heritage Interpretation Strategy is to review the historical research and site analysis that supported the 1997 heritage designation to create a Statement of Significance that would encompass the entire First Parliament site.

1.4 Why a Heritage Interpretation Strategy and Master Plan?

Recognizing the importance of the site, the City of Toronto in partnership with the Ontario Heritage Trust and other stakeholders commissioned a Heritage Interpretation Strategy and a Master Plan for the First Parliament site.

A Heritage Interpretation Strategy is an important first step because it informs the interpretation and planning of the site. It articulates the stories to be told, identifies the potential audiences and outlines an interpretation framework consisting of key themes, subthemes and connecting themes. The Strategy also sets out potential interpretation opportunities, methods of communication and interpretation tools. The work behind the Strategy is based on extensive historical and archaeological research and a comprehensive engagement process involving subject matter experts, stakeholders, representatives of Indigenous Nations and the general public.

Building on the Heritage Interpretation Strategy, the Master Plan creates a vision with guiding principles and develops a high-level plan to inform the development of the site. From a master plan perspective, knowing where the site's most important archaeological resources are located is critical to determining how the site should be developed. Also, knowing potential interpretation opportunities before the site is planned means that direction can be given to proposed uses to take advantage of the site's history. Finally, the Master Plan will provide guidance on phasing and interim site programming as the site will be developed over a number of years.

1.5 Statement of Significance

This report includes the original OHT Statement of Significance (Appendix 2) and a new City of Toronto Statement of Significance (Appendix 1) that deals with the whole site.

The Ontario Heritage Trust and the City of Toronto agreed that Ontario Regulation 9/06 of the Ontario Heritage Act should serve as the basis for reviewing the cultural heritage values of the site. Based on this evaluation, the site has significant historical, associative and contextual cultural heritage values. The full City of Toronto Statement of Significance is provided in Appendix 1.

This report is presented to the City of Toronto as the first key step in the development of a Master Plan for the First Parliament site.

1.6 Study Process

The diagram below illustrates our study process and the key inputs in the development of the Heritage Interpretation Strategy and how this will later inform the Master Plan in Phase 2 of the project.

This process has been a collaborative effort that brought together experts in public engagement, archaeology, heritage and master planning.



6. First Parliament - Study Process (DTAH)

1.7 Heritage Interpretation Planning

What is Heritage Interpretation Planning?

The interpretation planning process is a creative, iterative and consultative process. As illustrated below, three key elements - audience, collections and research - inform and shape the interpretation strategy, the first output in the interpretation planning process.

- **Audience** – MASS LBP, with input from DTAH, EVOQ Architecture and Lord Cultural Resources (the “project team”), conducted a series of planned engagement activities with community stakeholders, subject matter experts, the general public and representatives from the four Indigenous Nations whose histories are linked to the lands of Toronto (the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, the Six Nations, the Huron Wendat and the Metis) to better understand who the audience for the site might be and the stories that are most important to them;
- **Collections** – Artifacts and documents, existing structures and landscapes, and any archaeological resources that remain in situ are all examples of the types of collections that could be part of or associated with a heritage site. Collections are important communication tools to tell a story, enhance the visitor experience and support the overall narrative. Archaeology specialists, Archaeological Services Inc (ASI), examined and assessed the archaeological remains found at the First Parliament site to determine what might have interpretation potential. Also, through EVOQ Architecture’s research, other helpful artifacts and documents were identified such as archival maps, images and artwork that could be leveraged;

- **Research** – EVOQ Architecture conducted the historical research of the site. Their work revealed a rich and multi-layered past. The history of the site, together with feedback from the engagement process, archaeology and other potential collections, informs and supports what key stories can be told and how they could be told. Lord Cultural Resources undertook parallel research to understand how connected sites across the city, like Fort York, were interpreting their stories to find linkages and avoid duplication. Best practices and comparables were also examined to further understand how similar sites told their stories.

What is a Heritage Interpretation Strategy?

A Heritage Interpretation Strategy communicates the importance of the site and defines an overall vision or concept for the visitor experience. The strategy consists of three components:

1. **Interpretation Vision:** A concise statement that describes the overarching future qualities of the visitor experience and the desired impact that the project, once realized, would communicate and achieve.
2. **Interpretation Framework:** This is the intellectual organization of the “exhibition”, often illustrated in a bubble diagram or relationship diagram. The interpretation framework articulates and structures the relationship between themes and sub-themes, helping visitors to make sense of vast amounts of data. The framework also helps future curators and program coordinators organize and collate content, and helps designers make decisions on how the exhibits are physically planned.

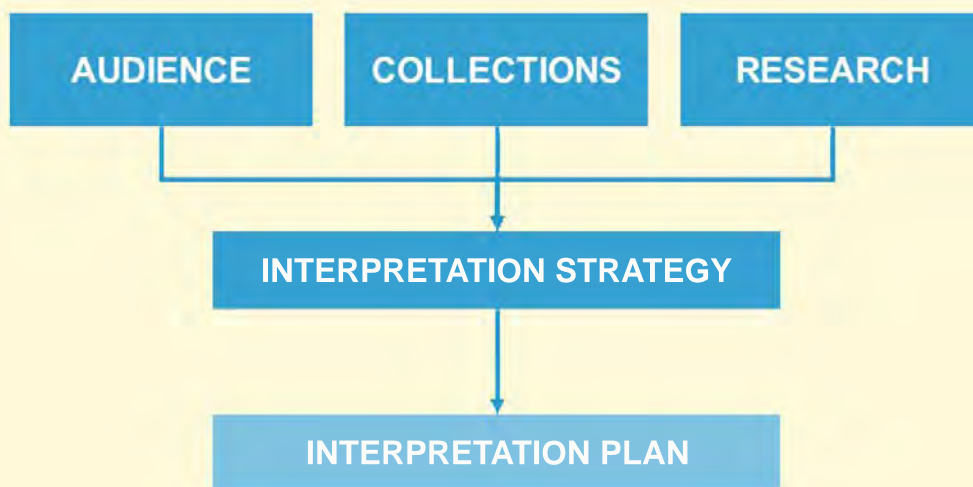
3. Themes and Connectors: Clear and concise goals for the interpretation as a whole, and for each of the major themes and sub-themes defined by the Interpretation Framework. These are the messages that should be conveyed to visitors through interpretation and their overall visitor experience.

by-component descriptions of each exhibit: what the visitor will see and do, and how they will feel. Further, a description of how the interpretation content will be delivered – descriptive text and images, displays of artifacts, interactive multimedia, hands-on activities, works of art, etc. - will be described.

What is a Heritage Interpretation Plan?

A Heritage Interpretation Plan builds on the Strategy as described above. In a Heritage Interpretation Plan, each theme and sub-theme in the thematic framework (included in the Interpretation Strategy) is defined by a series of exhibits. The Plan includes detailed component-

Developing a Heritage Interpretation Plan for the First Parliament site will follow the Master Plan process, but is not within the scope of this project.



1.8 How to Read this Report

This report presents the basis and content of a Heritage Interpretation Strategy for the First Parliament site in Toronto. In addition to this Introduction, the report consists of two major sections:

2.0 Key Inputs - This section sets out the information and background on which the Heritage Interpretation Strategy is based. This includes:

- **2.1 Site History:** A concise history of the site based on established collections and data, and on original research;
- **2.2 Archaeological Assessment:** An archaeological review (based on previous site investigations conducted by Archaeological Services Inc.), which outlines the known and suspected archaeological resources associated with the site's main historical eras;
- **2.3 Public and Stakeholder Engagement:** The findings from a series of planned engagements held with City staff, key stakeholders, subject matter experts and the general public;
- **2.4 Indigenous Engagement:** The findings of a one-on-one engagement program held with representatives of Indigenous Nations.

3.0 Heritage Interpretation Strategy - This section presents the Strategy itself and includes the following components:

- **3.1 Introduction:** Establishes the format and content of the chapter;
- **3.2 Interpretation Planning Context:** The City and Provincial heritage planning context as it relates to the Strategy;

- **3.3 Potential Audiences:** The potential audiences towards which the Strategy is directed;
- **3.4 Core Values:** The core values that underlie the Strategy;
- **3.5 Interpretation Vision:** Sets out an interpretation vision for the First Parliament site;
- **3.6 Interpretation Framework:** The Interpretive structure, which articulates the Interpretation Vision;
- **3.7 Themes and Connectors:** Detailed descriptions of the key themes that form the Interpretation Framework;
- **3.8 Interpretive Guidelines and Recommendations:** Discusses the visitor experience, potential interpretation opportunities, methods of communication and other resources.

Appendixes are provided that offer additional information and supporting background including:

1. The new City of Toronto Statement of Significance;
2. The existing Ontario Heritage Trust Statement of Significance;
3. The existing Ontario Heritage Trust Planning Framework for the First Parliament site;
4. A full summary of the Phase One public and stakeholder engagement program;
5. A program of the Indigenous engagement;
6. The complete historical research summary;
7. The full list of potential historical narratives;
8. The full summary of the archaeological investigations.

2.0

Key Inputs

This section summarizes the information that forms the foundation of the Heritage Interpretation Strategy. Discussed are the site's history, archaeological resources, public and stakeholder engagements, and the Indigenous engagement program.

The key inputs to the Heritage Interpretation Strategy include an initial background review, primary and secondary historical research, archaeological review and assessment, and a robust engagement process. These key inputs inform and support the Heritage Interpretation Strategy and help to define the new City of Toronto Statement of Significance.

2.1 Site History

2.1.1 Research and Potential Narratives

Extensive historical research was carried out to unearth potential stories and establish the site's historical context. The methodology consisted of a two-pronged approach. One prong focused on the documentation of the site's history using a combination of primary and secondary sources. Primary sources included archival material including historical maps, graphic images, City Council minutes, registers and citizen petitions. Secondary sources included previous reports and studies, exhibitions, books, articles, websites and other sources.

The second prong involved exploring and understanding the historical impact of the site on the physical, environmental, political and social context.

The full summary of the historical research is presented in Appendix 6.



8. Second Parliament Building, 1820-1824 (Speculative sketch by John Ross Robertson, ca.1910)



7. Ontario's First Parliament Buildings, 1796-1813 (Speculative sketch by John Ross Robertson, ca.1910)



9. Home District Gaol (Frederic Victor Poole, ca.1880)

The historical research led to the identification of potential narratives for interpreting the site. The approach was to gather all themes and stories that have the capacity to form the content for the Heritage Interpretation Strategy. Included were connections between the First Parliament site and other important sites throughout the City, the Province and beyond. The Indigenous engagement identified stories and themes with deep roots that show the continuing impact of historic events to the present day. These themes include: land claims and treaties, water rights and Indigenous systems of governance.

The full list of potential historical narratives is appended as Appendix 7.

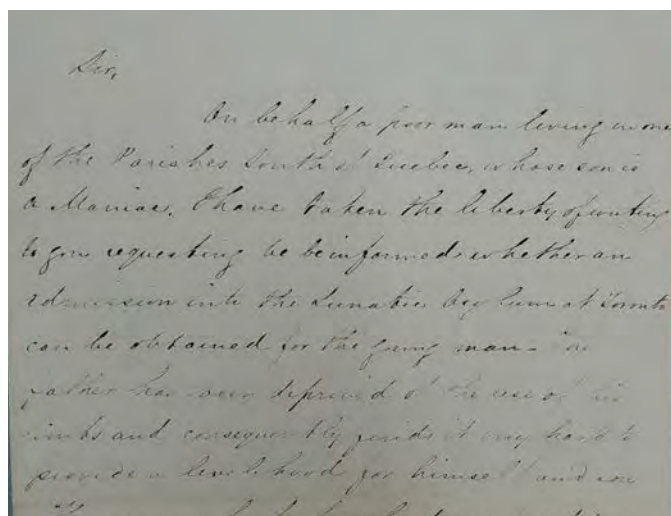
2.1.2 Key Historical Events

The site’s geological history is tied to the larger changes of the natural landscape. The last of the ice age glaciers melted northwards and left an ancient glacial lake in its stead. Shortly thereafter, the meltwater lake receded and early Indigenous hunter-gatherers moved into the region. By 6000 B.C.E., the climate began to warm, and with rising temperatures came temperate forests and wildlife. Early Indigenous settlements began to form along with an agrarian lifestyle. The 1600s brought European contact. By the 18th century, the larger region supported a number of different Indigenous Peoples along with a growing French and British presence. In 1760, the British defeated the French, the region passed to British rule and the British territory of Upper Canada was established.

Looking to establish a permanent home for a provincial capital, the British negotiated with the Mississaugas in 1787 a treaty known as the “Toronto Purchase Treaty 13”. The purpose was to acquire a large tract of sheltered harbour lands on the north shore of Lake Ontario. The Town of York was established in 1793 as the capital of Upper



10. Colonel John Graves Simcoe (Mosnier)

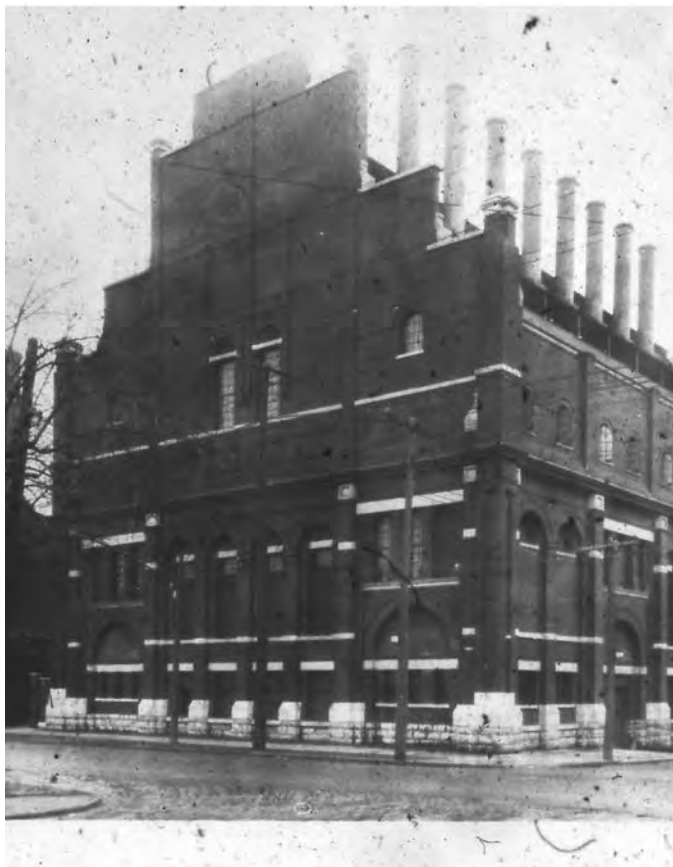


11. A petition for admittance into the lunatic asylum rather than the common gaol (Thomas Ross, 1842)

Canada. The initial plan of settlement consisted of a 10-block town with reserves for civic uses including a school, church, market, courthouse, hospital, jail to its immediate west, and government reserves at either ends. To the east lay government reserves facing the sheltered harbour that were identified for civic functions; to the west was the military garrison of Fort York, guarding the harbour. The lakeshore was reserved for a Walks and Gardens Park.

The First Parliament site was occupied by the first purpose-built buildings for the government of Upper Canada. These First Parliament buildings consisted of two brick structures which were in use from 1797 until 1813. The north building housed the House of Assembly, the south building the Legislative Council.

They also served as courts and accommodated civic functions. In 1799, a Town Blockhouse was built to the immediate south of the Parliament Buildings. The Parliament Buildings, including the Blockhouse, were destroyed by the Americans in 1813 during the War of 1812. They were partially reconstructed and repurposed, serving as temporary barracks for troops (ca.1813-1815), and then as housing for newly-arrived immigrants (ca.1816-1818). They were fully rebuilt in 1820 as the Second Parliament building, which included a new central addition connecting two wings. In 1824, an overheated chimney caused an accidental fire, and the buildings burned down again. The Third Parliament buildings were subsequently erected at Front and Simcoe Streets.



12. Retort House (Consumers' Gas, 1926)



13. Toronto Harbour, Looking Along Esplanade (Josiah Bruce, 1894)

The site sat vacant until 1837, when construction of the new Third Home District Gaol began. Completed in 1840, the limestone and brick gaol complex consisted of a five-storey octagonal tower with two three-storey wings. The surrounding jail yard was enclosed by a tall wall. It was used as a county district gaol until its closure in 1864, when its functions were assumed by the Don Jail.

The Consumers' Gas Company acquired the property (ca.1879) to accommodate the expansion of its adjacent gas works plant. The site was first used to store coke and cord wood. A brick coal shed was constructed ca.1883-1885 on the east side of the property. The gaol building was eventually demolished in 1887 to construct the retort house on the west side of the property. The complex grew to include the scale house, coke and conveying equipment, and a stores building.

In tandem, extensive railway development spurred further industrialization of the neighbourhood. A roundtable with spurs on the south side of the site connected the Consumers' Gas complex directly to the Toronto & Nipissing Railway terminus, railway corridor and shipping wharves beyond, enabling the company to import its raw materials as well as export its by-products. The railway and harbour development also drastically changed the relationship of the site to the shoreline, which moved southwards through extensive infilling.

When Consumers' Gas closed in 1955, the lands were sold off and the buildings demolished. One of the legacies of the Consumers' Gas period is the contamination of the site from the industrial processes that occurred there. The site's recent history includes low-rise buildings for various small businesses such as restaurants, carwashes, and car dealerships. This preceded the neighbourhood's current and rapid shift to a mix of commercial, light industrial, cultural and residential uses.

2.2 Archaeological Assessment

The project team conducted a review of known and potential archaeological resources of the major periods of historical development. The review was based on archaeological investigations undertaken previously by Archaeological Services Inc.

A key observation was that the surviving artifacts from the First Parliament era are fragile and limited in extent. They are also embedded in contaminated soil.

Revealing the First Parliament artifacts for public display is not considered feasible. Therefore, heritage interpretation may have to rely on strategies other than the display of physical, historical artifacts. Remains of the later Consumers' Gas period are expected to be abundant.

While the original setting of the site, on the shore of the Toronto bay and adjacent to the outlet of Taddle Creek and its associated wetlands, would have been attractive to Indigenous populations, no associated archaeological records were documented during the investigations.

Nevertheless, despite the lack of physical evidence in this regard, Indigenous history deserves to be a subject for commemoration and interpretation.

The following summarizes the archaeological review and includes potential mitigation measures. These are preliminary only, recognizing that as detailed plans come forward to develop the First Parliament site, further archaeological assessment and study will be required. A more detailed discussion of the archaeological assessments conducted by ASI and planning for the archaeological resources of the First Parliament site can be found in Appendix 8.



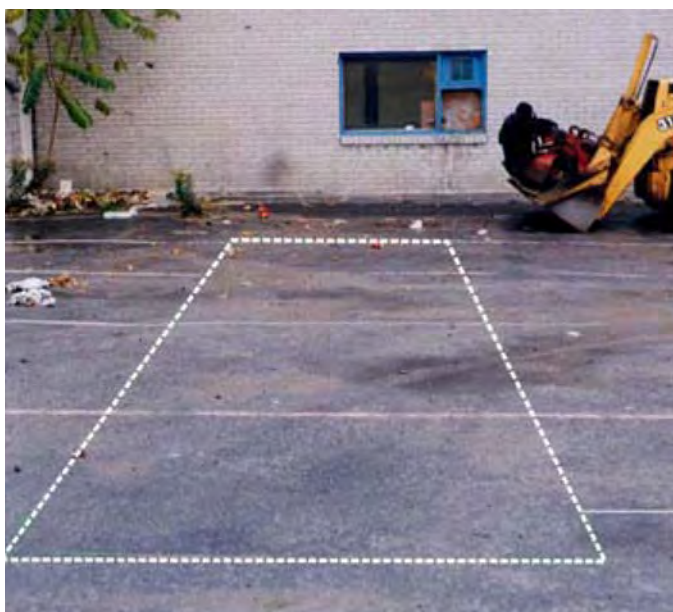
14. Archaeological Investigations (ASI)

2.2.1 First and Second Parliament Buildings and the Blockhouse

The archaeological remains of the First and Second Parliament buildings are confined to an area of no more than 350 m². They cannot be expected to be continuous throughout this area. Elements will have been entirely destroyed and removed, or severely truncated, by later development and demolition activities.

The First Parliament archaeological remains known to be present include:

- A portion of the dry-laid stone footing for the south Legislative Council building, brick rubble, soil stains representing the locations of burnt wood flooring, subfloor elements such as siltstone slabs or flags, patches of lime-sand mortar and a shallow drain; and
- Contemporary natural and made soil strata containing artifacts associated with the construction, use and demolition of the First Parliament buildings.



15. Preparing to Excavate (ASI)

Preservation in situ is the preferred approach to the protection and avoidance of any impacts or alternations to the surviving physical remains. This approach is consistent with one of the Ontario Heritage Trust's design objectives for the site that speak directly to archaeological resource concerns in the context of any revitalization or redevelopment of the First Parliament site. The objective states:

"Interventions and development on the block should completely avoid disturbing the known Parliament era archaeological resources and areas of Parliament era potential. In general, excavation of the Parliament block should be minimized in order to preserve archaeological resources and to limit the costs and impacts of environmental remediation."

The Trust's full Planning Framework for the site is appended as Appendix 3.

This approach would require that any development of the site, including those developments intended to interpret and commemorate the First Parliament



16. Fire-stained Soil (ASI)

buildings or any aspects of the site's history and use (as well as any enabling environmental remediation work), not result in any alterations to those remains and must therefore be situated at a safe distance from the First Parliament potential archaeological sensitivity area.

If it is determined that complete avoidance and protection of the surviving physical remains in this manner is not the preferred option, then conservation through complete archaeological excavation and documentation of all associated archaeological deposits, features etc. would be required. This would be required prior to any other necessary site alterations including environmental remediation. Controlled removal of the architectural remains, undertaken in a manner that permits their curation, consolidation and reconstruction for presentation and interpretation should be considered under this scenario.

If major site redevelopment is intended, other material remains such as soil deposits and discolourations that are directly associated with

the Parliament Buildings may be documented in such a way as to allow their recreation in other durable media. To be effective as a permanent and legible interpretive element on the site, this type of reconstruction would be essentially a replica, incorporating considerable new fabric.

There is no potential for the survival of remains of the Town Blockhouse, formerly located on the edge of the original shore cliffs southeast of the Parliament buildings. Previous investigations in the estimated location of the structure revealed that the nearshore tableland on which the block house stood was completely removed during the construction of the Esplanade and related works carried out by the railways. This finding is consistent with the early railway alterations that have been documented in other locations along the historical harbour front.

2.2.2 Third Home District Gaol

The area of potential or concern with respect to the Gaol era corresponds to a major part of the five-storey central block of the building, its radiating



17. Parliament Building and Gaol Artifacts (ASI)



18. Consumers' Gas Artifact (ASI)

three-storey south and northwest wings, part of its west yard or compound (which was reportedly walled) and the main entrance to the complex from Front Street. This area encompasses approximately 1500 m².

The Gaol building remains that are known to exist include features interpreted as portions of a south cellblock wing interior wall footings or robbed out footings/foundations, service drains and miscellaneous deposits. There is considerable overlap between the Gaol and Parliament potential/sensitivity zones.

Archaeological remains associated with the Home District Gaol are of cultural heritage value or interest in that they represent resources that may encompass significant evidence concerning the mid-19th Century penal system.

Where site redevelopment is planned, conservation by means of archaeological salvage excavations undertaken in advance of any site alterations, must be considered the preferred option. Salvage excavation is the process of investigation required to document the archaeological context, cultural features and artifacts that constitute the archaeological site. The purpose is to recover information about the site for further study through comparative analysis and interpretation of its content and character. The results would be recorded in an investigative report together with an archive of all materials related to the site and its excavation.

2.2.3 The Esplanade and Railway Works

The 44 Parliament Street property was created during the construction of the Esplanade in order to facilitate the growing railway systems along the shore of Toronto Harbour in the 1850s. This work was accomplished through a campaign of lake filling behind a continuous crib wall built along the broken front of the original shore.

The primary features of significance that stood on this portion of the site were a turntable and engine house as well as freight sheds. There is also a strong possibility that elements of circa 1855 piling or cribbing systems related to the original landmaking process behind the main Esplanade shore wall, and perhaps also the channelization of Taddle Creek through the area, may be present.

Any such remains represent material evidence of harbourfront developments that were central to the emergence of Toronto as a transportation hub on the Great Lakes and as an industrial city. The turntable and engine house, in particular, constitute structures that have only limited representation in the archaeological record, as would any engineering related to the channelization of Taddle Creek. While elements of the nineteenth and early twentieth-century have been documented across the Toronto waterfront, those that have been revealed likely represent only a fraction of the total inventory of physical remnants that still exist. This still hidden archaeological legacy is only to be expected in the First Parliament site and its surroundings.

Where preservation through avoidance of site redevelopment impacts is not possible, conservation by means of archaeological salvage excavations, undertaken in advance of any site alterations, must be considered the preferred mitigation option. However, depending on the scale of any proposed impacts within portions of the site, documentation of the physical remains through archaeological monitoring of environmental remediations and/or construction excavations may also be considered as a secondary or alternative approach.

2.2.4 Consumers' Gas Station A

The remains of Consumers' Gas Station A are ubiquitous throughout the 265-271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street properties. Known and potential elements include:

- architectural remnants of the circa 1883-1884 coal shed built along the east side of the site; the circa 1888-1889 retort house and stores building on the west side of the site;
- the office building, first built in the early 1890s along Front Street, and rebuilt in 1899;
- a small frame scale house;
- footings, piers and pits related to coal and coke conveying and processing equipment;
- a subgrade rail spur;
- pavements;
- subsurface services.

The remains of Station A represent material evidence of industrial processes and a municipal service that had a profound influence on the development of the modern city. Station A related directly to street, public institutional and domestic lighting, and later as a source of household cooking and heating fuel and for a variety of industrial activities. Secondary products of the gasification process, including forms of coke, coal tar, ammonia liquor, etc., were of importance to various other civic, industrial and domestic applications. On this basis, Station A constitutes a resource of cultural heritage value or interest, particularly as it represents a type of site which has limited representation in the documented archaeological record.

Where preservation through avoidance of site redevelopment impacts is not possible, conservation by means of archaeological salvage excavations, undertaken in advance of any site alterations must be considered the preferred mitigation option.

Constraints must be considered if any impacts to portions of the site are proposed. These constraints include environmental contamination, logistics, or risks to health and safety. If impact is the preferred option then, archaeological monitoring of environmental remediations and/or construction excavations may also be considered as a secondary or alternative approach.



19. Consumers' Gas - Courtyard Pavement (ASI)

2.3 Public and Stakeholder Engagement

2.3.1 Program Components

Approximately 500 participants took part in the public engagement process, which consisted of five engagement activities: a public lecture, a subject matter experts workshop, a public roundtable meeting, an on-line survey, and a community walk. Additional one-on-one interviews were also conducted with key informants and subject matter experts.

The engagement process focused on uncovering and documenting the priorities, interests, and ideas for the site of the participants involved with the activities. A full summary of the engagement process including comments and feedback can be found in Appendix 4.

A comprehensive engagement program was developed for each activity based on historical research of the site and surrounding area. A number of members from the community contributed to this work by providing information they had uncovered during their many years of researching and advocating for this site.

1. Public Lecture: The public engagement process began with a public lecture, which was designed as a public learning event rather than a formal consultation session. The goals of the lecture were to announce the project and engage participants who might not otherwise have known about the site's history.

The lecture informed participants about the multi-layered history of the site and the purpose of the Heritage Interpretation Strategy as part of the overall master planning process.

2. Experts Workshop: This workshop brought together experts knowledgeable in the political and industrial history of the site, and in the social history of local neighbourhoods. The primary goal of this intensive, facilitated workshop was to refine the historical research completed to date by identifying possible gaps. The participants also developed a set of values to guide the development of the Heritage Interpretation Strategy. As examples, principles stipulated that the site should be: accessible to everyone, open to evolving continuously, diverse in terms of the stories it conveys and respectful in the way it represents history.

3. Public Roundtable Meeting: The facilitated public roundtable was an extension of the subject matter experts workshop. The public learned more about the history of the site and what heritage interpretation is. They also participated in two facilitated activities. The first was to identify gaps in the work to date, recognize areas of emphasis and help refine the work. This activity generated over 170 discussion points (new stories, people, ideas, historical information, etc.) highlighting narratives that would be of interest to the general public.

In the second activity, participants were introduced to the concept that heritage sites may not be able to share all of the possible heritage narratives that they have to offer and that curators often have to choose what to emphasize. These choices are defined by strategies and, more broadly, by a framework of values and principles. Participants were asked to identify their potential ideal experience(s), which produced over 140 discussion points to guide the project team in developing the Heritage Interpretation Strategy. Participants stated that the site should be accessible, community-oriented, educational, engaging, immersive and interactive.



20. First Parliament Public Lecture (DTAH)



21. First Parliament Public Walk (DTAH)

4. On-line Survey: Based on the work completed during the experts workshop and the public roundtable meeting, the project team developed an on-line survey to broaden the scale and scope of participation in the overall engagement process and to provide an engagement point for those who could not participate in the in-person sessions. The questions served to identify more discussion points as well as motivations for visiting historical or heritage sites and how one would want to experience the First Parliament site.

5. Community Walk: The final engagement activity was a community walk that enabled participants to better understand the community in which the site is located and imagine the site's different historical eras.

2.3.2 Key Findings

Thematic Discussions

Large thematic categories and periods were identified to structure the discussions and consultation:

- Natural Geography;
- Indigenous Nations;
- First and Second Parliament;
- Home District Goal;
- Consumers' Gas;
- Railways;
- Age of the Automobile.

Natural Geography and Indigenous Occupation

Interest in the natural geography of the area and what the early landscape looked like before human settlement reflects just how much history the site has to tell. The site's physical evolution can be traced back to the last ice age. As the glaciers were retreating, the First Parliament site was submerged under 100 metres of water. The waters receded which left the site on the shores of Lake Ontario.

Although it's not always easy to imagine, many participants were captivated by this distant history. Fascinating to many was the fact that, in recent history, the shoreline of Lake Ontario ran right through the First Parliament site. There was also interest in the movement of the Toronto shoreline and connections to Toronto waterways (specifically to the Don River and Taddle Creek).

Indigenous Nations

Indigenous history was one of the most popular narratives discussed by the participants. This interest was repeatedly observed across all engagement activities and was revealed in several open text responses from the on-line survey.

Specifically, there was interest with respect to Indigenous stories and their potential relationship to the site; Indigenous contributions to the area (pre- and post-colonization); the negative treatment by settlers, colonists and government (British and Canadian) and Indigenous treaties and agreements that impact the region.

Many participants were also interested in learning about the lifestyles, culture and social structures of Indigenous Peoples in the area. Interest lay both with past eras and present circumstances.



22. First Parliament Public Workshop (DTAH)

First and Second Parliament

The history of the First and Second Parliament buildings was the most important thematic focus for the majority of participants. Participants understood and appreciated the First Parliament site's importance to the heritage of the city, province and country. The majority of discussion and queries focused on the site's direct connection to the development of Toronto as a major metropolis and as a significant political, economic and cultural centre in Ontario and Canada.

Many participants agreed that the site is important for understanding the overall historical development of the city, province and nation and wanted to learn more.

Many participants were curious about the daily governance of Upper Canada and about the well-known people who influenced the formation of Toronto and Upper Canada. Participants were also interested in learning more about the daily lives and backgrounds of people who lived in the Town of York. This interest in the lives of ordinary people, including Indigenous Peoples, is one theme that was observed in discussions regarding the Home District Gaol and Consumers' Gas.



23. First Parliament Panel Discussion (DTAH)

Home District Gaol

In the case of the Gaol, the leading narrative was an interest in learning the stories of the individuals who were incarcerated there. Participants wanted to understand why and how they ended up in the Gaol and the prison conditions. Also, participants were interested in the social history of the Gaol, especially since the justice system has changed extensively since then.

Consumers' Gas

In the case of the Consumers' Gas narrative, participants were keen to learn not only about the economic history related to energy sources and urban development, but also about who was working at the site and what their lives were like. Observed sub-themes include the labour history of the area, the industrialization of Toronto and the environmental impacts of the Consumers' Gas complex on the site.

Railways

The main narrative under this category is the importance of the railways in supporting the development of the site and the waterfront.

Age of the Automobile

With the exception of the Consumers' Gas period, the age of the automobile has lasted the longest and continues to the present day. The primary narrative during this period was the role of cars in modern Toronto and how they contributed to the overall neglect of the area (i.e. presence of many parking lots, automobile related uses).

2.4 Indigenous Engagement

One of the objectives of the Heritage Interpretation Study is to illuminate the history of the site so that its interpretation is authentic, relevant and inclusive of all audiences. In so doing, any consideration of the history of the site must extend beyond its physical boundaries and beyond the past 200 years.

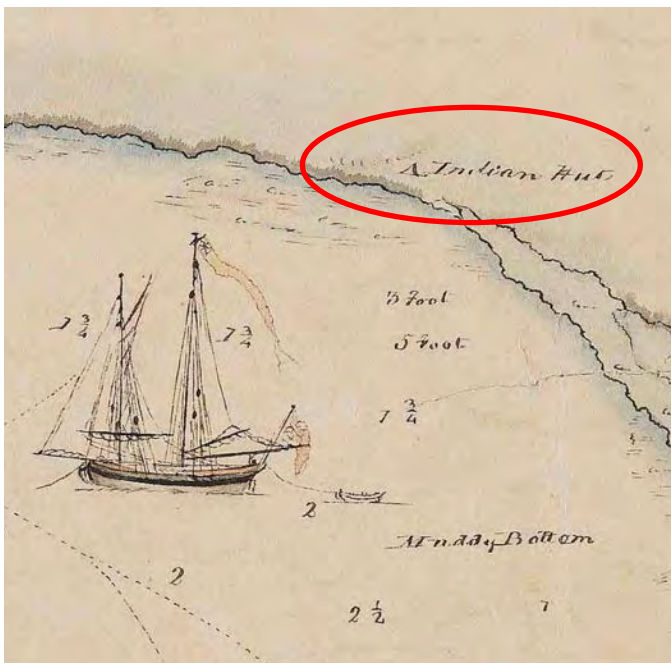
There is no archaeological evidence to demonstrate that the First Parliament site was occupied or inhabited by Indigenous Peoples. However, there is evidence that the Don River and Ashbridges Bay, located not far from the First Parliament site, were used by Indigenous Peoples at the time of Simcoe's arrival. Therefore, the lack of specific documentation pertaining to the history of the First Parliament site prior to the Parliamentary era should not diminish its interpretative significance.

The project team reached out to representatives of the four Indigenous Nations whose histories are

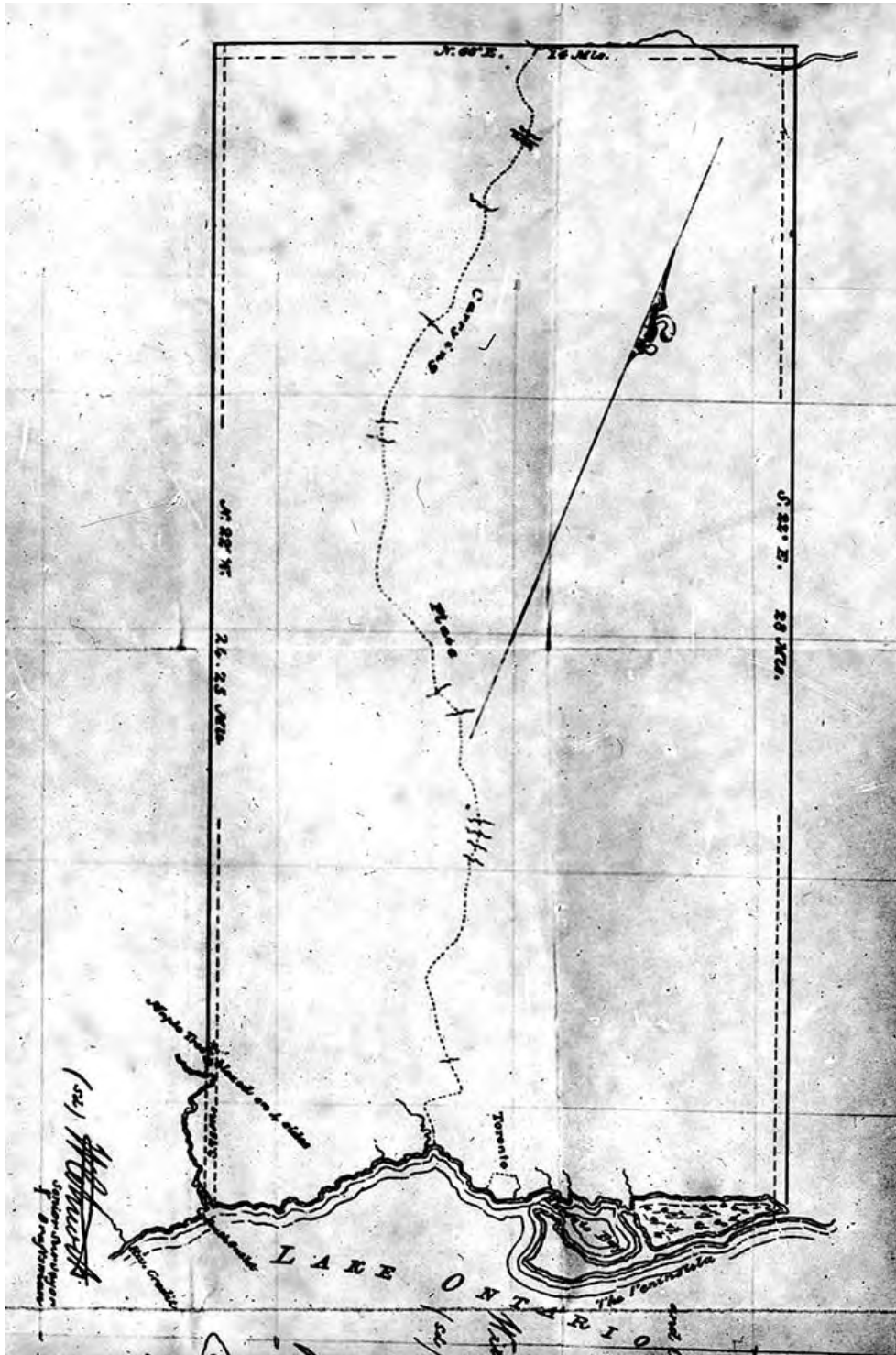
linked to the Toronto region. The purpose was to gain insight into their perceptions of the site and its history, and to identify what stories they would like to tell through the interpretation of the site. The Nations contacted included the Wendat, Metis Nation, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation, and Six Nations. Letters of introduction were followed up with email and telephone conversations. The Indigenous engagement program is found in Appendix 5.

These initial conversations covered a range of topics and identified stories and themes that show the continuing impact of historic events to the present day. One important theme concerned land claims and treaties, which was shared by representatives from the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The project team's primary contact was Darin Wybenga, the community's Traditional Knowledge Keeper and Land Use Coordinator. Mr. Wybenga is a retired elementary school teacher who now represents the Mississaugas on various levels and manages the local library. He was generous with his time, extremely open and very knowledgeable about Canadian history in general and Indigenous history in particular.

One of Mr. Wybenga's primary insights concerned the land treaties, which governed the surrender of land in exchange for various goods and services, and sometimes money. Following the Royal Proclamation of 1763, land treaties could only be negotiated with the British Crown (The Parliament of Upper Canada and the British Crown were seen as "one and the same thing"). This, in effect, identified Indigenous Peoples as "Nations" equal to or even above local governments. Through land treaties negotiated with the British Crown, large swaths of land (previously claimed by the Mississaugas) exchanged hands through the 19th Century. Simply speaking, it was these treaties that enabled settlement on Indigenous lands.



24. "Indian Hut" identified near the mouth of the Don River (Bouchette, 1792)



25. Toronto Purchase Treaty No. 13, 1787/1805/2010 (Google)

Of relevance to First Parliament, the Toronto Purchase of 1787 (Treaty 13) involved the surrender of lands in the Toronto area to the British Crown. For various reasons, the agreement was disputed and revisited in 1805 in an attempt to clarify the area purchased. The agreement remained under dispute for the next 200 years. In 2010, a settlement was finally reached between the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and the Canadian Government.

The historic Indigenous/Crown debates continue to this day. The Mississaugas are continuing to advance petitions against the federal government concerning the Rouge River National Park and claims over water including lakes, rivers and ground water.

It should be noted that these conversations initiated by the project team for the Strategy mark the beginning of a process of building relationships and making connections with Indigenous Nations. The invitation to tell their own stories and articulate

what the site means for them will be made again and again, recognizing that the collective history of a place emerges over time with each new encounter and each new conversation.

The First Parliament site offers many heritage interpretation opportunities. Whether through landscape and design elements, place making, site programming or the built environment, heritage interpretation can play a role in broadening our collective understanding of a place and time. This desire to learn about Indigenous history and Indigenous contributions to the area (both pre- and post-colonization) was evident in the public and stakeholder engagement workshops.

There is still a great deal to be uncovered. Moving forward, focused engagement and meaningful conversations with Indigenous Nations should continue through all future stages of the planning and development of the site.

3.0

Heritage Interpretation Strategy

This section presents the Heritage Interpretation Strategy for the First Parliament site. Topics include planning context, potential audiences, core values, interpretation framework, and themes and connectors. The section concludes with interpretation guidelines and recommendations.

3.1 Introduction

Building on the research, key inputs and engagement carried out in the earlier phases of work, this chapter identifies potential audiences for the First Parliament project and outlines a set of interpretation planning core values. Both have been used to develop an overarching interpretation concept or vision for the First Parliament site, which is central to the Heritage Interpretation Strategy.

Further guidelines and recommendations on interpretation development and interpretation opportunities are outlined later in this report. These will influence the design approach for the Master Plan phase and will form the basis on which future interpretation plans and exhibition designs will be developed.

3.2 Interpretation Planning Context

Prior to this Heritage Interpretation Strategy, considerable efforts have already been undertaken to understand and develop stories for the First Parliament site. From the onset, the Strategy has considered and built upon existing collections, research and background documents. A key input was the Ontario Heritage Trust exhibit *Foundations & Fire: Early Parliament and the War of 1812 Experience at York*, which was displayed at the Trust's Parliament Interpretative Centre from 2012-2024.

As more of the city's cultural heritage landscape is revealed, understood, preserved, and adapted, more and more opportunities arise to interpret and highlight these hidden histories within the public realm. Recognizing, celebrating and promoting our collective histories helps to connect with the past, making it a relevant part of our present and informing our future.

Located in the area of the city known as "Old Town", the First Parliament site is surrounded by other notable historic streetscapes and buildings with existing or planned interpretation programs. The First Parliament site also has strong connections with Fort York and other museums and historic sites within the City of Toronto's portfolio. Therefore, an important part of our approach to this study has been to ensure that the interpretation strategy is developed within the context of other existing sites and organizations that already tell Toronto's history. This approach ensures that the First Parliament interpretation strategy complements these other sites to tell a unique but comprehensive history.

The Heritage Interpretation Strategy has also been informed and developed within the context of the following additional policies and plans:

- City of Toronto, Museums and Heritage Services Road Map 2016-2021;
- Ontario Heritage Trust Interpretive Policy and the Trust's planning framework (the principles and strategic design objectives);
- North St. Lawrence Market Interpretive Plan 2018;
- Distillery District Heritage Conservation District Study 2016;
- St. Lawrence Market Heritage Conservation District Plan 2015;
- Heritage Interpretation Master Plan for Old Town Toronto 2013;
- Exhibits at 51 Division Police Station;
- Exhibits and cultural programs within the Distillery District;
- City of Toronto Official Plan policies for heritage.

3.3 Potential Audiences

Given its urban location in the downtown core of Toronto, the site's close proximity to the popular Distillery Historic District and as the site for a new district library, the First Parliament Project is expected to attract a wide range of local, national and international visitors. However, it is anticipated that the main potential audiences for the site will be:

St. Lawrence District Library Users – It is most likely that the St. Lawrence Public Library, currently a neighbourhood branch, will be relocating to a new purpose-built facility on the project site to become a district branch. Currently, the neighbourhood library attracts approximately 110,000 visitors per year. The demographic profile of library users is typically reflective of the district in which the branch is located (see **Local Residents** below). On average, district branches in Toronto attract 300,000 to

316,000 visitors per year. Research and reference branches like the Toronto Reference Library, which also offers a high level of local history/public programming and temporary exhibits in the TD Gallery (4 per year), attract 1.2 to 1.3 million visitors per year, of which approximately 18,000 visit the exhibitions specifically. In discussions with the TD Gallery curator, it was noted that the majority of visitors to the gallery are also general library users.

It was suggested that any interpretation strategy must be mindful of how broad and diverse library audiences can be. A concept and narrative that is intellectually accessible in the broadest possible sense will be necessary and should not assume any prior knowledge. Further, the Toronto Public Library has expressed interest in future interpretation planning for the site.



26. Toronto's Distillery District (Google)

Distillery District Visitors – The Distillery District is located approximately 500 meters from the project site and has become a popular destination in the city for tourists and Torontonians alike. The historic district, bustling all day and night with shops, food, art, and entertainment is consistently listed as one of the top 10 all-time favourite attractions for people from Toronto, the GTA and Southern Ontario. The main audiences for the district are those aged 19-24, followed by those aged 25-34 years and 35-44 years old. Published data on the number of people per year that visit the district is not available, but it is thought to be in the hundreds of thousands. Certainly, the annual Christmas Market is a major draw, with an estimated 600,000 visitors.

Consultations on the Distillery District Historic Conservation District study also highlighted the connections with the project site. It is highly likely that many of these visitors will be walking through or past the project site on their way to their final destination within the Distillery District.

Given the historic and industrial nature of the Distillery District, there should be opportunities to connect interpretation narratives and appeal to these visitors.

The interpretation strategy should take into consideration opportunities to best capture passing visitors who may be traversing the site throughout the day and evening, at varying intervals and paces.

Educators and Students – The mission of most cultural institutions is to provide learning and educational opportunities. Visits from elementary, high school and further education groups are a cornerstone of their audience base, typically 8% of total visitation on average. The history of the project site, combined with the public library function, has the potential to attract elementary and high school students from Toronto, and possibly those from

further afield who may visit the site as part of a joint day trip to the city. The level of engagement will depend entirely on the type and extent of the visitor experience developed, and most importantly, the quality of any associated educational programming and its link to the provincial curriculum.

Like Fort York, the project site does offer important curriculum links at the Grade 3, 5, 7 and 10 levels with topics that relate to Indigenous Peoples and European explorers, British North America, early settlements in Upper Canada, conflict and change, and civics and government.

With further development and exploration, other topics might also be included such as science and industry, environmental issues and geography. However, all educational programming developed should be drawn from the interpretation framework presented in this Strategy.

Partnerships should be sought to develop future programming that will connect with other city-wide programs to offer a comprehensive narrative that will provide a full-day educational experience.

Experts and Enthusiasts – The stakeholder and public engagement activities have highlighted a dedicated group of experts and enthusiasts who have a deep interest in and extensive knowledge of the history of the site and its related subject matter.

The evolution of the First Parliament site has been quite broad over its many thousands of years, and as such there are many different topics and themes that would be of interest to those (both locally and from elsewhere) who make up this group – Indigenous presence, early settlement, Upper Canada government and legislation, Battle of York, archaeology, immigration, railway, industry, environmental contamination, incarceration, etc. This deep interest in the site and subject matter means that people from this group would be more

likely to make a dedicated trip to the site and will be more interested in engaging with content at a much deeper level.

The interpretation strategy will need to ensure opportunities for a layered delivery of content to be accessible to casual passers-by, and also to satisfy the enthusiast's desire for more detailed, specific information.

Local Residents – Local residents are important audiences for cultural institutions as they are a readily available market and the most likely to be regular users. Considerable construction and change has occurred in the area over the past 10 years as the downtown and waterfront areas continue to be revived and redeveloped, leading to a rapid increase in population. The St. Lawrence-Distillery Area is home to the project site, as well as the St. Lawrence Market, Distillery District, George Brown College Campus, the Pan-Am Games development and the proposed Quayside East-End pilot project being developed by Sidewalk Labs.

In 2016, the population within 1.5 km of the project site was reported to be approximately 55,500 and is expected to grow 7% by 2021. The area has a high proportion of working-aged people.

The neighbourhood also has a high level of educational attainment. Educational attainment is the top indicator in predicting likely attendance to museums, heritage sites and cultural institutions. The statistics for this neighbourhood indicate a quickly growing population, a younger population and one that is highly likely to engage with the project site on a regular basis.

The interpretation strategy will need to ensure that a local, younger demographic is attracted to the site. As they are predominantly working age, interaction would most likely be outside of regular working hours and on weekends.

Area Workers – Estimated total daytime population in the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood is approximately 36,000 people within 1 km and 117,500 people within 1.5 km of the project site. This is due to the increasing number of office developments in the neighbourhood which attract an increased number of workers to the area. This group of people will have some free time during lunch breaks and after work looking for opportunities to meet for food and drink or entertainment. Again, it will be important that the interpretation be accessible, and easily consumable given the time constraints of daytime workers.

Tourists – In 2017, Toronto welcomed 43.7 million visitors, including 15.5 million overnight visitors and 28.2 million same-day travelers. Of this total



27. Courtyard, Portland Oregon

visitorship, there were nearly 3 million American overnight visitors and 2.1 million overnight visitors arriving from overseas markets, including China and the UK. According to provincial tourism statistics, approximately 5% of tourists visited a historic site in 2016 and 5% attended a cultural performance. Both the St. Lawrence Market and the Distillery District are already popular tourist destinations and therefore potential tourism opportunities bode well for the adjacent First Parliament site.

The interpretation strategy should draw attention to the historical links with other local tourist destinations in order to both draw people to the site through these associations and encourage people to visit other related sites throughout the city.



3.4 Core Values

The early phases of the Strategy focused on historical and archaeological research, and engagement. From the findings and feedback gathered, we begin to see a set of core values emerge. These core values are guiding principles or recommended directions that underlie the heritage interpretation strategy. They assist in making decisions about what stories to include that will be of greatest interest, how the stories should be told and what the overall experience on the site should be in the future.

These core values form the basis of the interpretation concept and thematic framework that follows in the next section. These core values will also be used to guide further development of narratives and exhibits in future interpretation planning stages. The core values are grouped in categories addressing Interpretation Focus/Mandate, Key Themes & Points of Interest and Organization/Structure of the Narrative.

Details include:

Interpretation Focus/Mandate

The following help to guide what stories the interpretation strategy should focus on:

- The past and continued presence, stories, roles, and contributions of Indigenous Peoples in the area and region should be recognized and told;
- Of the many histories of the site, it is the First and Second Parliament eras that generate the most interest from the public and is of greatest significance to Toronto's, Ontario's and Canada's history. Furthermore, it is the primary reason for the site's historical designation and protection;
- Other eras in the site's evolution are also of

interest and represent stories that have not been told elsewhere in Toronto. These include the Gaol, Consumers' Gas and the railways as they represent important dimensions of the City's evolution. These eras merit inclusion in the overall interpretation strategy and help to broaden the appeal of the site.

Key Themes & Points of Interest

The subject areas that together tell the central story.

The following are the key themes of greatest interest for the site:

- Why here? – the lake and location of the original shoreline; their role in selecting/shaping the site and its historic uses;
- Legislation, Treaties & Agreements – different types of governance; developing governance for a new province; important debates, decisions and agreements happened/were made here or about this place;
- Social history – who was here, when and why; what daily life was like in each period; personal experiences;
- Diverse people – highlight the many different groups present here; tensions between groups; immigration; the movement of people;
- Form and Function – what was the purpose/function/role of the site in each era; what activities or events took place here; what did it look like;
- Impacts – what important things happened on-site that significantly effected people, communities, the history of the city/province/country; why it is still relevant today;
- Connections – how the site, its activities and associations fit into a wider picture; what other sites and organizations it connects to;

- Community involvement – how the site was discovered, saved and redeveloped as a community effort.

Organization/Structure of the Narrative

The way in which the themes and sub-themes are arranged in order to create a storyline.

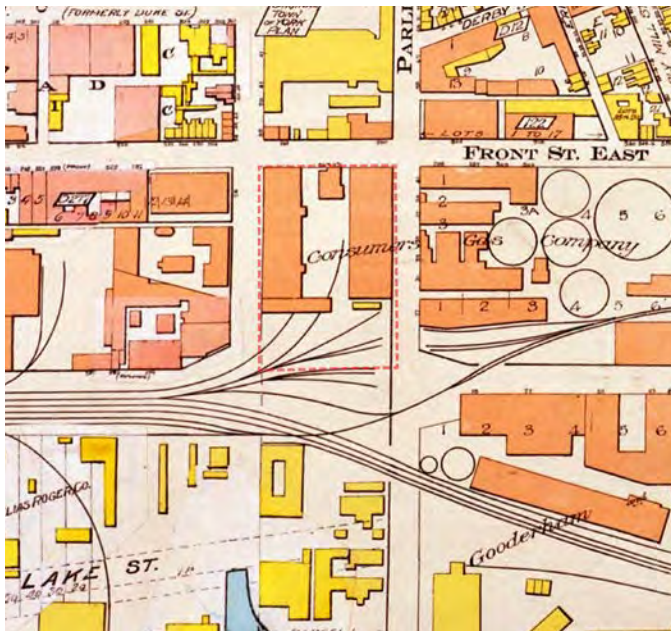
The following represent direction on how the themes should be structured or organized in order to create an engaging story (the recommended themes and sub-themes are outlined later on in this report).

- Equal/non-hierarchical – recognize all stories from all eras as they relate to the site;
- Accessible/inclusive – needs to be intellectually accessible; assume visitors have no prior knowledge; present many ways into the story;
- Relatable/representative – include human experiences; ensure that Toronto's diverse population can see themselves reflected in the story;
- Plural/multi-perspective – break away from telling only a colonial story; reveal hidden and overlooked stories; provide different perspectives on the same event;
- Acknowledgment/reconciliation – objectively tell stories both good and bad; embrace complex narratives; do not shy away from more complex issues; strive to correct myths and inaccuracies;
- Integrated – connect into and support other sites, organizations and stories told in the city; do not overlap or duplicate stories better told elsewhere; cross-promote and encourage people to explore the city and visit other places.

Key Challenges

A number of key challenges were also identified during the consultation and assessment process. Together with the direction on the interpretation focus and key themes (as listed above), these challenges helped to shape different options on how to interpret the site:

- Finding an authentic link between the various (and seemingly unrelated) evolutionary phases of the site in order to better connect the themes and create a cohesive story;
- Ensuring authentic and respectful inclusion, representation of and connection to Indigenous communities, cultures and stories;
- Telling the stories with very limited archaeological resources to work with;
- Positioning the site and its stories in a way that will appeal broadly to a wide range of potential users, with different interests, levels of pre-existing knowledge and time to spend on-site.



28. Consumers' Gas Company (Goad's Atlas, 1913)

3.5 Interpretation Vision / Concept

An interpretation vision statement or driving concept communicates the overall visitor experience and the impact the heritage site will have on its identified audiences. It is a description of the future interpretive potential of the heritage site. Based on the extensive historical research carried out and taking into consideration the feedback gathered during the consultation process and the core values outlined above, the following interpretation vision has been defined for the First Parliament Project:

A focal point of the St. Lawrence-Distillery Neighbourhood, the First Parliament site will be a dynamic and active place for residents, local workers and tourists to meet, interact and learn about the history of the site. The First Parliament site will be multi-platform, communicating the evolution of the site and its important stories to visitors both on-site and on-line. Employing both high and low-tech means of interpretation, the site will celebrate and communicate the site's long history, peeling back the many layers of time to creatively reveal the hidden features, diverse history and many stories inherent in the site both day and night. While the experience is place-based (that is related to the First Parliament site specifically), the stories and themes have municipal, provincial and national significance.

3.6 Interpretation Framework

The interpretation framework is the intellectual organization of the story which underpins an exhibition or interpretation of a site. This interpretation framework employs a thematic approach, using a series of key themes, sub-themes and connecting themes to tell the story and reinforce a core message across the site. It is often illustrated in a bubble diagram which articulates and structures the relationship between themes and sub-themes, helping visitors to make sense of, potentially, vast amounts of information and data.

Frameworks also help future curators and program coordinators to organize and group content, and designers to make decisions on how the experience is laid out in physical space.

3.6.1 Core Message

The evolution of Canada has given rise to many potential and realized locations for its capital. Toronto (York) was the capital of Upper Canada, governed from the project site, and for a brief period it was also the capital of a United Canada (the merger of Upper and Lower Canada) prior to Confederation. This concept focuses on using the First Parliament site to tell the story of establishing Toronto (York) as a capital by examining key characteristics (themes) unique to any capital city and the site's important role in building the City, the Province and the Nation.

The interpretation vision/concept is driven by a core message (or meta theme), which is a concise statement describing the central story or intellectual argument (thesis) guiding the interpretation framework. It impacts the organization of all permanent and temporary exhibits and programs throughout and across the site. The core message to be communicated at the First Parliament site is as follows:

This site and its evolution have helped establish Toronto (York) as a founding capital city and directly impacts the formation, development and growth of the Province of Ontario and Canada. Toronto became the home of Upper Canada's first dedicated parliament buildings. The diverse people, decisions and events associated with the site link the past with the present.

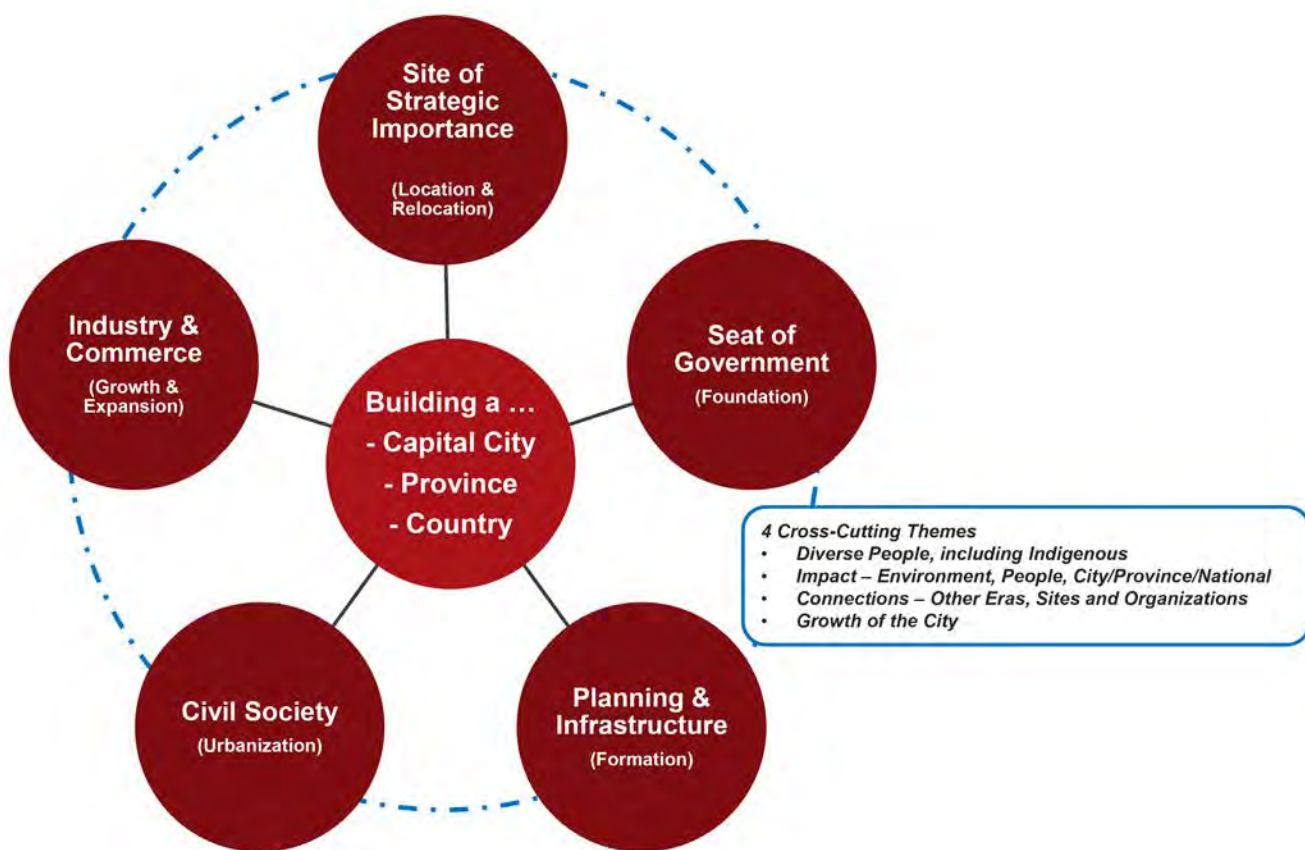
This core message recognizes that:

- The history of the area and Canada begins with the Indigenous Nations;
- Much of the site's heritage value is related to the Parliament era when the site was occupied by Upper Canada's first and second parliament buildings;
- People, impact and connections are central to the story;
- Formalizing and establishing Upper Canada's administrative headquarters at this strategic site was the first step in building Toronto (York) as an early capital city in what would become Canada. The site was the seat of government exerting control over a region, a symbol of civic pride and unity, and a strategic location requiring protection and defense, as well as a business, cultural and population centre;
- While the Parliament era is primary, other eras of occupation (both before and after) contribute to its heritage value and have also supported its role as a capital city over time;
- The influence and impact of decisions, events and activities related to the site extends beyond Toronto and highlights its local, provincial and national heritage significance.

This interpretation framework uses a series of key themes to deliver the core message and tell the central story across the site. These themes represent the foundational elements for building a capital city, and by extension building a province and a nation.

The diagram below illustrates this proposed interpretation concept, together with key themes and cross-cutting themes (connectors).

The diagram is intended to be schematic and conceptual. It is not indicative of any particular physical layout. Links between these thematic areas will be further strengthened by the cross-cutting themes, which include topics that are relevant to each of the main themes. The thematic areas and connectors are described in greater detail in the following sections.



29. Interpretive Framework for the First Parliament Site (Lord)

3.7 Themes and Connectors

This section provides more detailed descriptions of each of the key themes and how they relate to the core message. Each theme is further broken down into sub-themes and accompanied by communication objectives. These communication objectives represent additional messages that exhibits should help to convey to visitors. Note that communication objectives outlined are not intended as panel text.

3.7.1 Theme: A Site of Strategic Importance (Location and Relocation)

When establishing a new capital city, the geographic position of a capital within its territory is extremely important and varies enormously. Political, military, economic and cultural factors are always key influences on the choice of location.

Some capitals are more practically placed in a central area to take advantage of access to and from all parts of the territory. In other cases, the capital is peripheral, removed from the influence of business and commerce, and/or protected from the threat of foreign powers. The capital city can also act as a hinge, connecting its territory to the outside world, connecting different interest groups or communities, or even linking the present to a great past.

This theme would examine the history of the site and why it was chosen as the location for the capital of Upper Canada. The theme would also examine why there was subsequent competition among other centres to host the capital in the lead up to a united Province of Canada and Confederation. It should be noted that Simcoe never wanted this site to be the capital. Even the re-use of the buildings for public purposes (and later abandonment) reflects that the First Parliament site may not have always been considered a strategically important location.

The following presents these sub-themes alongside potential communication objectives, i.e. those important points that future exhibits should transmit to visitors. Note that communication objectives outlined are not intended as panel text.

A Changing Landscape

- Recognize that for thousands of years this area was at times part of Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Mississauga and Anishnabeg tribal territory;
- Highlight the original north shoreline of Lake Ontario to give a sense of what the early landscape would have been like.

A More Suitable Position

- Recognize Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake) as the first capital city of Upper Canada;
- Contrast Newark against Simcoe's other preferred locations for the capital – London and York (Toronto) – to reveal what made it a strategically poor location for Upper Canada's capital city and what made the other options better – e.g. a defensible position and a central location from which to develop a transportation network.

Relocation, Relocation, Relocation

- Explain that after the destruction of the Second Parliament, the location of the seat of government was transient, moving from location to location within the city and to other cities for over 20 years;
- Outline the process that Queen Victoria took in choosing Ottawa as the capital of a confederated Canada in 1857 and how Toronto was formally recognized as Ontario's Provincial capital in 1867;

- Emphasize that because of Toronto’s prolonged capital city status, it developed as a strong economic hub and population centre which allowed it to survive the moving out of Parliament, and continues to thrive today as Canada’s most diverse city and its commercial and financial centre.

3.7.2 Theme: Establishing a Seat of Government (Foundation)

The original meaning of the word “capital” (from the Latin “caput”) refers to the city at the “head” of a territory. The capital is by definition a seat of power and a place of decision-making that affects the lives and the futures of the nation (or territory) ruled, and that may influence trends and events beyond its borders.

This theme interprets how the Parliament for Upper Canada was established as a legal entity and the seat of government, what early proceedings took place, who made the decisions, how those decisions came about, and the impact they had then and continue to have now.

The following presents these sub-themes alongside potential key communication objectives.

Royal Proclamation

- Explain that British North America was established with the Treaty of Paris in 1763 which ended the war between Great Britain and France, and ceded all French territories in mainland North America;
- Describe the Royal Proclamation of 1763 which set out guidelines for European settlement of Indigenous territories;
- Illustrate how the Constitutional Act 1791 divided Canada into the Provinces of Upper

Canada (Ontario) and Lower Canada (Quebec) and established separate governments and legislative assemblies for each.

Early Parliamentary Proceedings

- Highlight that the first session of the first Parliament of Upper Canada was held in Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake) on September 17, 1792, although the exact location where these meetings took place remains a mystery;
- Describe the circumstances around the kidnapping of Chloe Cooley and how this led to the 1793 Act to Limit Slavery in Upper Canada. This was a pivotal human rights bill, one of the first acts of Parliament, and the first piece of legislation in the British Empire to limit slavery.

Systems of Government

- Discuss the different levels of government in Upper Canada, their roles and powers including the Lieutenant Governor, the Executive Council, the Legislative Council, the elected Legislative Assembly and later the Home County Council;
- Describe the first elections held in August 1792 in Upper Canada, including who was permitted to stand as a candidate and who was permitted to vote;
- Contrast the government system established in Upper Canada with that of Britain and Indigenous Nations.

Centre of Debate and Decision Making

- Give visitors a sense of what it would have been like to be a part of the first session of Parliament at York (Toronto), convened by Upper Canada’s first provincial administrator Peter Russell and held on June 1, 1797;

- Discuss the significance and lasting legacy of legislation that was passed during early parliamentary proceedings and discuss the impact that it has on life in Ontario today.

3.7.3 Theme: Planning and Infrastructure (Formation)

Because of its important role as the seat of government, York (Toronto) becomes home to political leaders, decision-makers and lobbyists. Early treaties, agreements and legislation made here have a direct impact on the way that the capital city and the territory are mapped and laid out. Buildings and infrastructure are erected to accommodate these important negotiations, treaties, legislation, and administrative activities, and to ensure civic needs are met. As the capital city grows in size and stature, new transportation and communication infrastructure becomes increasingly vital to ensure good accessibility to and from all parts of the territory. These structures also take on a political and symbolic importance which can sometimes make them a target for protest, foreign attack and invasion.

This theme would interpret construction of the first and second parliament buildings, how this was part of the wider urban planning of York (Toronto), how its presence made the city a target for attack and how many of the decisions regarding land made here influenced how the rest of the province (and the country) was acquired, surveyed and developed.

The following presents these sub-themes alongside potential key communication objectives.

Early York

- Describe the Toronto Purchase and how the agreement remained in dispute for over 200 years, including the initial “sale” agreement made in 1787, the revised agreement in 1805

and the settlement in 2010 between the Government of Canada and the Mississaugas;

- Place the location and design of the First Parliament buildings in the wider context of urban planning and development of York (Toronto) including establishing the garrison at Fort York, establishing the reserves and laying out the City’s original 10 blocks (Old Town);
- Provide visitors with a sense of what life would have been like in the early years of settlement and how circumstances would have changed with the relocation of the capital to York.

A Permanent Home for Government in Upper Canada

- Recognize the local, provincial and national significance of this site as being home to the first and second purpose-built parliament buildings for the province of Upper Canada;
- Emphasize that it was the city’s first brick building and that its intended architectural design (although not fully realized) signaled its importance and permanence, firmly establishing York (Toronto) as Upper Canada’s capital city;
- Profile the architects, workmen and labourers who were involved in its design and construction;
- Using historic descriptions and archaeology, illustrate the layout and design of the First Parliament building and its associated blockhouse so that visitors can get a sense of its size, scale and position on the site, and its architectural design.

Fire!

- Discuss how, as the capital of Upper Canada and home to the seat of government, the site became a symbol of power and national pride. As such, it also became a target for invading forces during the Battle of York in 1813. High-

light how retaliatory measures similarly led to the burning of the White House and the capital in Washington;

- Illustrate the layout and design of the second parliament building so that visitors can appreciate how its size, scale and position on the site and its architectural design changed when it was rebuilt as a two-storey building after the conflict;
- Describe how the second parliament building, constructed in 1820, was also consumed by fire in 1824, caused by an overheated flue and how the site was subsequently abandoned for Parliament's use;
- Contrast the first and second parliament buildings with later locations for government, and the final construction of Queen's Park which opened in 1893.

Surveying the Land in Upper Canada

- Highlight that long before his arrival, John Graves Simcoe had already developed a clear vision for the development of Upper Canada, which included the establishment of a land granting system that would attract loyal and desirable settlers;
- Showcase early surveys and plans for York (Toronto) developed by Simcoe, later plans by Alexander Aitken, Deputy Surveyor, and others and describe how the surveying process worked;
- Profile an Act for Future Titles to Lands in this Province, one of the first acts passed during the first session of Parliament at York;
- Reinforce how legislation enacted regarding how land, roads and railways were surveyed, laid out, granted, and constructed in York (Toronto) and the province continues to impact development across Ontario and Canada.

3.7.4 Theme: Civil Society (Urbanization)

Firmly established as a political centre and a home for powerful and influential decision-makers, a capital city also begins to attract people from across the regions and from outside its territorial boundaries. This influx of migrants and new immigrants are looking to find work, transact business, exert their influence, and share in the privileges, opportunities and advantages afforded to a growing or prosperous capital city. This often leads to rapid urbanization and a new social structure.

The First Parliament site was not only one of the earliest seats of government in Canada, it was also one of the first purposeful public buildings serving as a temporary home to immigrants to Upper Canada. Shortly after York (Toronto) became the capital, the city quickly developed from a backwoods outpost into the province's largest centre with an increasingly diverse population. As the city and society grew, so too did the need for those institutions that would govern, enforce and ensure a just and orderly society. Later, the First Parliament site became the location of the Home District Gaol, where those who resisted "civil order" were incarcerated.

This theme would interpret how capital city status began to attract people to York (Toronto), who these immigrants were, how they were once housed at the parliament buildings and how Toronto (York) became one of the most culturally diverse cities in the world. Additionally, this theme would discuss the other early civic and societal uses of the parliament buildings, and how later the site's occupation changed to a more sombre purpose for the incarceration of those convicted of public offense and of mental illness.

The following presents these sub-themes alongside potential key communication objectives.

People on the Move

- Recognize that for thousands of years, this area has borne witness to the migration of Indigenous Peoples. Later, the area would see migration of French traders, British Loyalists, enslaved and freed Black people as well as many others;
- Highlight how early York (Toronto) was an isolated village with a small population, primarily British with a few other European settlers of French, German and Dutch heritage. Later, as a capital city, York (Toronto) began to grow into a thriving urban centre, attracting waves of people – politicians, soldiers, tradesmen, labourers – of different backgrounds, from near and far;
- Describe how, in 1817, housing was scarce so the partially reconstructed upper floors of the first parliament buildings were used as a barracks for soldiers and then as temporary accommodation for newly-arrived immigrants;
- Illustrate how space was chalked out on the floor for each family to occupy in order to give visitors a sense of what it would have been like to arrive here for the first time;
- Reinforce how York's (Toronto's) status as a capital city for Upper Canada (then) and for the Province of Ontario (now) has always been a magnet for people. Celebrate that Toronto's population has grown to reflect the nation's diversity and become one of the most multicultural cities in the world.

More than Just a Government House

- Describe the multi-functional use of the parliament buildings as a gathering place not only for government, but also for other organizations and civic uses, including the Court of Appeal, the Court of the King's Bench, the founding of

the Law Society of Upper Canada, a place for town meetings, the first congregations of St. James Cathedral, and the city's first library;

- Celebrate how the site continues to uphold this civic use today with the new St. Lawrence District Library and other public amenities developed as part of the master plan.

The Home District Gaol

- Highlight how, after the destruction of the second parliament buildings, the site remained vacant until the Home District Gaol was constructed between 1838 and 1840;
- Showcase the panopticon design concept and how it linked to the philosophy of incarceration and the penal system of the time;
- Profile who the British Crown incarcerated there – convicted felons, the mentally ill, debtors, people awaiting trial;
- Illustrate what prison life would have been like for a prisoner – how men, women, and children shared the same jail space – their families, prison guards;
- Outline that the Gaol was used until 1860 (when all prisoners were moved to the Don Jail) and that it remained vacant until it was demolished in 1887 to make way for the expanding Consumers' Gas Company.

Grassroots Efforts for Rediscovery and Protection

- Describe how the site was identified and uncovered through the research, energies and advocacy of local historian Rollo Myers and others;
- Celebrate the civic efforts of the local community to advocate for the site's protection, promote the site's local, provincial and national heritage value, and spur the redevelopment of the site into a library and public space today;

- Recognize the City of Toronto and Ontario Heritage Trust as stewards of the property and their role in early archaeological investigations, acquiring the site and its future development;
- Provide an overview of the archaeological process and findings undertaken to date and any future (as a result of the Master Plan) investigations undertaken on-site and highlight steps taken to manage and protect resources.

3.7.5 Theme: Industry and Commerce (Growth and Expansion)

Along with political power, and a diverse, educated and skilled population, capital cities attract wealth and investment, becoming prosperous commercial centres. When building a province, land grants and infrastructure go hand-in-hand with the establishment of new financial institutions and the government enacts regulatory legislation to encourage a strong economy.

Over the years, starting with the Parliament eras, legislation enacted here helped establish the Province's first banking structure. Later the site became a hub of industry as the home to Consumer's Gas Company, the railway and the automotive sector.

The following presents these sub-themes alongside potential key communication objectives.

Early Trade

- Describe traditional means of trade and commerce among Indigenous Peoples;
- Describe early trade relationships between Indigenous communities, early French migrants, and later the British and the people of York (Toronto).

Banking & Currency

- Highlight that the government of Upper Canada never issued a provincial currency and that, until 1835, all banks in Upper Canada required a legislative charter;
- Describe how the Bank of Upper Canada was established in 1821 under a Charter granted by the legislature of Upper Canada in 1819 to a group of Kingston merchants, and how later this charter was appropriated and moved to York by Executive Councillor, the Reverend John Strachan, and William Allan;
- Celebrate the fact that paper currency was a banking innovation in this era, describe how it was used and that it was primarily issued by the Bank of Upper Canada. Illustrate for visitors what this currency might have looked like.

Industrialization

- Highlight how the Consumers' Gas Company acquired the site in 1879 to accommodate the expansion of its refinery and visually relate it to the adjacent buildings in the neighbourhood that still exist today – the 51 Division Police Station and the Canadian Opera Company. Additionally, describe how Consumers' Gas impacted the city with gas street lighting, and heating and cooking;
- Describe how the wharf and railways helped to encourage industrialization of the neighbourhood, which would have transported important goods out into the rest of the Province, and highlight that a roundhouse terminus was established on the south half of the site. Illustrate where the round table and rail lines were and visually relate it to the Esplanade;

- Highlight that after the closure of the Consumers' Gas facility in 1955, its lands and buildings were sold off and demolished, and that the site has since been occupied by a carwash, an automotive dealership and parking lots.

Environmental Legacy

- Illustrate how the various uses of the site over time, from Indigenous presence to today have changed the landscape, morphology of the site and the surrounding neighbourhood;
- Profile Consumers' Gas Company employees and neighbourhood residents. Describe what life would have been like and contrast it with that of James Austin, founder of the Dominion Bank and president of Consumers' Gas Company who lived at Spadina House;
- Describe how the neighbourhood's heavy industrial uses during the late 19th and early 20th centuries have impacted the area's environmental health and illustrate remedial processes developed as part of the master plan for dealing with it.

3.7.6 Cross-cutting Themes: Diverse People, Impact, Connections, Growth of the City

As outlined above, this model of organization gives the option of weaving the cross-cutting themes or "connectors" across the site and its exhibits. Tying the thematic areas together, connectors provide a narrative thread and continuity to the visitor experience and can lead audiences from one area to another. They complement key aspects of the main thematic framework content and provide additional related content.

Connectors are adaptable. Due to their flexible nature, connectors can be easily changed and modified by the curatorial team to reflect current events or a variety of topics. Unlike larger

exhibitions, connecting themes can be realized via smaller kiosks, panels, listening stations, and such, which allow the curatorial team to experiment with the kind of content they want to present. This content can be easily updated and changed. They should be easy to spot via a graphic identity and form which sets them apart from the main thematic areas.

The four connectors are:

- 1. Diverse People** - tells personal stories of Indigenous communities, leading figures and everyday people who were involved in the building of the capital, the province and the nation, and would help to illustrate their various roles.
- 2. Impact** - highlights the effect – environmental, social, political, economical, cultural – of activities and decisions made under each theme on the city, the province and the country.
- 3. Connections** - draws attention to the linkages the First Parliament site has in each thematic category with other related sites in the city/ province, such as between the Home County Gaol and the Don Jail via the theme of "Urbanization: Nurturing a Civil Society".
- 4. Growth of the City** - reveals how the city grew both geographically and by population. It describes its evolution from an industrial to a commercial centre and the slow erosion of its industrial landscape.

3.8 Interpretation Guidelines and Recommendations

This section provides a summary of recommended guiding principles, interpretation opportunities, and potential resources that will help shape the Master Plan and other interpretation planning and exhibition design work in the future.

3.8.1 Ontario Heritage Trust Interpretation Policy

The Ontario Heritage Trust has developed its own Interpretation Policy, based around a set of core principles focused on:

- Integrity;
- Research and documentation;
- Context;
- Sustainability;
- Access and engagement;
- Collaboration and cooperation;
- Education and responsive change.

These principles have been used as a guide for the development of this Heritage Interpretation Strategy and should continue as a cornerstone for future development of a more detailed Heritage Interpretation Plan and the design of any interpretation exhibits and materials at a later stage as the project progresses.

3.8.2 Interpretation Guidelines

Based on research, expertise and feedback gathered through public engagement, the following represent additional guidelines that should underpin future development of the visitor experience, means of communication, exhibit content and the design approach.

- Be welcoming to all audiences and be a place that is comfortable to occupy;
- Be a place for people to meet, interact and connect with their history and each other;
- Be a hub that looks outward, promoting and encouraging people to explore the city and visit other connected places;
- Provide both indoor, outdoor and virtual interpretation opportunities, as well as daytime and nighttime opportunities;
- Ensure that direct visual connections between interpretation points and related built heritage features in the surrounding neighbourhood are maintained;
- Leverage the design of any future buildings or open spaces to creatively recreate, reveal or uncover hidden or missing features;
- Use innovative techniques, public art and digital technologies in ways that elevate and improve the telling of the story, but that do not have to be relied upon as the only storytelling medium;
- Create opportunities that encourage visitors to pause and reflect, but that also surprise, delight and fascinate;
- Work in consultation with Indigenous experts, knowledge keepers and communities to shape the narrative in each thematic area and ensure opportunities for these communities to tell their own stories;
- Provide opportunities for visitors to contribute their own personal stories to the narrative;
- Be flexible and open to change, including updates when new information or interpretations are revealed;
- Provide different layers of information to allow people to choose what to explore based on their interests and schedules;

- Be engaging, explorative and interactive to capture the attention of visitors of all ages;
- Provide experiences, activities and programs that are both fun and educational;
- Ensure opportunities to extend the peoples' experience beyond the physical site, before and after their visit.

3.8.3 Potential Interpretation Opportunities and Methods of Communication

The purpose of this Heritage Interpretation Strategy has been to develop a vision (concept) for interpreting the site and to outline the visitor experience, core message and key themes. In future stages of planning and design for the First Parliament site, this strategy will evolve into a more definitive plan which will include detailed descriptions of each exhibit, the content to be delivered and the method of expression (interactive displays, artifacts and text panels, for example). While we do not wish to bias or limit the creativity of any future design work, there are some potential interpretation opportunities that can be highlighted here for early consideration.

Based on the interpretation framework, and in conjunction with the layout of the site, its surroundings, and an early understanding of potential design concepts, we suggest the following means of communication for consideration in the master planning stage:

- Apply for inclusion as part of the Moccasin Identify Project where images of First Nations' footwear are stenciled in places of significance to remind us that we are on the traditional territory of Indigenous Nations. As this initiative grows, locations will be included on the Driftscape App and will create a trail;
- Incorporate native plantings into any landscaping or garden beds;

- Use creative boundary markings to illustrate or give the impression of where walls and boundaries of each of the various buildings used to be in order to give people a sense of location, size and scale;
- Provide elevated viewing points to better see the site as a whole;
- Leverage the many pictorial representations of the site in maps, drawings, paintings and photographs to provide unique analogue and digital augmented reality opportunities that allow visitors to look through the pictures and imagine what the site used to look like;
- Given the depth and breadth of the story, consider including a flexible space indoors that



30. TD Gallery, Toronto Reference Library (Lord)

could function as a temporary gallery to host a series of changing exhibitions that can explore and address topics related to the interpretation framework in greater detail. These could be developed internally or by external partners. The library and its spaces and resources should be leveraged;

- Create a website that would help to build awareness for the experience at the First Parliament site and encourage a visit. The website should also be able to host standalone content about the history of the site including virtual exhibitions, video content and downloadable resources for teachers, as well as support physical experiences with enhanced mobile-friendly content;
- Use Facebook Messenger enabled NFC tags (or similar) to create opportunities for visitors to connect to additional audio and video content, related artifacts and other linked city locations using their own mobile devices;
- Purposefully program the site with formal and informal learning and cultural activities that help

to celebrate the site’s cultural heritage and drive the story;

- Incorporate themed-play elements for children such as an archaeology sandbox which would encourage children to “discover” the remains of the site for themselves just as the community did;
- Use a themed naming structure for function rooms, cafés, restaurants, etc. to celebrate the site’s history and associated people;
- Enliven temporary construction hoarding during site works with graphics and text that help to communicate the site’s history.

3.8.4 Possible Resources

The following list represents potential resources that could be leveraged by a future interpretation planning and design team – either as an original, digital copy or replica – to help communicate the story of the First Parliament project site to the public. Resources include (but are not limited to):



31. Trillium Park, Toronto (Lord)

- Archaeological records, images, video, and artifacts recovered from the site during excavations;
- Audio and video recordings of oral histories related to the rediscovery of the site;
- Letters, diaries and other written records relating to the founding of York including the detailed diaries of Elizabeth Posthuma Simcoe in which she notes her observations of the new colony;
- Survey, ordinance and fire insurance maps of Upper Canada, York and Toronto;
- Artwork and images that illustrate what the site looked like during various eras and the people associated with the site;
- Items related to the Battle of York, including the ceremonial mace, that had been looted from the original buildings in 1813 and later returned by President Roosevelt in 1934, the Battle standard captured by the Americans, copies of the books that were present in the library;
- Archival documents and other 2D materials which relate to the other eras of the site including prisoner lists, shipping manifests, architectural plans, and newspaper articles, etc.;
- Related artifacts, ephemera such as ticket stubs, posters, book covers, etc., archival video footage and/or music recordings that could help to provide context for the period;
- Industrial artifacts should also be included for display and interpretation.



32. Fort Calgary National Historic Site, Calgary (Lord)



33. Murakami Exhibit, Vancouver Art Gallery (Lord)



34. Esperance Waterfront Renewal, Australia (Lord)

Appendix 1

City of Toronto Statement of Significance

Basis of the Statement of Significance

1.1 The Site's Heritage Values

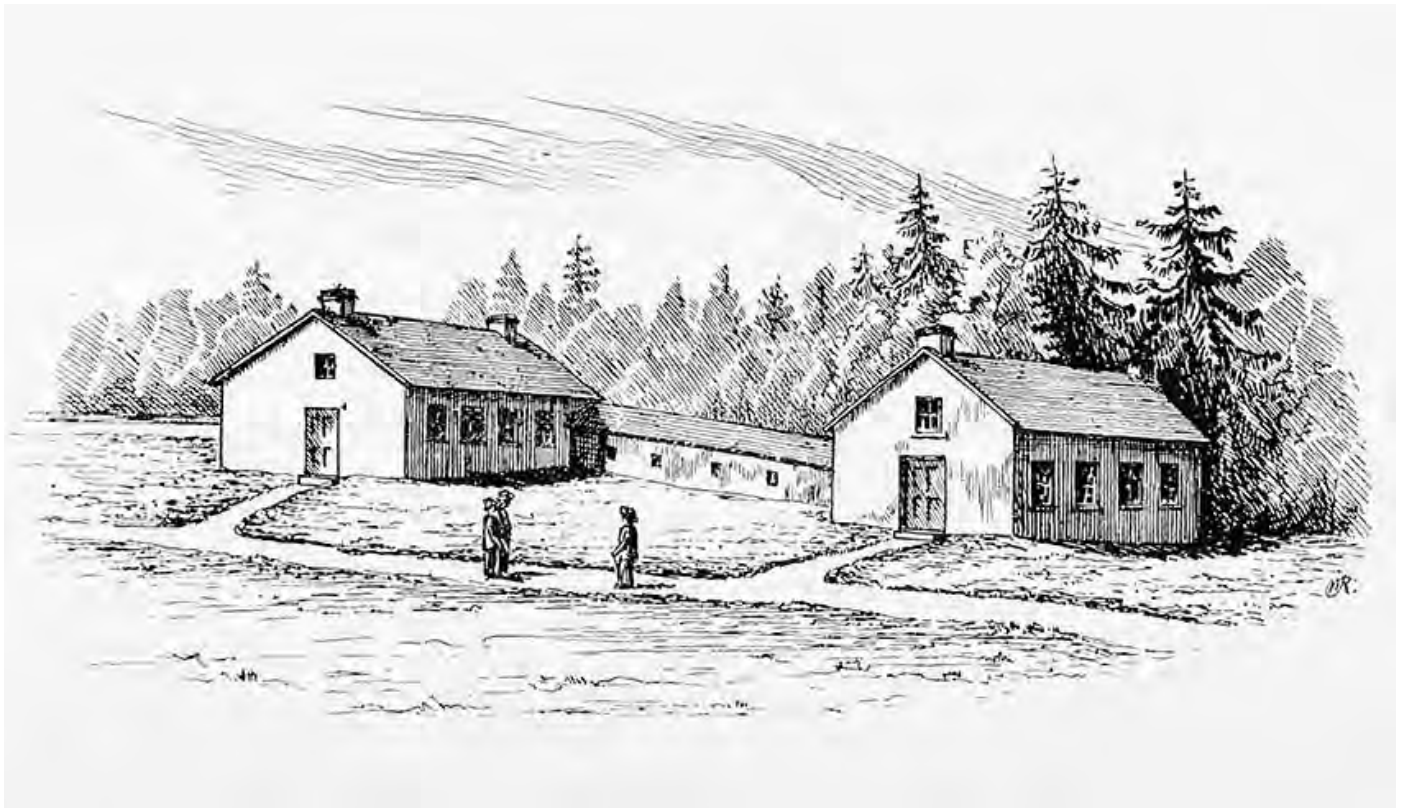
A portion of the site, at 265 Front Street East, is under the ownership of the Ontario Heritage Trust. The OHT Statement of Significance for this parcel, most recently edited in 2015, illustrates its heritage values and character defining features. It has been included as Appendix 2 for reference.

The current site encompasses a larger area, inclusive of the 265 Front Street East portion (provincially owned), with the addition of 271 Front Street East, 44 Parliament Street, and 25 Berkeley Street (all municipally owned). Together, they form a 1.25 hectare large archaeological site, bordered by Front Street East to the north, Parliament Street to the east, Berkeley Street to the west and Parliament Square Park to the south.

An evaluation of the broader site's heritage value was completed as part of this analysis. Ontario Heritage Trust and City of Toronto agreed that Ontario Regulation 9/06 of the Ontario Heritage Act should serve as the basis for reviewing the cultural heritage values of the site. Based on this evaluation, the site has significant historical, associative, and contextual cultural heritage values.

Historical and Associative Values

The site of the First Parliament has historical and associative value based on its direct associations with the development of Upper Canada (Ontario) and York (Toronto) as its capital. It is significant as the site of the First and Second Parliament Buildings. It is also associated with the city's evolution through its association with the Home



35. Ontario's First Parliament Buildings, 1796-1813 (John Ross Robertson, ca. 1910)

District Gaol, the Consumers' Gas complex, the Esplanade and railway development, and local social community involvement.

The site is directly associated with early Upper Canadian history. The site was the location of the first purpose-built parliament buildings, which accommodated the legislative assembly, the courthouse and other civic functions from 1797 to 1813. The structures were burned down during the War of 1812, resulting in the retaliatory burning of the White House by the British. In 1820, the Second Parliament Building was built on the site. It accidentally burned down in 1824. Important early legislation regarding property, currency, trade and civic institutions (education and medical practices) was debated and decided in those early parliament buildings. The site is significant for its association with prominent members of Ontario's early history (such as Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe, Peter Russell, Sir Isaac Brock), the founding of Toronto, the War of 1812, and Toronto's oldest religious congregation (the Anglican Church).

The site has historical associations with the third Home District Gaol. Designed by John Howard, the building was completed in 1840, and in use from 1840 to 1864. It was a county gaol, with a catchment area extending as far north as Barrie. The gaol embodied mid-nineteenth century penal philosophies and its inmates reflected the demographics of Upper Canada. It is directly associated with the reformation of the legal and welfare systems in Ontario.

The site has historical associations with the Consumers' Gas complex who acquired the site ca.1879. The gaol was demolished in 1897 as new factory buildings were constructed, including a new brick coal shed, a retort house, a scale house, a stores building, and conveying equipment for coal and coke. These structures included designs by



36. Extract showing 10-block town-site and Parliament Buildings from 'Sketch of the Ground in Advance of and Including York Upper Canada' (George Williams, 1813)

THE
STATUTES
OF
HIS MAJESTY'S PROVINCE OF
UPPER - CANADA.

PASSED IN THE FIRST SESSION OF THE FOURTH PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT OF UPPER CANADA, MET AT YORK, ON THE FIRST DAY OF FEBRUARY, IN THE FORTY-FIFTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF OUR SOVEREIGN LORD GEORGE THE THIRD, AND PROLOGUED ON THE SECOND DAY OF MARCH FOLLOWING.

1805

Chapter 1:

An ACT for altering the time of issuing Licences, for the keeping of a House or any other place of Public Entertainment, or for the retailing of Wine, Brandy, Rum, or any other Spirituous Liquors, or for the having and using of Stills for the purpose of distilling Spirituous Liquors, and for repealing so much of an Act passed in the forty-third year of His Majesty's Reign, as relates to the periods of paying into the hands of the Receiver General, the Monies collected by the Inspector of each and every District throughout this Province, for such Licences.

[Passed 2d March, 1805.]

Chapter 2:

An ACT to afford relief to those Persons who may be entitled to claim Lands in this Province, as Heirs or Devisees of the Nominees of the Crown, in cases where no Patent hath issued for such Lands.

[Passed 2d March, 1805.]

37. Extracts from the 1805 Statutes passed in Upper Canada (1805)

Toronto architects David B. Dick and Strickland & Symons and reflected the industrial character of the area. These gas works supported the growth of the city through the production of coal gas for use in street lighting and heating technologies and through the importation of raw materials and export of by-products for industrial uses.

The site is significant for its association with the railway development and the resulting expansion of shipping and railway corridors for transportation access. A turntable and related spurs were located on the site's south end. The Consumers' Gas and railway structures were demolished in 1950s.

The site has direct association with the local heritage preservation movement within its surrounding community. The historical importance of the site galvanized local organizations and leaders bringing the site to municipal and provincial attention. Interest in the site and the archaeological discoveries contributed to the development and implementation of a city-wide archaeological management plan and, ultimately, the public acquisition of the site.

Contextual Value

The site of the First Parliament has contextual value for its siting at the eastern edge of the historic 10-block town site of York, within what was originally the government reserve. It is located in the vicinity of some of Toronto's earliest buildings, and is historically linked to the original location of the terminus of a nineteenth-century railway complex and its railway infrastructure.

Local, Provincial and National Connections

The site has local significance for its role in the development of Toronto. In particular, Toronto's founding as a capital is associated with the First and Second Parliament buildings. Consumers'

Gas contributed to the city's industrial growth first through the production of coal gas for lighting street lamps, and later as fuel for space heating and cooking technologies for its residents. The site is also connected to the development of Toronto as an important business and transit hub, through its adjacency to a railway terminus and corridor and to the shipping wharves. The site also has numerous connections with Torontonians who played key roles in the evolution and development of the city.

The site has provincial significance as the seat of the Upper Canada government and its First and Second Parliament buildings. It is associated with prominent Upper Canadians and early legislation foundational to the government in Ontario. The Home District Gaol contributed to the development of the provincial penal system, through penal, legal and welfare reforms.

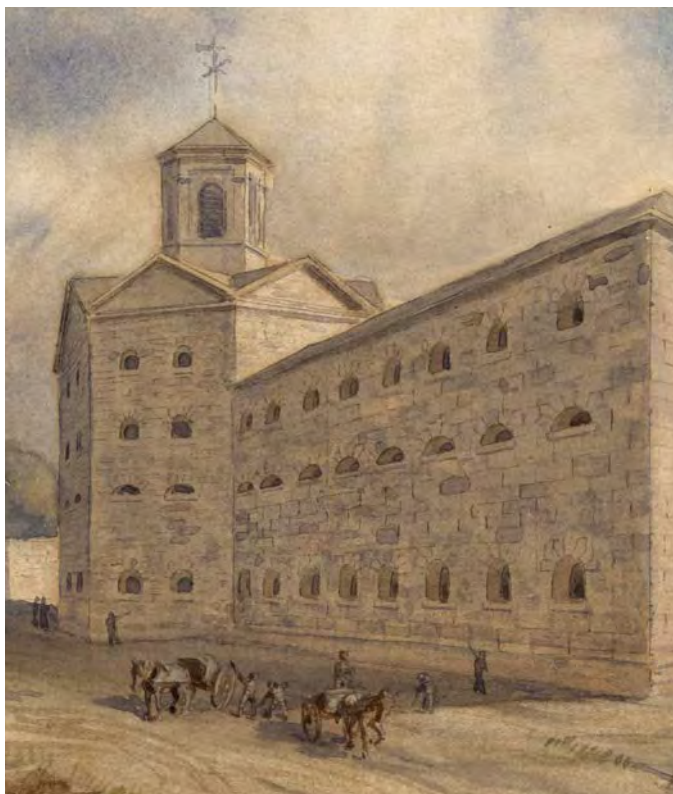
The site has a national connection in relation to the War of 1812. The First Parliament buildings were targeted and burned by the Americans in 1813 for their legislative and military functions. This attack also resulted in the looting of the lieutenant governor's standard, the speaker's wig, and the parliamentary mace by the Americans. This action spurred the British to retaliate by burning the White House in Washington in 1814.

1.2 A New Statement of Significance

The heritage evaluation of the site, as per Ontario Regulation 9/06, demonstrates that the larger site has significant cultural heritage value. A new Statement of Significance, requested by the City of Toronto, has been drafted that encompasses the heritage values relating to the entirety of the site. This consists of the 1.25 hectare large archaeological site known as 265 Front Street, 271 Front Street East, 44 Parliament Street and 25 Berkeley Street. The Ontario Heritage Trust retains

its own stand-alone Statement of Significance pertaining to the provincially-owned 265 Front Street. Both Statements are meant to be read together and are included Appendixes 1 and 2.

The Statement of Significance identifies the cultural heritage values and heritage attributes of the site, and will provide the framework for the interventions outlined in the interpretation principles and subsequent master plan. It describes historical and associative heritage values with regards to its direct association with the First and Second Parliament buildings, the Third Home District Gaol, Consumers' Gas Station A, railway development and the local preservation movement. It also identifies the contextual heritage values of the site's location adjacent to the original town site, within government reserves, adjacent to Toronto's earliest buildings, and as the terminus of a railway complex.



38. Third Home District Gaol (Frederic Victor Poole, ca.1880)

City of Toronto Statement of Significance

1. Description

The site consists of the properties 265 Front Street East, 271 Front Street East, 44 Parliament Street and 25 Berkeley Street. Together, they form a 1.25 ha large archaeological site within the city of Toronto, bordered by Front Street East to the north, Parliament Street to the east, Berkeley Street to the West and Parliament Square Park to the south (historically the former shoreline).

When the capital of Upper Canada was relocated to York (Toronto) in 1794, this site was chosen for the first purpose-built Parliament Buildings. The two brick structures stood from 1879 to 1813. In addition to their use as a legislature, they served as a court, for public functions, and as a meeting place for the Anglican Church. The buildings were burned down during the War of 1812 by the American forces, which resulted in the retaliatory burning of the White House by the British. The buildings were partially reconstructed after the war for use as troops' barracks, followed by housing for newly arrived immigrants. The Second Parliament buildings were reconstructed in 1820 on their original footprints. A central building was added to connect the two wings. The Second Parliament buildings stood until 1824 when they were accidentally destroyed by fire.

The site was subsequently occupied by the Third Home District Gaol from 1840 to 1864. Designed by John Howard, the limestone and brick structure was constructed on the vacant Parliament site. The gaol building was based on a panopticon design with a central 5-storey octagonal tower and two 3-storey wings. The Gaol was demolished in 1887.

Consumers' Gas purchased the site in 1879 to expand its gas plant complex. The constructed structures include a brick coal shed, an iron-roofed retort house, conveying equipment, and spurs to access the adjacent railway yard with its railway

roundtable located at the southern portion of the site. When Consumers' Gas closed in 1955, the lands were sold off and the buildings demolished.

In the late 20th century, coinciding with the neighbourhood shift to the current mix of commercial, light industry, cultural and residential uses, local community advocates alerted the city and province to the historical importance of the site and its archaeological potential. As a result, the City-wide Archaeological Master Plan was adopted, and the Province and City acquired portions of the First Parliament Site.

2. Statement of Cultural Heritage Value

Historical and Associative Value

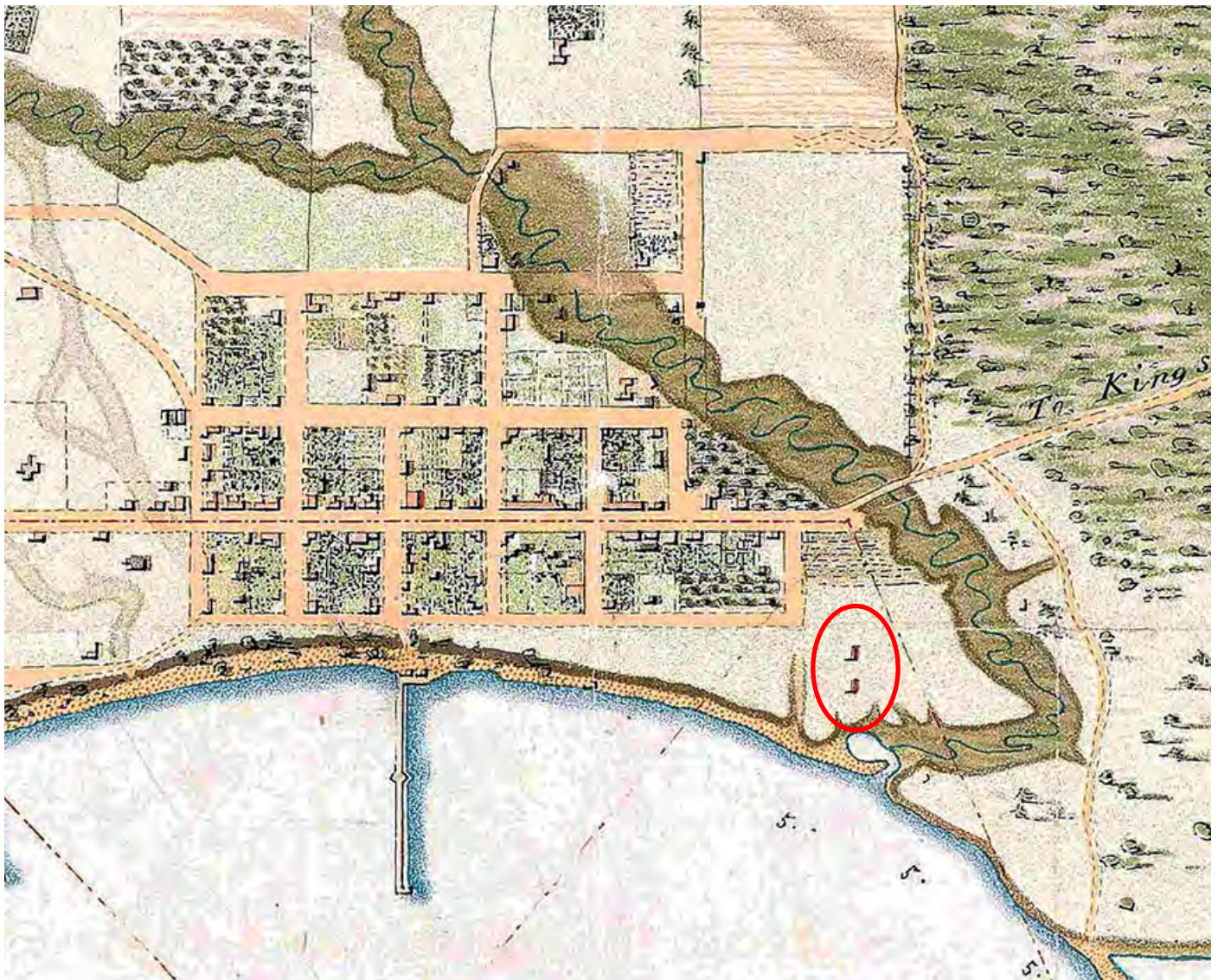
The site's significance lies in its multiple associations with the development of Upper Canada (Ontario) and York (Toronto) as its capital as embodied by the First and Second Parliament Buildings, and their connection to the War of 1812. It is also associated with the city's evolution through its later occupation by the Home District Gaol, the Consumers' Gas complex (with its link to the development along the waterfront of a railway corridor supporting industry), and the site's role in galvanizing the community's advocacy for the protection of archaeological resources in the city.

The First Parliament Site has national significance for its role in the War of 1812 when the burning of the First Parliament Buildings by the American invaders and the looting of government artifacts was a significant event, resulting in the retaliation of the British by burning the White House in 1814. Given the importance of the site, the Second Parliament Buildings were partially, then fully constructed on the foundations of the original buildings.

Provincially, the site is directly associated with the founding of Upper Canada, and York (Toronto) as the provincial capital where the First and Second Parliament Buildings were the setting for democratic government and the passage of early legislation regarding property, currency, trade and civic institutions. The complex is also valued as the setting of community events and (at the First Parliament Buildings) as a meeting place for the

Anglican parish before the first church was built in 1807.

As the location from 1840 to 1860 of the Third Home District Gaol, the site is valued for its direct association with the reformation of the legal and welfare systems in Ontario. With its panopticon design by the important early Toronto architect, John Howard, the Gaol embodied mid-19th century



39. First Parliament and the Town of York (Philpotts, 1818)

penal philosophies and provided facilities for both inmates and their families.

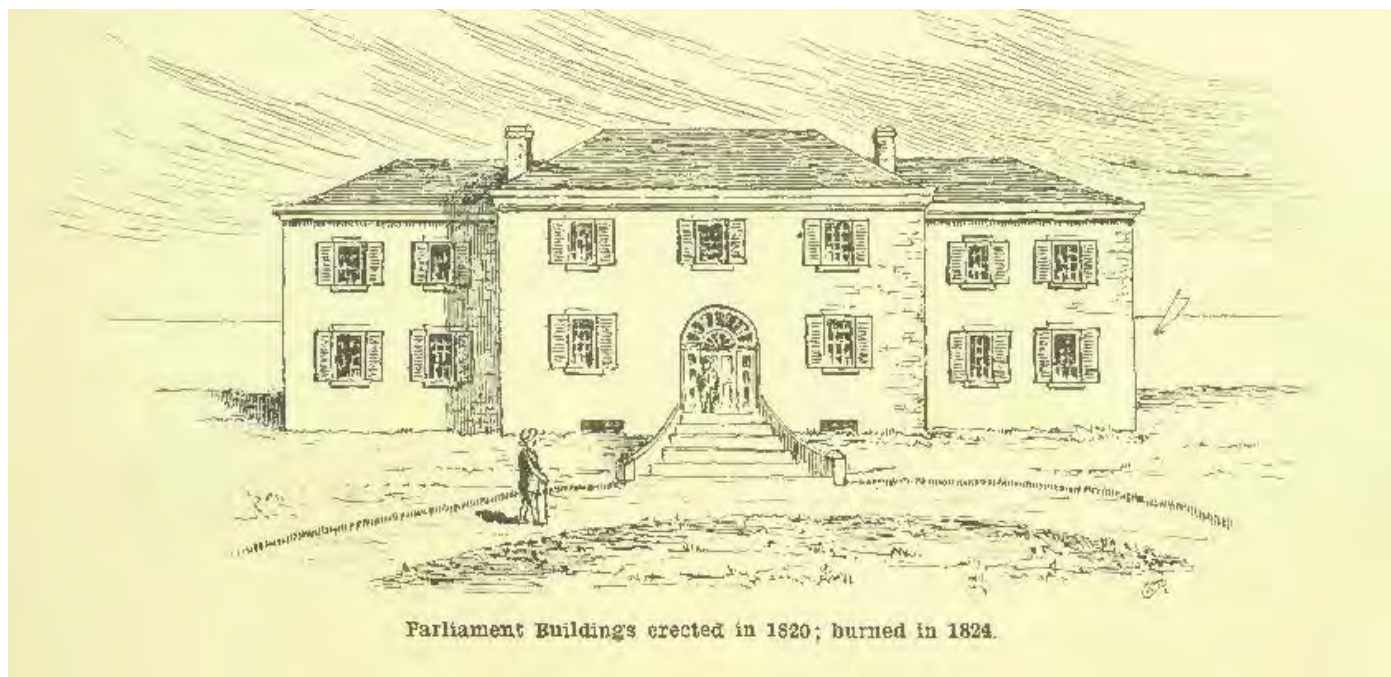
The site is valued as the location in the late-19th and early-20th century of part of the Consumers' Gas Company's Toronto complex that contributed to the city's evolution and growth through its coal gas production (for street lighting and heating) and the import and export of raw materials and industrial by-products. In this location with its rail spurs linking it to the railway line to the south, the site is associated with the development of the waterfront as a rail corridor supporting industry.

The value of the First Parliament site is also through its association with local citizen activism, particularly the community organizations that brought the cultural heritage value and archaeological potential of the site to municipal and provincial attention. Interest in the site and the archaeological discoveries contributed to the development and implementation of a city-wide

archaeological management plan and, ultimately public acquisition of the site.

Contextual Value

Contextually, the First Parliament Site is valued for its role in supporting and maintaining the historical character of the Old Town neighbourhood (also known as St. Lawrence Neighbourhood) where the First and Second Parliament buildings were constructed in 1793 and 1813 on the originally within the Government Reserve east of the 10-block town site. The contextual value of the site is also through its historical and physical links to its setting on the south side of Front Street East between Parliament and Berkeley streets where, as part of the evolution of the site, the Third Home District Gaol and the Consumers' Gas complex were subsequent occupants in the 19th and 20th centuries.



40. Second Parliament Building, 1820-1824 (Speculative sketch by John Ross Robertson, ca.1910)

3. Heritage Attributes:

The heritage attributes of the First Parliament Site at 265 Front Street East, 271 Front Street East, 54 Parliament Street and 25 Berkeley Street relating to the historical and associative value and the contextual value of the site are:

- The approximately 2800 archaeological artifacts associating with the changing use of the site, including ceramic kitchen and food vessel fragments, architectural artifacts such as bricks, nails and window glass, personal items, artifacts related to tools and equipment, and organic artifacts such as animal bone;
- The archaeological artifacts representing the material evidence of the Parliament Buildings that contributed to the establishment of Toronto and Upper Canada, including fragmented clay bricks, dry-laid limestone footings, charred remains of wood floor joists and floorboards (including four linear stains of charcoal representing floor joists), siltstone slab subfloor elements, a shallow drain, creamware ceramics, window glass and hand wrought nails;
- The archaeological artifacts representing the material evidence of the Third Home District Gaol and its role in the 19th-century penal system, including remnants of cellblock footings and foundations, service drains, and gaol artifacts, including personal items and food remains;
- The archaeological artifacts representing the material evidence of the Consumers' Gas complex and the industrial processes and infrastructure that influence the site and city's development, including archaeological features include the building remnants, footings, piers and pits relating to conveying equipment, and rail spurs to the railway terminus at the site's south end.



41. Consumers' Gas - ca. 1950

Appendix 2

OHT Statement of Significance



An agency of the Government of Ontario

Statement of Significance

The Site of Upper Canada's First Parliament Buildings (Toronto)

Description of Historic Place

The site at 265 Front Street East, known as the Site of Upper Canada's First Parliament Buildings, is situated in the city of Toronto. The 0.8-acre large archaeological site encompasses part of the area bordered by Front Street East to the north, Berkeley Street to the west, Parliament Street to the east and Parliament Square Park to the south (historically the former shoreline).

Heritage Value

Historic Value:

The Site of Upper Canada's First Parliament Buildings is significant for its association with the establishment of Upper Canada (Ontario) and Toronto as its capital. The site was chosen for Upper Canada's first parliament by Lieutenant Governor John Graves Simcoe (1752-1806) when he had the capital of Upper Canada moved from Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake) to York (Toronto) in 1794. York as a town site had been decided upon by Simcoe in 1793 and although he intended the seat of government to be on the Thames River at a site to be named London, plans went ahead to construct parliament buildings at York. The first buildings on the site were two one-and-a-half storey brick structures with a connecting covered walkway. They are believed to be the first brick buildings in York. They were constructed in 1797 and stood until 1813. Besides their role as Parliament buildings, the two structures also served as the Court of Appeal, the Court of the King's Bench, many other civic functions and until 1807 as the meeting space for Anglican religious services. During the War of 1812, they were burned by occupying American forces that arrived at York on April 27, 1813 and left on May 2, 1813. This was retaliated for when the British burned the White House in Washington.

The site was not reconstructed until 1820, forcing the Parliament to conduct its affairs in the ballroom of the Jordan's Hotel, at the corner of King and Parliament as well as at a private residence at the corner of Wellington and York Streets. In 1820 a new seat of government was constructed on the same site. The design reconstructed the original buildings and added a centre block. These structures stood until 1824, when an overheated chimney flue caused a fire that destroyed them. The site was abandoned and a new parliament building was constructed to the west at Front and Simcoe Streets in 1832.

After the government abandoned the site, the remains of the old parliament survived until 1830. At that time they were removed and the site was vacant until 1838 when the Home District Gaol was

erected on the site. It would serve as a prison until 1864 when its functions were assumed by the Don Jail and the building was left empty until 1887 when Consumers' Gas Company demolished it to expand its operations along Parliament Street. Consumers' Gas owned and operated the site until the 1950s and proceeded with demolition before selling the property in 1964. In the 1960s and 70s various structures were built to accommodate a restaurant, carwash, an auto body, and more recently as a Porsche dealership.

Architectural Value:

The architectural significance of the Site of Upper Canada's First Parliament Buildings is limited as none of the original structures remain. The first Parliament buildings of Upper Canada consisted of two brick structures measuring 12.2 meters by 7.3 meters (40 feet by 24 feet) and situated 22.9 meters (75 feet) apart. The Legislative Council sat in the southern building and the House of Assembly in the northern building. The buildings were likely one-and-a-half storeys in height, each with a small viewing gallery accessed by a staircase. Immediately east of the brick buildings were two 9-meter (30-foot)-long frame dwellings used for committee rooms. After they were destroyed during the War of 1812, the reconstruction was carried out to the designs of Jonathan Cassels in 1820. This structure was similar to the first buildings but was joined by a connecting centre block structure.

Archaeological Value:

The First Parliament site is also an archaeological site which contains significant archaeological remains of the Legislative Assembly and the early development of York (now Toronto). The archaeological value of the site was thought to be limited due to the building activity at the site, but areas did remain that had seen little development in the post 1830-era and were deemed suitable candidates for excavations. Two of the three test trench areas yielded nothing of the First Parliament era but nearly 2,500 artifacts have been discovered in the excavation areas. Excavations undertaken in the fall of 2000 revealed information on the site's history. Among the artifacts that were found were architectural remnants, kitchen and food remnants, organic remnants and tools and equipment. Many of the artifacts found relate to the industrial use of the site in the late 19th century and included brick work, rail ties, limestone footings and coal remnants.

Among the artifacts found relating directly to the First Parliament buildings were brick rubble and floorboard cinders. Ceramic fragments dating to the First Parliament era as well as nails, and animal bones were found. A set of linear strains of charcoal suggest four floor joists of the original structure as does limestone footing which could also have part of the foundation, adapted for foundations of the gaol built in 1838. Together the historical and archaeological data suggests that more of the burned floor of the First Parliament remains intact under the paved surface.

Contextual Value:

Located at 265 Front Street East, the Site of Upper Canada's First Parliament Buildings is located at the eastern edge of the historic boundaries of the Town of York. It is located in the vicinity of some of Toronto's earliest buildings including the Distillery District.

Character Defining Features

Features that contribute to the historical value of the First Parliament Buildings site include:

- Its position as the First Parliament in Upper Canada

- Its association with prominent members of Ontario's early history, including John Graves Simcoe, Peter Russell and Sir Isaac Brock
- Its association with the founding of the province of Upper Canada
- Its association with the founding of Toronto
- Its association with the War of 1812 and the resulting burning of the White House in Washington
- Its association with the founding of a Democratic government in Ontario
- Its association with Toronto's oldest religious congregation (St. James Anglican Church)
- Its association with the industrial development of Toronto

Archaeological features include:

- The approximately 2,500 artifacts found at the site
- The rail ties
- The limestone footings
- The brick foundations and floor surfaces
- The architectural remnants
- The kitchen and food remnants
- The organic remnants
- The tools and equipment remnants
- The ceramic fragments from the First Parliament era
- The four linear strains of charcoal representing floor joists of original structure
- The picture of the site's history that these artifacts convey

Characteristics that contribute to the contextual value of First Parliament Buildings site include:

- Its location in the historic centre of Toronto
- The relation of the site to the historic fabric of the city
- The relation of the site to the founding of the city
- The relation of the site to the history of the area

ES: November 16, 2015

Appendix 3

OHT Planning Framework



An agency of the Government of Ontario

Parliament Site (Toronto) - Planning Framework

The following principles outline the Ontario Heritage Trust's long-term vision for the Parliament lands:

- a. ensure the long-term protection, interpretation and preservation of the site of Ontario's First Parliament Buildings;
- b. be appropriate to the level of significance of the site and reflect that by creating a publicly accessible world class landmark destination and attraction that serves the public interest;
- c. provide opportunities on site for a range of public education and interpretation that meet the highest standards;
- d. clearly connect, visually and physically, to the public park and open space to the south of the site;
- e. identify the full extent of all existing cultural heritage resources located within the site, prior to any decision on site alterations, using an approach of minimal intervention;
- f. conserve in situ and interpret the significant pre-1925 archaeological resources located on the site to the highest standards incorporating modern interpretive solutions;
- g. be undertaken in a collaborative and inclusive manner that takes into consideration the objectives and goals of the parties and stakeholders involved.

The following are the Trust's strategic design objectives for the revitalization and enhancement of the Parliament block:

- a) The Parliament block, defined as all lands between Front and the Esplanade and between Berkeley and Parliament street, should be conceived, designed and revitalized as a single integrated project through a partnership between the City and the Trust;
- b) The Trust should provide legal protection in perpetuity, through ownership or conservation easement, for the areas of the Parliament block that possess the archaeological remains associated with the Parliament era;
- c) Interventions and development on the block should completely avoid disturbing the known Parliament era archaeological resources and areas of Parliament era archaeological potential. In general, excavation of the Parliament block should be minimized in order to preserve archaeological resources and to limit the costs and impacts of environmental remediation;

- d) The Parliament block should be designed and programmed to engage and integrate activities with adjoining neighbourhoods and communities;
- e) Any new construction on the Parliament block should be concentrated at the north end (i.e., Front Street) in order to minimize impact on the archaeology, enhance the landscape, circulation patterns, natural light and open space, as well as provide a physical boundary or frame for the site.
- f) The Trust should provide on-site opportunities for a range of public education and interpretation that is thought-provoking, layered, provincially-focussed and consistent with its Interpretive Plan;
- g) The Trust should retain high public profile and visibility on the Parliament block, including a significant street presence;
- h) External sources of funding will have to be identified and secured to address any capital costs associated with the revitalization of the Trust's Parliament lands;
- i) A self-sufficient, sustainable and long-term operating model for the Trust's Parliament lands will need to be developed to maintain or increase the current rate of net revenue.

Approved by the Trust's Board of Directors June, 2014.

Appendix 4

Public and Stakeholder Engagement Summary

1.0 Engagement Process

1.1 Background

The City of Toronto's Real Estate Services Division undertook consultations to engage the public on the development of a Heritage Interpretation Strategy (HIS) and a Statement of Significance (SOS) for the First Parliament site. The purpose of the engagement process was to introduce the site's history to the public, detail the next steps of the planning process, and provide opportunities for public input and involvement in the planning of the site's historical interpretation.

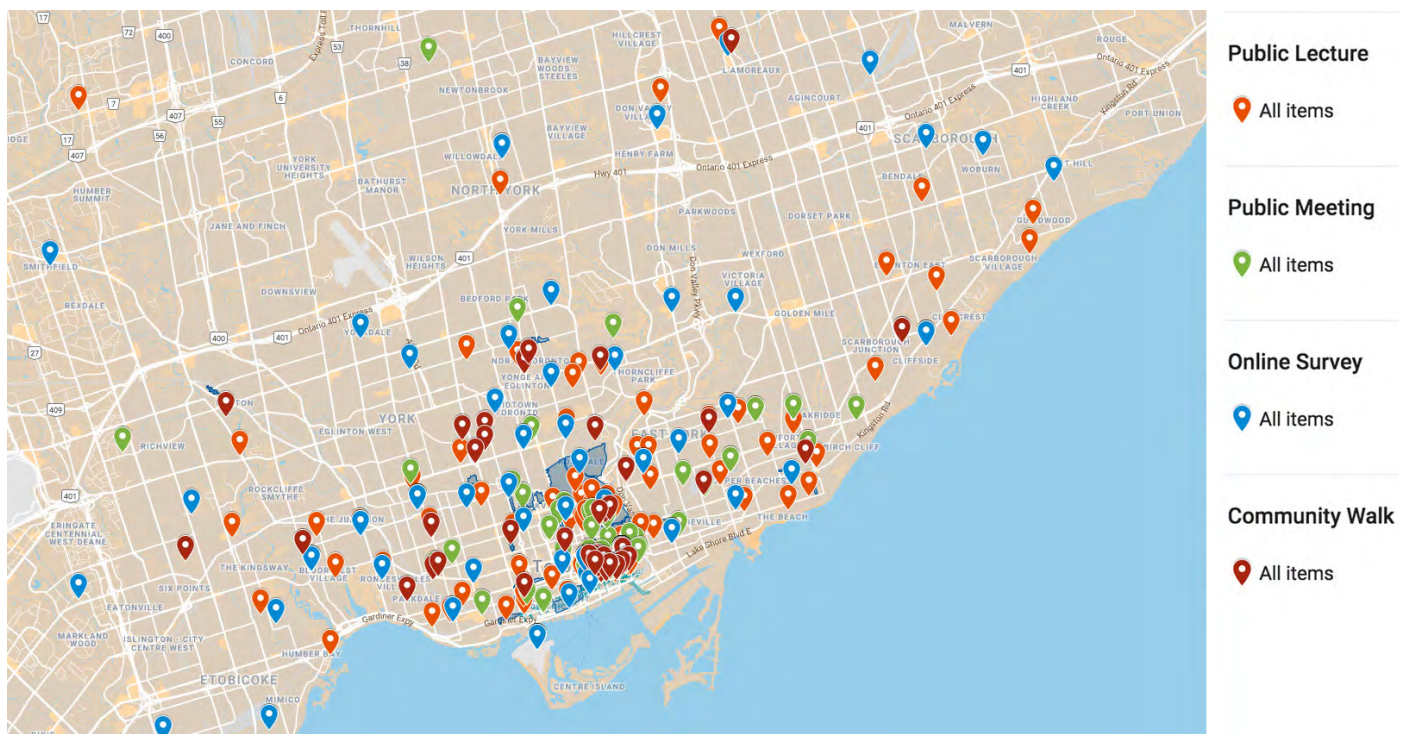
A project website provided information about the pertinent process, site, history, and engagement activities. Local stakeholder groups, residents' associations, and historical organizations across the city were invited —by phone and email— to participate throughout the process. These organizations were also encouraged to use their own networks and membership to inform the public about the project and engagement process. These efforts were with promoted via the City of Toronto's Planning Division Twitter account and also supplemented Facebook advertising)

1.2 Recruitment and Outreach

Approximately 500 participants took part over five engagement activities between January and March

Based on the location information provided by participants for the individual engagement activities (as shown on the map below), there was broad interest across Toronto, with a concentration near the site.

2018: a public lecture, an experts workshop, a public workshop, a community walk, and an on-line survey.



42. Geographic Distribution of Participants (MASS)

2.0 Events and Key Inputs

2.1 Public Lecture - February 6, 2018

Purpose:

- Convene everyone interested in or curious about the site and the project;
- Announce the project;
- Define the purpose and scope of the project and the engagement process;
- Initiate outreach and promotion.

Participants: 220

What we heard:

Preserving and accurately conveying the dynamic history of the site, especially its use for the Parliament buildings, was important to participants, given its relevance to the development of the region.

Participants stressed on creating opportunities for visitors to understand the fragile archaeology of the site.

Suggestions were made for the team to develop a more conceptual approach to interpretation by uncovering personal stories related to the site and incorporating them in the interpretation strategy.

This also meant the interpretation strategy should rely less on physical attributes and artifacts, given their fragility and the risk of contamination.

Participants stressed that Indigenous communities must be consulted to ensure that their histories are also included as part of the interpretation narrative.

2.2 Experts Workshop - February 28, 2018

Purpose:

- Convene experts with specific and other contextual information about the site;
- Identify ideas and gaps in the project team's initial research;
- Create guiding principles to help guide the Heritage Interpretation Strategy.

Participants: 24 / Knowledge Experts

What we heard:

The need to research the lesser-known histories of early settlers in the area, such as Non-British, Non-French, Indigenous, and black slave settlements, was highlighted.

Legislation from the Parliament Era that influenced the history of Toronto and Ontario was deemed especially relevant and worth highlighting.

Participants wanted the interpretation strategy to focus on personal stories from each era, such as the daily lives of residents in the Town of York, prisoner experiences at the Home District Gaol, and the labour history of the Consumers' Gas Company.

A list of 10 principles to guide the project team's work was finalized. Some of these stipulated that the site be: accessible to everyone, open to evolving continuously, diverse in terms of the stories it conveys, and respectful in the way it represents history.

Participants agreed that the site should be engaging enough to appeal to visitors of all ages and backgrounds.

2.3 Public Workshop - March 8, 2018

Purpose:

- Convene anyone interested in or curious about the site and the project;
- Identify ideas and gaps in the project team's initial research;
- Identify goals for future 'ideal' experiences if participant visited the site.

Participants: 80 / Open to the public

What we heard:

The workshop generated over 170 discussion points to guide the team's work.

Indigenous culture and history was one of the most popular narratives, with many participants expressing interest in understanding the Indigenous treaties and agreements that impact the region.

Other narratives included the daily governance of Upper Canada, the social history and prison conditions at the Home District Gaol, the environmental impacts and the experience of labourers during the Consumers' Gas era, and the labour history of the railways.

Participants stated that an "ideal" visitor experience would require the site to be physically accessible and should employ language that is easily understood by a diverse set of people. It should also be community-oriented, include educational and interactive tools, and contain information on all eras, including Indigenous histories that are told not only through buildings on the physical site, but also on-line and through interactive displays.

2.4 Online Survey - March 19 to May 9, 2018

Purpose:

- Broaden and supplement the face-to-face participation in engagement activities;
- Identify participants' interests and priorities;
- Identify participants' motivations for visiting historical or heritage sites;
- Map out participants' initial preferences for how they would want to experience the site.

Participants: 119 complete; 58 incomplete

What we heard:

Given the relevance of the site to the founding of the city, respondents deemed the recovery and heritage interpretation process as important.

Respondents were most interested in the heritage eras and stories of the First and Second Parliament Buildings.

Indigenous histories linked to the site were also of high interest.

Most of the other narratives presented, such as the Home District Gaol (Jail) and Consumers' Gas, also appealed to the participants.

Major motivators for visiting a heritage site were love for history and the desire to experience it first-hand and on-site.

Respondents emphasized that an enjoyable learning process that would help them understand the daily lives and social experiences of people in the past would contribute to a fulfilling visitor experience.

Participants preferred traditional and non-technological methods for experiencing the site, irrespective of age.

2.5 Community Walk - March 24, 2018

Purpose:

- Convene anyone interested in or curious about the site and the project;
- Broaden and supplement the face-to-face participation in engagement activities;
- Provide context for the project and site within the community;
- Understand how participants would want the site represented in the community;
- Identify participants' interests and priorities.

Participants: 55 / Open to the public

What we heard:

Participants agreed that the site should be integrated with other heritage areas and monuments in the region.

Participants were especially interested in the Consumers' Gas era of the site, and were curious about the experience of labourers and the industrialization of Toronto.

Participants wanted to know more about the geographical makeup of Toronto at the time of British colonization, and how the boundaries and shorelines have since changed.

Participants were interested in the Indigenous histories and untold stories related to the site.

Some participants referenced other heritage sites that they considered successful examples of heritage interpretation, and expressed a desire for the site to emulate or incorporate features of their design.



43. First Parliament Community Walk (DTAH)

3.0 Next Steps

This individual engagement activity reports and this summary report were submitted to the City of Toronto, and project team members: DTAH, EVOQ Architecture, and Lord Cultural Resources. The recommendations and information documented during the engagement activities were used to inform the development of the Heritage Interpretation Strategy (HIS) and, less so, the Statement of Significance (SOS) amongst other historical and planning considerations.

Appendix 5

**Indigenous Engagement
Program**

March 9, 2018

Aly N. Alibhai
Director of Lands, Resources and Consultations
75 Sherbourne St. Suite 311
Toronto ON M5A 2P9

E-mail: Alya@metisnation.org
Phone: 416-977-9881 xt.114

Re: First Parliament Site Project, Toronto

Dear Mr. Alibhai,

The City of Toronto has mandated the consulting team led by DTAH to undertake a Heritage Interpretation Strategy and a Master Plan for the site of Upper Canada's (Ontario's) first and second purpose-built Parliament Buildings.

The site is located between Parliament Street to the east, Hahn Place to the west, Front Street to the north and Parliament Square Park to the south.



The site has a rich and multilayered history. Once located on the shores of Lake Ontario and at the mouth of Taddle Creek, the site was likely used by Indigenous peoples. Following its association with the earliest Parliament Buildings (1794-1830), the site was developed for the Home District Gaol (1837-1864) and later occupied by the Consumers' Gas Company as part of its large District A facilities (1879-1950s). While the site is currently occupied by a car wash, parking lots and auto dealership, it is rich in archaeological potential related to those earlier periods of development.

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Toronto, Ontario
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T 416 968 9479
F 416 968 0687
E admin@dtah.com
www.dtah.com

Further information on the project and history of site can be found here:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/venues-facilities-bookings/booking-city-facilities/first-parliament-project/>

Given the site's importance and influence on the shaping of the City and the Province, the project team considers it essential that the Métis Nation of Ontario be engaged in the project. The early natural history of the site and its likely occupation by Indigenous peoples are critical parts of the narrative that will be incorporated in the Heritage Interpretation Strategy.

We would like to understand how and what you believe should be included in the overall interpretation. Initial themes that have been highlighted include:

- Land acknowledgement
- Recognition of Indigenous occupation and history

We would like an opportunity to discuss these and any other additional themes with you to better understand how to incorporate your story, how to acknowledge your history and how to recognize the importance of the site from your community's perspective.

If you agree, we will follow-up this letter with an e-mail and a phone call on Thursday, March 15 2018 to set up a time and venue for a discussion.

Sincerely,



Peter Fletcher Smith OALA FCSLA
Partner, DTAH

CC Dima Cook, EVOQ Architecture - dcook@evoqarchitecture.com
Sarah Hill, Lord Cultural Resources - shill@lord.ca
David Robertson, ASI - DRobertson@asiheritage.ca
SoMei Quan, City of Toronto - SoMei.Quan@toronto.ca

9 mars, 2018

Mélanie Vincent
Gestion MV Management
255 Place Chef Michel Laveau
Wendake (Québec) QC GOA4VO

Courriel: melanievincent21@yahoo.ca
Téléphone: (418) 580-4442

Objet: le projet du site First Parliament, Toronto

Chère Mme Vincent,

La ville de Toronto a mandaté DTAH et ses consultants afin de préparer une stratégie d'interprétation historique et un plan directeur du site des premiers et seconds édifices parlementaires du Haut-Canada (Ontario).

Le site est situé entre la rue Parlement à l'est, Hahn Place à l'ouest, la rue Front au nord et le parc Parliament Square au sud.



Le site a connu des périodes de développement successives. Il est également porteur d'une riche histoire. Jadis situé sur la rive du lac Ontario et à l'embouchure du ruisseau Taddle, le site était fort probablement utilisé par les Premières Nations. Suite à son association avec les premiers édifices parlementaires (1794-1830), il fut développé par le Home District Gaol (1937-1864) et par la suite par la compagnie Consumers' Gas (1879-1950s). Bien qu'un lave-auto, stationnement et concessionnaire d'automobiles occupent présentement le site, il demeure riche en potentiel archéologique relié à ces périodes antérieures de développement.

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www.dtah.com

De plus amples informations sur le projet et l'histoire du site peuvent être retrouvées ici:

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/venues-facilities-bookings/booking-city-facilities/first-parliament-project/>

Étant donné l'importance du site et son impact sur la formation de la ville et de la province, l'équipe de projet considère essentiel que le conseil de la nation Huronne-Wendat soit consulté. L'histoire naturelle du site et de son occupation probable par les peuples autochtones est une partie critique du récit qui sera incorporé dans la stratégie d'interprétation historique.

Nous souhaitons voir avec vous ce qui serait important d'être inclus dans l'interprétation globale et comment ces récits et faits historiques devraient être présentés. Quelques thèmes sont déjà ressortis:

- La reconnaissance du territoire
- La reconnaissance de la présence autochtone et de son histoire.

Nous demandons de pouvoir discuter avec vous de ces thèmes ainsi que tout autre thème pour mieux incorporer et reconnaître votre histoire et l'importance du site de la perspective de votre communauté.

Si vous acceptez, nous ferons un suivi de cette lettre avec un courriel et un appel le jeudi 15 mars 2018 pour planifier une rencontre avec vous.

Cordialement,



Peter Fletcher Smith OALA FCCLA
Associé, DTAH

CC Dima Cook, EVOQ Architecture - dcook@evoqarchitecture.com
Sarah Hill, Lord Cultural Resources - shill@lord.ca
David Robertson, ASI - DRobertson@asiheritage.ca
SoMei Quan, City of Toronto - SoMei.Quan@toronto.ca

March 9, 2018

Fawn Sault
Consultation Manager, Consultation and Accommodation Unit
6 First Line RR #6
Hagersville, ON, N0A1H0

E-mail: fawn.sault@newcreditfirstnation.com
Phone: 905-768-4260

Re: First Parliament Site Project, Toronto

Dear Ms. Sault,

The City of Toronto has mandated the consulting team led by DTAH to undertake a Heritage Interpretation Strategy and a Master Plan for the site of Upper Canada's (Ontario's) first and second purpose-built Parliament Buildings.

The site is located between Parliament Street to the east, Hahn Place to the west, Front Street to the north and Parliament Square Park to the south.



The site has a rich and multilayered history. Once located on the shores of Lake Ontario and at the mouth of Taddle Creek, the site was likely used by Indigenous peoples. Following its association with the earliest Parliament Buildings (1794-1830), the site was developed for the Home District Gaol (1837-1864) and later occupied by the Consumers' Gas Company as part of its large District A facilities (1879-1950s). While the site is currently occupied by a car wash, parking lots and auto dealership, it is rich in archaeological potential related to those earlier periods of development.

Further information on the project and history of site can be found here:

50 Park Road
Toronto, Ontario
M4W 2N5
T 416 968 9479
F 416 968 0687
E admin@dtah.com
www.dtah.com

<https://www.toronto.ca/services-payments/venues-facilities-bookings/booking-city-facilities/first-parliament-project/>

Given the site's importance and influence on the shaping of the City and the Province, the project team considers it essential that the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation be engaged in the project. The early natural history of the site and its likely occupation by Indigenous peoples are critical parts of the narrative that will be incorporated in the Heritage Interpretation Strategy.

We would like to understand how and what you believe should be included in the overall interpretation. Initial themes that have been highlighted include:

- Land acknowledgement
- Recognition of Indigenous occupation and history

We would like an opportunity to discuss these and any other additional themes with you to better understand how to incorporate your story, how to acknowledge your history and how to recognize the importance of the site from your community's perspective.

If you agree, we will follow-up this letter with an e-mail and a phone call on Thursday, March 15 2018 to set up a time and venue for a discussion.

Sincerely,



Peter Fletcher Smith OALA FCSLA
Partner, DTAH

CC Dima Cook, EVOQ Architecture - dcook@evoqarchitecture.com
Sarah Hill, Lord Cultural Resources - shill@lord.ca
David Robertson, ASI - DRobertson@asiheritage.ca
SoMei Quan, City of Toronto - SoMei.Quan@toronto.ca

March 9, 2018

Lonny Bomberry
Lands and Resources Director
1695 Chiefswood Road
P.O. Box 5000
Ohsweken, ON. N0A 1M0

E-mail: lonnybomberry@sixnations.ca
Phone: 519-753-0665 ext 4512

Re: First Parliament Site Project, Toronto

Dear Mr. Bomberry,

The City of Toronto has mandated the consulting team led by DTAH to undertake a Heritage Interpretation Strategy and a Master Plan for the site of Upper Canada's (Ontario's) first and second purpose-built Parliament Buildings.

The site is located between Parliament Street to the east, Hahn Place to the west, Front Street to the north and Parliament Square Park to the south.



The site has a rich and multilayered history. Once located on the shores of Lake Ontario and at the mouth of Taddle Creek, the site was likely used by Indigenous peoples. Following its association with the earliest Parliament Buildings (1794-1830), the site was developed for the Home District Gaol (1837-1864) and later occupied by the Consumers' Gas Company as part of its large District A facilities (1879-1950s). While the site is currently occupied by a car wash, parking lots and auto dealership, it is rich in archaeological potential related to those earlier periods of development.

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Given the site's importance and influence on the shaping of the City and the Province, the project team considers it essential that the Six Nations of the Grand River Territory be engaged in the project. The early natural history of the site and its likely occupation by Indigenous peoples are critical parts of the narrative that will be incorporated in the Heritage Interpretation Strategy.

We would like to understand how and what you believe should be included in the overall interpretation. Initial themes that have been highlighted include:

- Land acknowledgement
- Recognition of Indigenous occupation and history

We would like an opportunity to discuss these and any other additional themes with you to better understand how to incorporate your story, how to acknowledge your history and how to recognize the importance of the site from your community's perspective.

If you agree, we will follow-up this letter with an e-mail and a phone call on Thursday, March 15 2018 to set up a time and venue for a discussion.

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Peter Fletcher Smith OALA FCCLA
Partner, DTAH

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Sarah Hill, Lord Cultural Resources - shill@lord.ca
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SoMei Quan, City of Toronto - SoMei.Quan@toronto.ca

Discussion Notes - Indigenous Communities

Project:	First Parliament Heritage Interpretation Strategy and Master Plan	Project No:	17-042-A
Call Date:	15 March 2018 1:30 – 4:00 pm	Call Site:	EVOQ Offices
Reporting Date: March 16, 2018	(Peter and Dima)		

No.	Content	Action
General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First call to introduce the team and project, and to assess whether there was interest in participating. • Level of interest varied among the contacts, but all expressed a desire to continue speaking. • We suggested that we would get back in touch in a couple of weeks after they had time to discuss with colleagues. • The Background Studies were sent to all contacts on March 16, 2018. 	
1.0	Maxime Picard, Huron-Wendat – 418-843-3767 x 2105 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not available; suggested a call on April 3. TBC 	
2.0	Aly Alibhai, Metis Nation - 416-977-9881 x 114 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was not sure if they had anything to contribute, but will consider and speak to a few of his colleagues. 	
3.0	Fawn Sault, New Credit First Nation - 905-768-4260 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She seemed to be quite interested. • Referred us to Darin Wybenga, darin.wybenga@mncfn.ca. 	
4.0	Lonny Bomberry, Six Nations - 519-753-1029 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was very interested. 	

End of Notes

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Discussion Notes - Indigenous Communities

Project: First Parliament Heritage Interpretation Strategy and Master Plan Project No: 17-042-A

Call Date: 03 April 2018 2:30 – 3:00 pm Call Site:

Reporting Date: March 16, 2018 (Peter and Dima)

No.	Content	Action
-----	---------	--------

Huron-Wendat

Maxime Picard and Melanie Vincent, Huron-Wendat – 418-843-3767 x 2105

1.0

Notes:

- First introductory call
- They are quite interested in participating.
- Asked if there would be resources available to support them; Responded that there were none now, but that their participation should be quite modest at this time; During future detailed design and implementation, there would quite likely be resources available.
- Asked if other Nations were involved; They were pleased and quite keen to collaborate and share notes.
- We left it that a second phone call would be set up in a couple of weeks.

End of Notes

Discussion Notes - Indigenous Communities

Project:	First Parliament Heritage Interpretation Strategy and Master Plan	Project No:	17-042-A
Call Date:	11 April 2018 1:00 – 3:00 pm	Call Site:	
Reporting Date: March 16, 2018	(Peter and Dima)		

No.	Content	Action
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Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation

Fawn Sault and Darin Wybenga - 905-768-4260

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1.0 | <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second call • Very productive; Darin was very knowledgeable and open. <p>Key topics/stories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toronto Purchase - Since 1763, the Crown (only) was permitted to purchase land from Indigenous peoples; In 1787, a treaty to buy land from the Mississaugas was faulty and was re-negotiated in 1805; that treaty was contested and finally reconciled in 2010. • Settlement - With the growth of York, Indigenous peoples left the area and settled mainly near the mouth of the Credit River; few if any Indigenous people lived in York itself. • Land ownership - the concept of land ownership was foreign to Indigenous people, who believed that all people shared the land and its resources. • Livelihood - As the area settled, traditional life-styles diminished - hunting and trapping disappeared in this area; fishing continued; Indigenous people also began to settle and learn farming and other crafts/trades. • Water - water rights were never signed off • Legal system - Darin was uncertain whether Indigenous people were subject to civil laws; Commented on the Indigenous practice of persuasion and community consensus. <p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTAH to arrange a sit-down meeting at MNCFN offices; Fawn said the next opening was end of May, but something might be found earlier. | |
|-----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|

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Discussion Notes - Indigenous Communities

Project: First Parliament
 Heritage Interpretation Strategy
 and Master Plan

Project No: 17-042-A

Meeting Date: 9 May 2018
 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Call Site:

Reporting
 Date: May 10, (Peter and Dima)
 2018

No.	Content	Action
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Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation

Darin Wybenga - 4065 Highway 6, Hagersville, ON.

1.0

General:

- On-site conversation with Darin Wybenga. As before, he was very knowledgeable and more than willing to share with us.

Personal:

- Darin is a retired elementary school teacher; he now works for the Band and looks after the library. His title is "Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Coordinator".
- Darin's father was Dutch. He mentioned his mother is still alive and living in the old house built by her husband.

Migration and Settlement:

- Mississaugas are thought to have originated as a Nation in Northern Ontario (Mississagi River?).
- The Iroquois moved north from New York, drove out the Hurons and continued north to attack the Mississaugas. Mississaugas responded in the late 17th Century by moving south and eventually pushed the Iroquois back south of Lake Ontario.
- Mississaugas, mainly hunters and gatherers by tradition, settled at both ends of Lake Ontario.
- For the next 100 years, Mississaugas led a nomadic lifestyle, but became increasingly reliant on European goods acquired through trade and barter.
- By the end of the 18th Century, European settlement of Southern Ontario was well-advanced. The American War of Independence, in particular, stimulated an influx of Loyalists, who were welcomed and accommodated by the British Government. As settlement progressed, the lands available to the Mississaugas

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Discussion Notes - Indigenous Communities

became much more limited, and life became harder. The Mississauga population was reduced to fewer than 260 persons by the end of the century. Extinction seemed inevitable.

- The Iroquois, traditional enemies of the Mississaugas, were also expelled from the United States for their support of the British during the War of Independence. The Mississaugas agreed to sell a large tract of land along the Grand River to accommodate what were then known as the Six Nations. Almost 3,000 people came to Upper Canada and occupied these lands in the last decade of the 18th Century.

New Credit Mission Village:

- Rev. Peter Jones, son of a Welsh surveyor and a Mississauga woman, converted many Mississaugas to Christianity and founded a mission village in 1826 on the banks of the Credit River.
- Discipline was harsh, but led to significant improvements in health and well-being. The community eventually cleared and farmed 900 acres, and engaged in shipping enterprises on the Credit River and Lake Ontario.
- In spite of prospering, the mission village came under pressure from the more liberal lifestyles in surrounding communities, and from diminishing lands that could support their traditional hunting and gathering pursuits. The community's tenure on the land was also threatened as the government refused to grant full ownership. Alternative sites were investigated.
- In 1847, the Six Nations of the Grand offered the Mississaugas a large tract of land in Brant County. A new settlement, named New Credit, was formed on these lands and still exists today.

Cultural Continuity:

- Rev. Peter Jones managed to convert most Mississaugas to Methodism, a highly restrictive form of Christianity. He also encouraged the development of community and personal lifestyles that were very European in character.
- Most people embraced the new ways. Those who preferred the traditional ways tended to leave and go elsewhere.
- Darin said that, as a consequence, the Mississaugas are among the most assimilated Indigenous peoples in Ontario.
- Darin was not clear about how the cultural tradition had been transmitted down through the generations (oral tradition, books, old documents, art?). He did mention that traditional language was being presented in local schools, although teachers had to be brought in from western Canada.

Treaties:

- Following the Royal Proclamation of 1763, land treaties were negotiated only with the British Crown. The Parliament of Upper Canada and the British Crown were seen as one and the same thing. (The Legislative Council (upper house) was appointed; the Legislative Assembly (lower house) was elected.)
- Following the expulsion of the Iroquois at the end of the 17th Century, the Mississaugas of the Credit "occupied, controlled and exercised stewardship" over about 3.9 million acres of land. Darin thought the boundaries were likely

Discussion Notes - Indigenous Communities

natural features, but suspected the boundaries were a bit flexible.

- Other Mississaugas occupied lands at the east end of Lake Ontario.
- Large swaths of Southern Ontario exchanged hands between 1781 and 1820.
- The Toronto Purchase was not handled well. It was re-negotiated in 1806 but not finally resolved until 2010.
- There is still an outstanding petition regarding the Rouge River National Park.

Water Rights:

- Mississaugas are petitioning the federal government to recognize their claim over water in the region (including lakes, rivers and ground water). Darin was not sure what the outcome might look like. The federal government has not yet responded.
- In any settlement or recognition, Darin said that the Mississaugas would place the highest priority on conservation and sustainability.

Relations with Six Nations:

- Darin said that relations with Six Nations were cordial and friendly. However, he did say that there has remained some underlying tension that stems from original enmities, and from the land exchanges in the 18th and 19th Centuries. Some Six Nations peoples feel that the New Credit lands were never properly "purchased" by the Mississaugas, and so still really belong to Six Nations. In order to resolve this, the Mississaugas paid Six Nations \$10,000 at some point in the past (date?). The irony here, of course, is that the Six Nations moved to Brant County in the 1790s and occupied land that the British government had purchased from the Mississaugas themselves for that purpose.

Possible Interpretive Strategies

- Darin offered his suggestions for possible ways of telling Indigenous stories on the First Parliament site:
- Do not rely on signs or panels.
- Firepit
- Murals
- Native/medicinal plants.

Appendix 6

Historical Research Summary

1.0 Historical Analysis Methodology

The in-depth historical analysis included researching and evaluating the site, its history, its immediate context and its relationship to its greater context. Both primary and secondary sources were reviewed as part of this process. Primary sources included archival material, such as maps, images, and textual material including city council minutes, registers and citizen petitions. Secondary sources consulted included previous reports and studies, exhibitions, books, articles, and websites, among others.

The methodology consists of a two-pronged approach. One prong focused on a documentation of the history of the site, using a combination of primary and secondary sources. This documentation built upon the research completed previously in other studies, communicating the evolution of the site and its physical developments. The other prong consisted of exploring and unearthing the impact of the site, its former buildings, and its evolved history on the wider physical, environmental, historical, and social context. These wider associations were then expanded upon and researched to elucidate the site's importance and its relationship to development within the city and beyond.

The historical analysis, thus, allowed for the identification of potential narratives of interpretation of the site. The following sections first detail a summary history of the site and then provide the site's preliminary and thematic analysis.

2.0 Historical Timeline

Between lakefilling, the railways and the Consumers' Gas Company, much of the past 150 years involved activities that dramatically changed the First Parliament site.

- 1794-1797 - First Parliament Buildings constructed;
- Two Georgian brick buildings with colonnaded porches facing the bay. In 1805 buildings connected by colonnaded walkway;
- Lake Ontario shoreline at Site's southern perimeter, and is flanked to the east by Taddle Creek and a small bay;
- 1818-1824 - First Parliament Buildings rebuilt by 1820, but destroyed by fire in 1824.
- 1824 - Site redeveloped as Home District Gaol;
- 1818-1833 - Taddle Creek straightened at its



44. The Town of York - Phillpotts, 1818

mouth, presumably to better serve a brewery established east of Front and Parliament Streets circa 1832, following a disastrous fire;

- 1854-1862 - shoreline moved further south to accommodate railway;
- In 1854, Gzowski & Co. contracted to construct Esplanade, and to do all filling-in to north of it between Brock St. and the mouth of the River Don. Fill material comprised mostly sand ("from a few miles east of the City", off the top of the Ontario Terrace, and dredging sand, and stone "partly from Scarborough heights"), with occasional "wagon-loads of household garbage";
- 1855 - Consumers Gas Company occupied land east of Parliament;
- 1862 - Title of 271 Front Street East transferred from the County Gaol to Consumers Gas Company;
- 1866 - Courthouse no longer shown (presumably demolished);
- 1871 - Jail now "old" inferring disused;
- 1872 - Southern portion of the site shown as a railway turntable & sheds, further south of which is Toronto & Nipissing Railway Passenger Station;
- 1880 - "Vacant Old City Jail" building remaining. Consumers Gas Company constructed a coke shed with an adjacent coke pile at the northeast corner. The remainder of the site south and west of the Jail buildings occupied by Toronto and Nipissing Railway Yard and comprised a turntable, sidings and several sheds;
- 1884 - The coke shed in the northeast corner expanded west and south. The Toronto & Nipissing Railway yard now listed as Midland Railway;
- 1890 - Jail buildings completely demolished. Consumers Gas Company expanded to occupy

the northern two-thirds of the site with three buildings. The railway turntable and sheds/ structures occupy the southern portion of the site and are listed as Grand Trunk Railway;

- 1890-1894 - Further shoreline filling;
- 1894 - Railway turntable and engine sheds replaced with additional railway sidings, likely associated with coal supply to Consumers Gas Company;
- 1913 - Minor additions to the Consumers Gas Company buildings, and railway sidings extending between the buildings flanking the east and west property lines;
- 1954 - Consumers Gas Company ceased operations and closed the plant;
- 1959 - Partial demolition of Consumers Gas



45. Consumers' Gas - ca. 1950

Company buildings (west side building). The railway sidings occupying the southern portion of the site had been removed between 1956 and 1959, and the area appears to have been used as a waste dump;

- 1961 - East side Consumers Gas Company building now demolished; the footprint of the building used for vehicle parking;
- 1963 - Two new buildings constructed within the centre of the site;
- 1964 - Additional larger, square building occupied 265 Front Street. A structure exists fronting Front Street East (possibly a gas bar);
- 1969 - Canopy structure (probably a gas bar) at north end of 271 Front Street;
- 1973 - Building structure at east property line of 271 Front Street East (possibly car wash office);
- 1981 - Former waste dump at south end of site appears cleared. Area used for storing vehicles (possibly a wreckers yard);
- 1983 - Former waste dump land appears completely cleared;
- 1985 - Former waste dump land entirely used for vehicle parking;
- 2002 - Canopy and gas bar at north end of 271 Front Street East removed. Trow Consulting Engineers Ltd. complete remedial excavations at 265 Front Street East (in vicinity of former gas bar to the north, and former waste oil above ground storage tank (AST) at rear of building);
- 2003 - New building occupies north portion of 265 Front Street East, adjoining existing building;
- 2015 - Structure occupying east property limit of 271 Front Street East demolished. Site is consistent with present day.

3.0 Summary History

3.1 Natural Landscape and Early Settlement

Approximately 13,000 years ago, the last of the ice age glaciers melted northward and left an ancient glacial meltwater lake whose water levels stood 40 metres higher than the current Lake Ontario. Shortly thereafter, the Laurentian glacier further downstream gave way allowing the meltwater lakes to drain through the St. Lawrence valley, creating a smaller lake, with its shoreline approximately 20 kilometers south of the current Lake Ontario. Early Indigenous inhabitants moved north, though little evidence of their life remains given many of their campsites are now submerged by Lake Ontario.

By 6000 BCE, the climate began changing and warming. With climbing temperatures came rising water levels, temperate forests and fauna as well as wild game from the south. The level began to rise again. The early inhabitant population increased; hunting, fishing and gathering plant foods were integral to the lifeways of these peoples. By 500 CE, people were beginning to engage in crop production and farming. By circa 1100 CE, communities were creating semi-permanent villages, providing them bases while hunting/gathering and for the farming of crops, such as corn, beans and squash. From an early date, significant trade routes developed in the area, linking settlements to each other and allowing access from the Lower Great Lakes to the Upper Great Lakes and beyond.

The 1600s brought European contact with the Indigenous Peoples of the lower Great Lakes. By the 18th century, the Mississauga people were settled in the area. During the Seven Years War between the French and British, the region was claimed by the French and an outpost, known as Fort Rouille, was constructed in 1750 on what is now Exhibition

Place. By 1760, the French were defeated by the British and forced to retreat, passing the region to British rule. The Royal Proclamation of 1763 established government of these territories.

3.2 First and Second Parliaments

In 1791, as part of the Constitutional Act, the territory was divided into Upper and Lower Canada. John Graves Simcoe was appointed Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada, establishing English law and English land tenure in the province. An elected legislative assembly, a legislative council and an executive council were established for governance.

Initially, parliament met at the military outpost in Newark (now Niagara-on-the-Lake) where Simcoe had based his troops. Looking to settle a permanent site for a provincial capital, the British negotiated with the Mississaugas and purchased the lands north of Lake Ontario in 1787. Town of York (Toronto) was established in 1793 as the provincial capital of Upper Canada, chosen for its trade access and its protected harbour. Parliamentary meetings were relocated to the Town of York in 1794.

The plan of the settlement consisted of the Garrison Reserve on the west (encompassing Fort York, near the old site of Fort Rouille, constructed in 1793), a town site consisting of 10 blocks, and a second government reserve to the town's east, known as 'The Park'. The Park was reserved for a new parliament house and other government buildings as required. Directly to the west of the 10 blocks, reserves were surveyed for church, school, market, hospital, gaol and courthouse lands.



46. Plan of 916 1/4 Acres, in the Township of York in Upper Canada (Chewett, 1802, annotated by EVOQ)



47. York (olim Toronto), the Intended Capital of Upper Canada, As it Appeared in the Autumn of 1803 (E. Walsh, 1803, annotated by EVOQ)

First Parliament Building

Simcoe commissioned the construction of the first purpose-built parliament buildings in 1793. Overseen by John McGill, the initial plans for the first brick buildings in the town included the Government House (official residence of the Lieutenant Governor), with wings on either side to house the council and assembly. However, the residence was abandoned due to cost and only the wings were completed in 1797.

The parliament buildings consisted of two separate one-and-a-half storey brick structures (later connected by a walkway in 1806). The south building contained the Legislative Council; the north building the House of Assembly. To its east were wood framed buildings used as committee rooms. A two-storey town blockhouse was erected southeast of the parliament site, for defense purposes. Just south of the blockhouse were the cliffs of the original shoreline of Lake Ontario.

As the legislature typically sat for only two months of the year, the buildings also served also as court of appeals, court of King's bench, other civic functions, and even as a meeting place for the Anglican Church.

The buildings were destroyed in 1813, during the War of 1812. American forces arrived in York, looted and stole from the buildings prior to setting them on fire, leaving behind brick ruins. In the years after its destruction, the parliament met in temporary locations within the town. Partial reconstruction of the buildings occurred. The site in the interim was adopted as temporary barracks for troops (ca.1813 to 1815) and then for housing newly-arrived immigrants (ca.1816-1818).



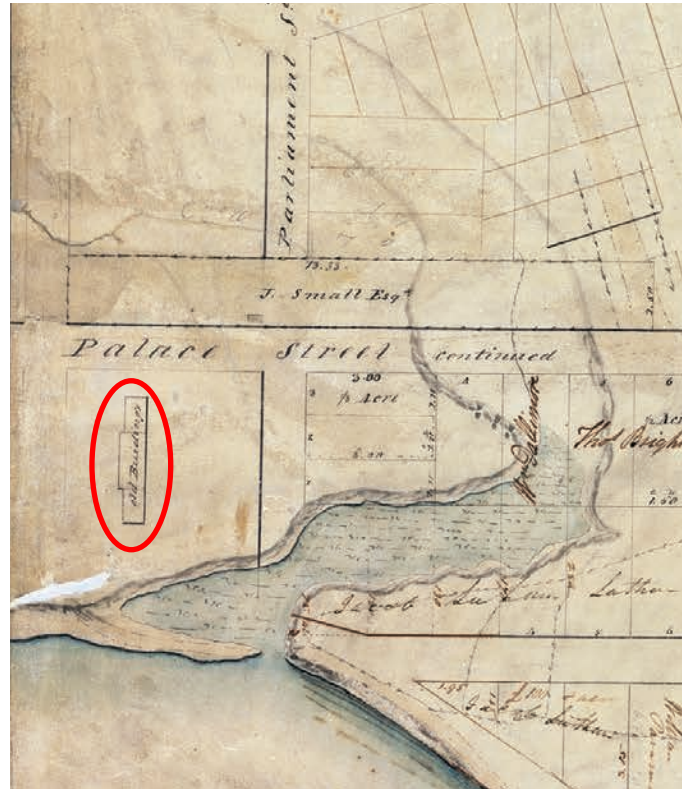
48. Ontario's First Parliament Buildings, 1796-1813 (John Ross Robertson, ca.1910)

Second Parliament Building

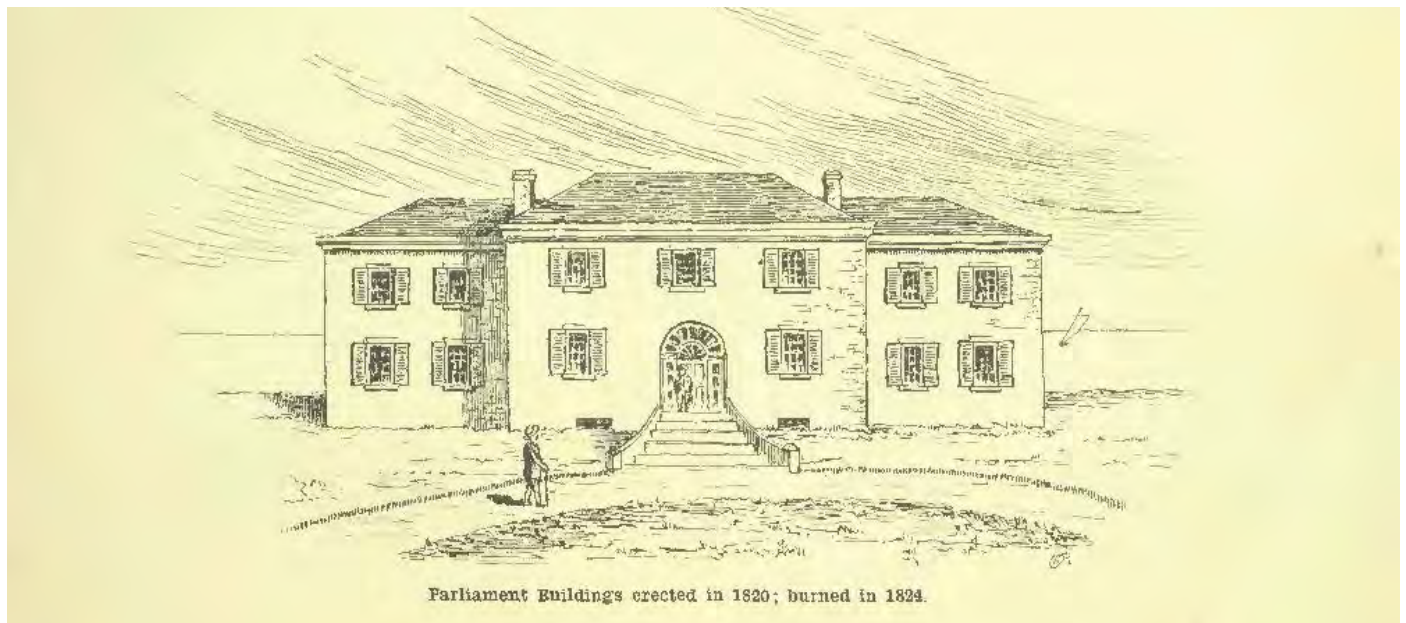
Reconstruction of the parliament buildings was initiated in 1818 by the sitting Lieutenant Governor Francis Gore. Due to costs, construction efforts were centred on repairing and reusing the existing two wings with the addition of a central brick structure. Completed in 1820, the first parliament session was held at these premises in December 1820.

However, in 1824, an accidental fire caused by an overheated chimney flue in the north wing, destroyed the buildings. The north wing and central block were severely damaged, and the southern wing was in poor condition. Parliament moved to temporary lodgings, never to return to this site. A third parliament building was subsequently erected at Front and Simcoe Streets.

The site and its ruins generally sat abandoned subsequent to the fire, though there is a recorded instance of squatting ca.1826-1827. The ruins were finally demolished and the material sold in a public auction in 1830. The site stood vacant until 1837.



49. Plan shewing the survey of part of the Park East of the Town of York (Chewett, 1830, annotated by EVOQ)



50. Second Parliament Building, 1820-1824 (John Ross Robertson, ca.1910)

3.3 Home District Gaol

Little development occurred in the surrounding area during the parliament era, due to the lands being government reserve land and less desirable due to the proximity to the Don Marshes. This began to change in 1830s when the lands around the parliament site were subdivided and sold to raise money for Toronto's first hospital.



51. Jail (Frederic Victor Poole, ca.1880)

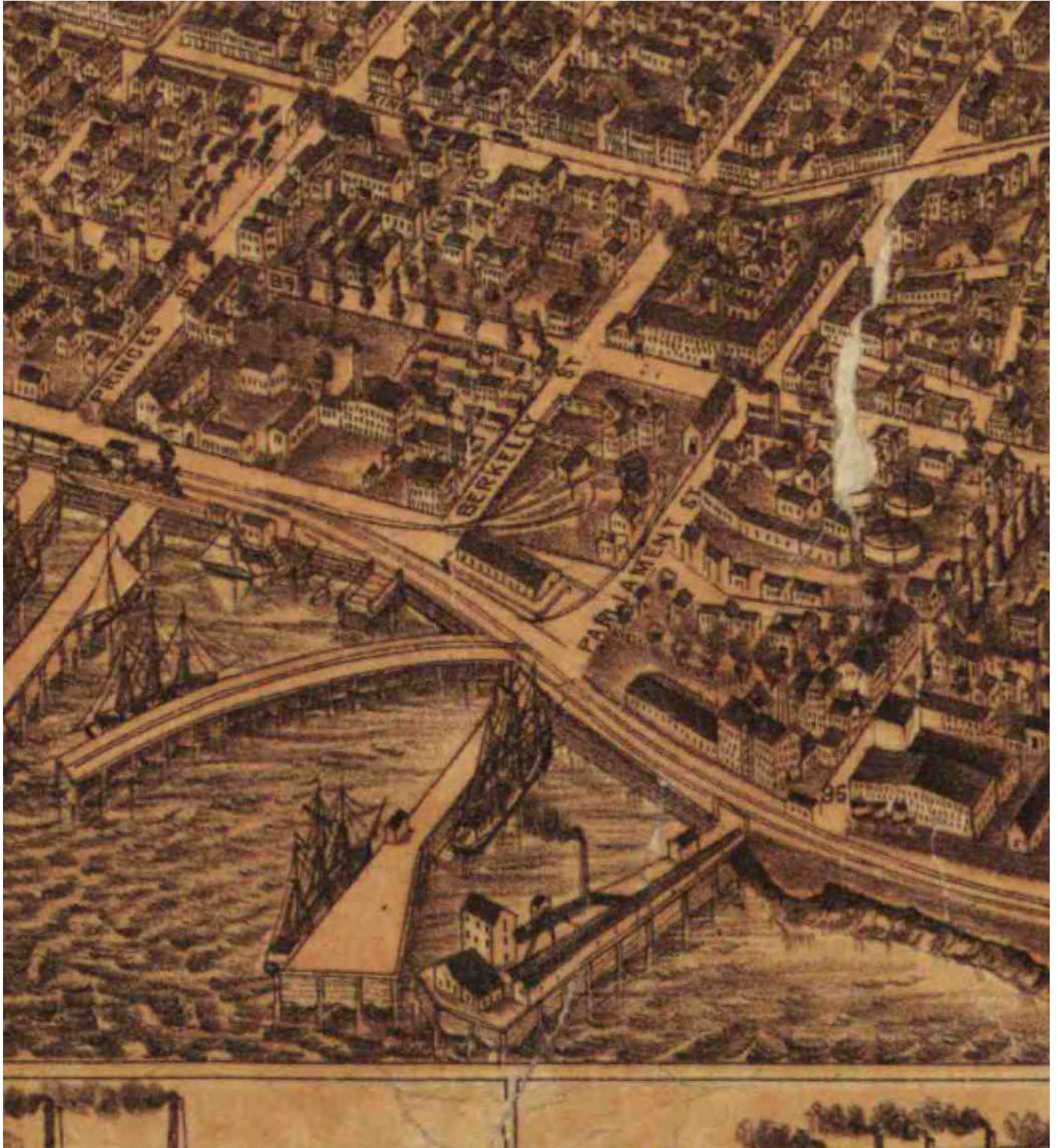
In 1837, a call for designs to construct the city's third gaol on the vacant First Parliament site was initiated. John Howard's winning plans consisted of a central five-storey octagonal tower with three three-storey high radiating wings, referencing the panopticon concept of prison design.

McLeod and Logan of Kingston constructed the limestone and brick gaol between 1837 and 1840. The third Home District Gaol was completed in 1840, though only two wings were completed. The complex was enclosed by a 12 foot wall. It was used as the county district gaol from 1840 to 1864. It was subsequently closed and all its functions were moved to the newly built Don Jail in 1864.

From 1864 to 1879, the building saw intermittent use. Military authorities leased the property in 1866-1867 for military prisoners. Grounds and portions of the building were rented out to various local businesses. The Toronto and Nipissing Railway Company, their yards located south of the site, entered into an agreement for partial use of the site. However, no dedicated uses were located at this site until the Consumers' Gas complex.



52. Toronto, 1849 (Edmond Wyly Grier, ca.1880, annotated by EVOQ)



53. Birds-Eye View of Toronto, 1876 (P.A. Gross, 1876, annotated by EVOQ)

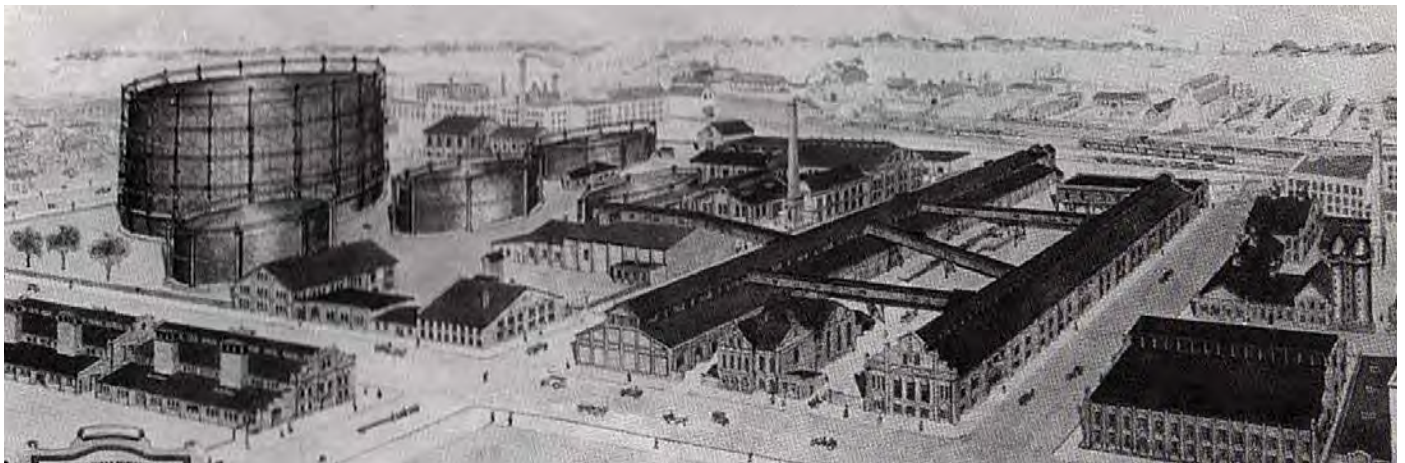
3.4 Consumers' Gas Company

With the rapid advance of coal gas technology, the demand rose quickly for gas to illuminate the growing City's streets. Responding to this demand, the Consumers' Gas Company was incorporated in 1848, and soon absorbed the original gasworks operations that had been producing gas since the early 1840s. To permit further expansion of their gasworks operations, the Consumers' Gas Company acquired the First Parliament property ca.1879, complete with the vacant gaol building.

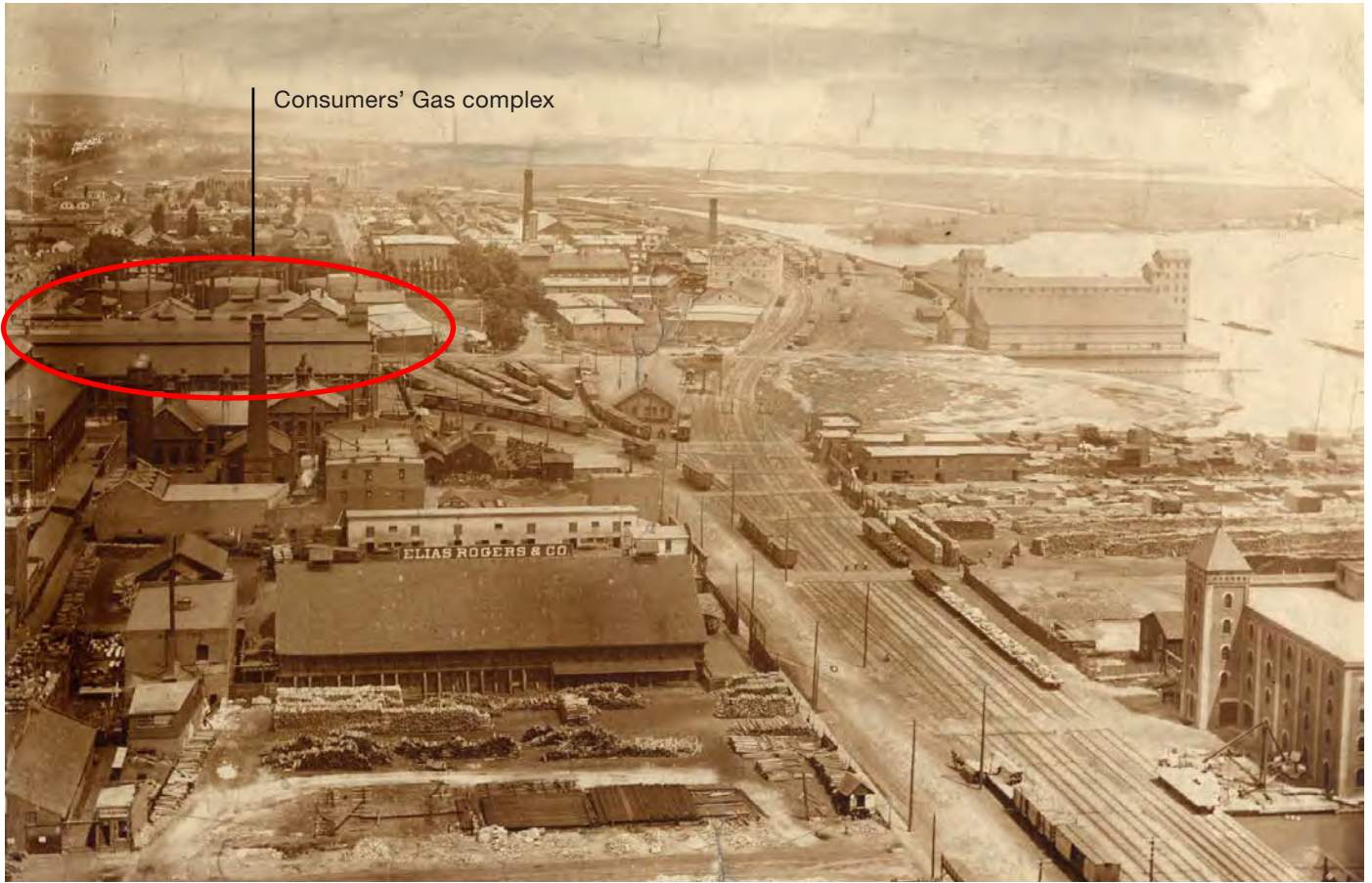
The First Parliament property was first used to store coke and cord wood. A brick coal shed, designed by David B. Dick, was built ca.1883-1885, to store coal arriving by rail from south of the property. The gaol sat vacant within the site, even as new buildings were constructed around it. The gaol building was eventually demolished in 1887 to permit construction of a massive retort house on the west side of the site. A large service/storage yard was established in the middle of the site. The retort house, designed by Strickland & Symons in 1889, featured an iron roof and decorative brick trim. Auxiliary buildings included a scale house, a stores building adjacent to the retort house, and coal/coke conveying equipment connecting the shed, retort houses and the rail line south of the yards.

By the 1880s, the development of electricity and electric street lighting provided heavy competition for gas lighting. By 1915, the last of the city's gas lamps had been replaced with electric fixtures. In response, the Consumers' Gas Company actively promoted the use of gas for heating and cooking, developing and selling gas furnaces and stoves. The company also expanded the use of gas for heavy industrial purposes and continued to develop innovative new technologies. The retort house was refitted in 1926 with vertical retorts (rather than horizontal) and a hinged roof was installed, which could expand vertically to release heat and pressure. By 1946, the First Parliament site was but one part of the extensive 'Station A' complex, which covered more than 10 acres. The complex manufactured gas through two processes, coal gasification as well as a newer technology known as the water gas process.

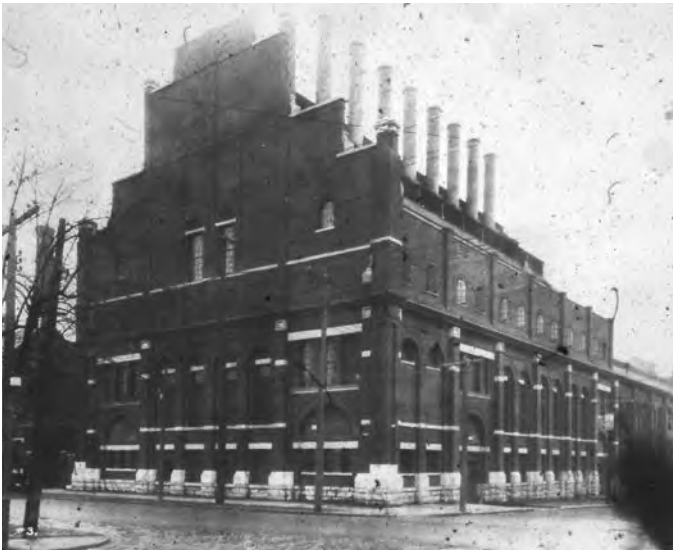
By the 1950s, the introduction of natural gas had rendered the gasworks obsolete. The Consumers' Gas Company stopped manufacturing coal gas in 1954, and moved to the supply and distribution of natural gas. The First Parliament gasworks were officially closed in 1955. Within a decade, the property had been sold and the buildings demolished.



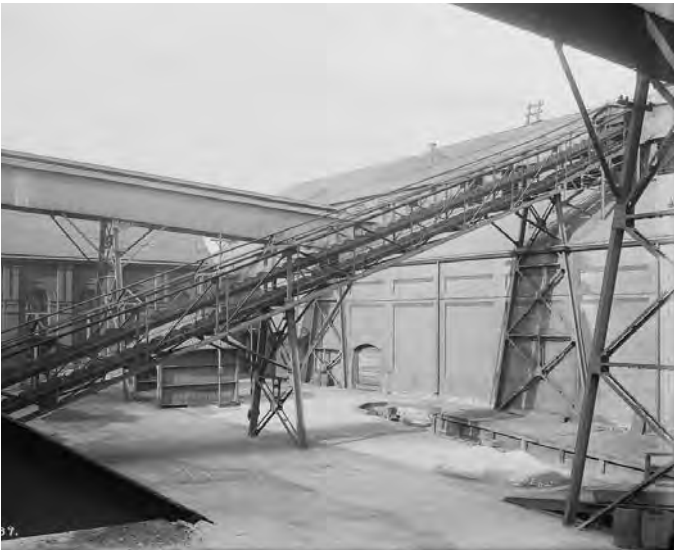
54. Sketch of Station A (E. Scot-Petersen, 1914, annotated by EVOQ)



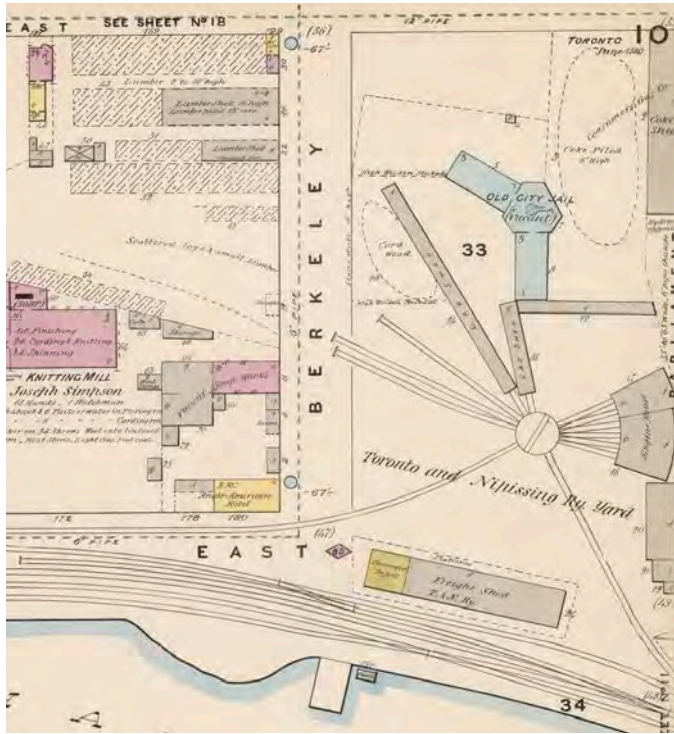
55. Toronto Harbour, Looking Along Esplanade (Josiah Bruce, 1894, annotated by EVOQ)



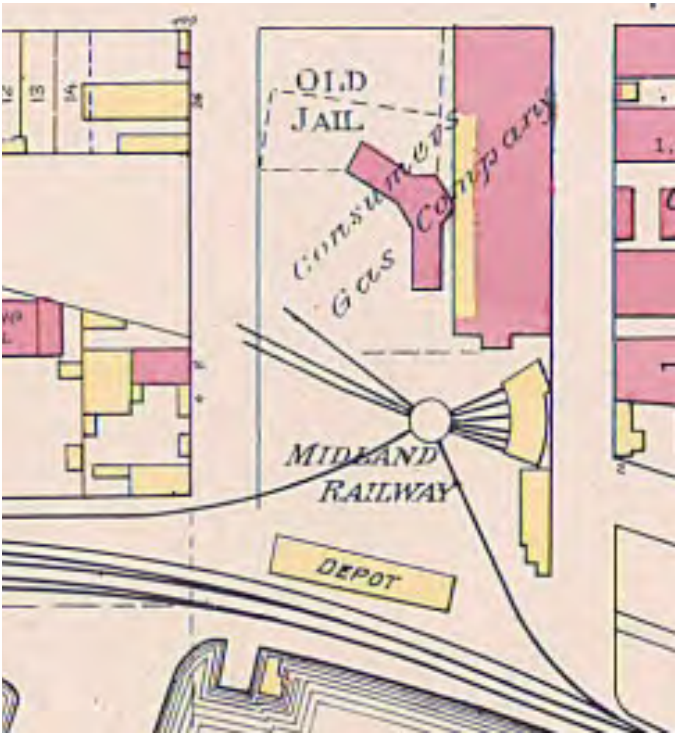
56. Retort House, After Renovation (Consumers' Gas, 1926)



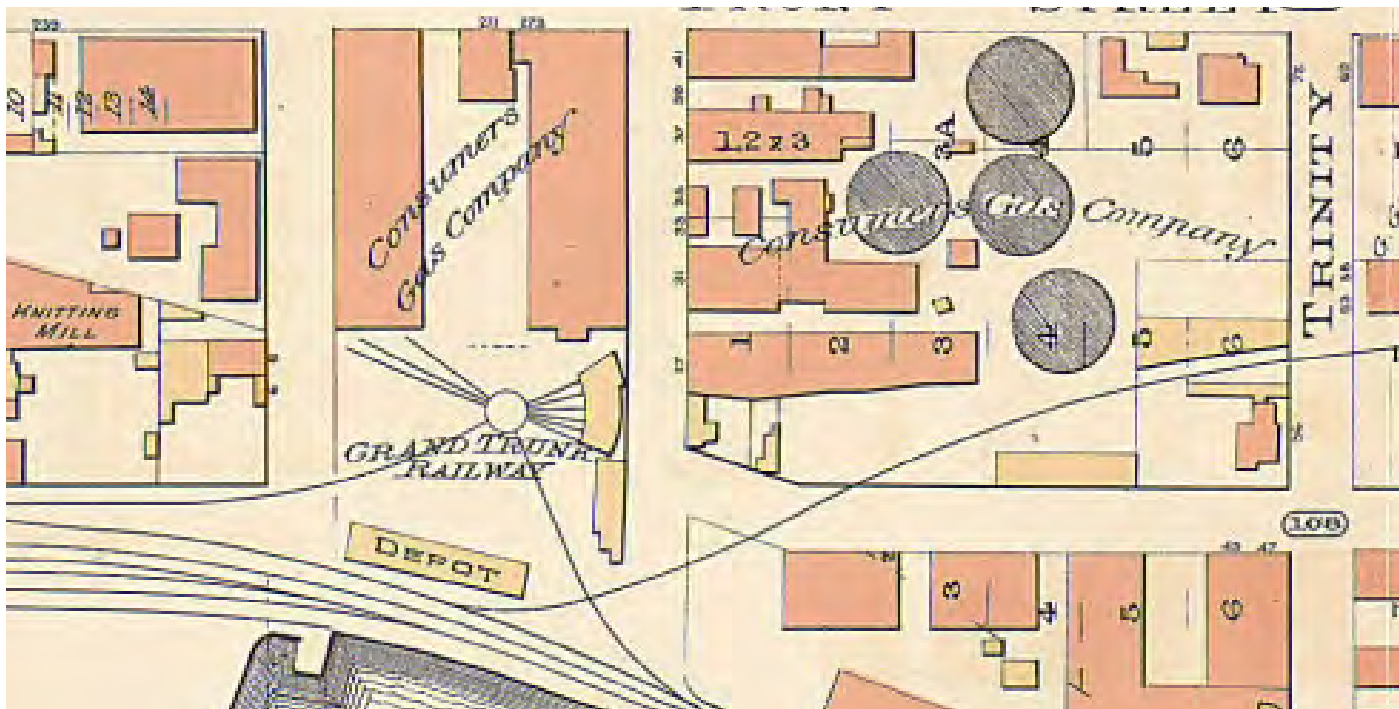
57. Coal Conveyor (Consumers' Gas, 1923)



58. Goad's Fire Insurance Map, 1880, Plate 10



59. Goad's Fire Insurance Map, 1884, Plate 29



60. Goad's Fire Insurance Map, 1890, Plate 29

3.5 Railways

Concurrent with the development of Consumers' Gas was the establishment of the railway corridor and industrial harbourfront to the south of the site. The entire shoreline to the southeast of the site was originally slated as a reserve, known as the Walks and Gardens Reserve, for the enjoyment of the inhabitants of Toronto, with proposals such as a promenade or mall being developed. However, it was also prime land assets, and as Toronto developed, the reserve's original purpose was beginning to erode.

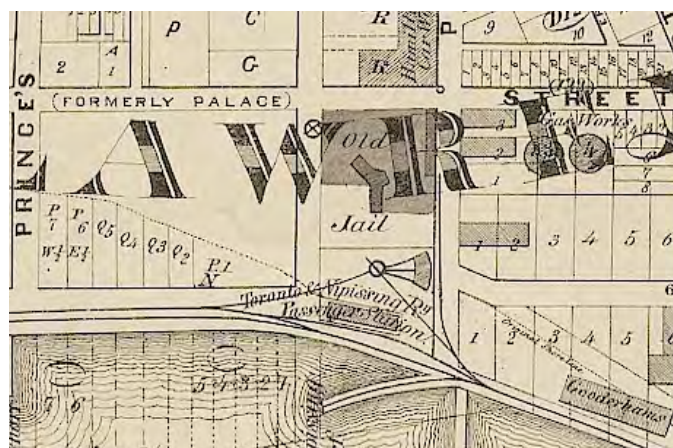
The City first began to develop the area with granting or leasing of water lots along the reserve, thus spurring the development of wharves and jetties. This removed the necessity that ships would have to anchor out in the harbour and have goods ferried in on small boats. By late 1850s, there were over 11 wharves. Another policy development that affected the shoreline was the 1853 Toronto Esplanade Act permitting the lands for railway use. The railway companies took advantage of the change, resulting in four companies building railways along the shoreline. In 1857, the Act was amended, permitting the sale of the lands and allowing the expansion of the railways. The shoreline was thus overtaken by the rail and shipping, spurring an increase in industrial development to the area around the site.

Though some effort was made to preserve the idea of the Walks and Gardens Reserve with the creation of Fair Green, a formal landscaped garden to the west of the site which existed until the 1850s, generally the area was turned over to industrialization. Land reclamations to accommodate the growing railway corridor saw the shoreline being moved further southwards.

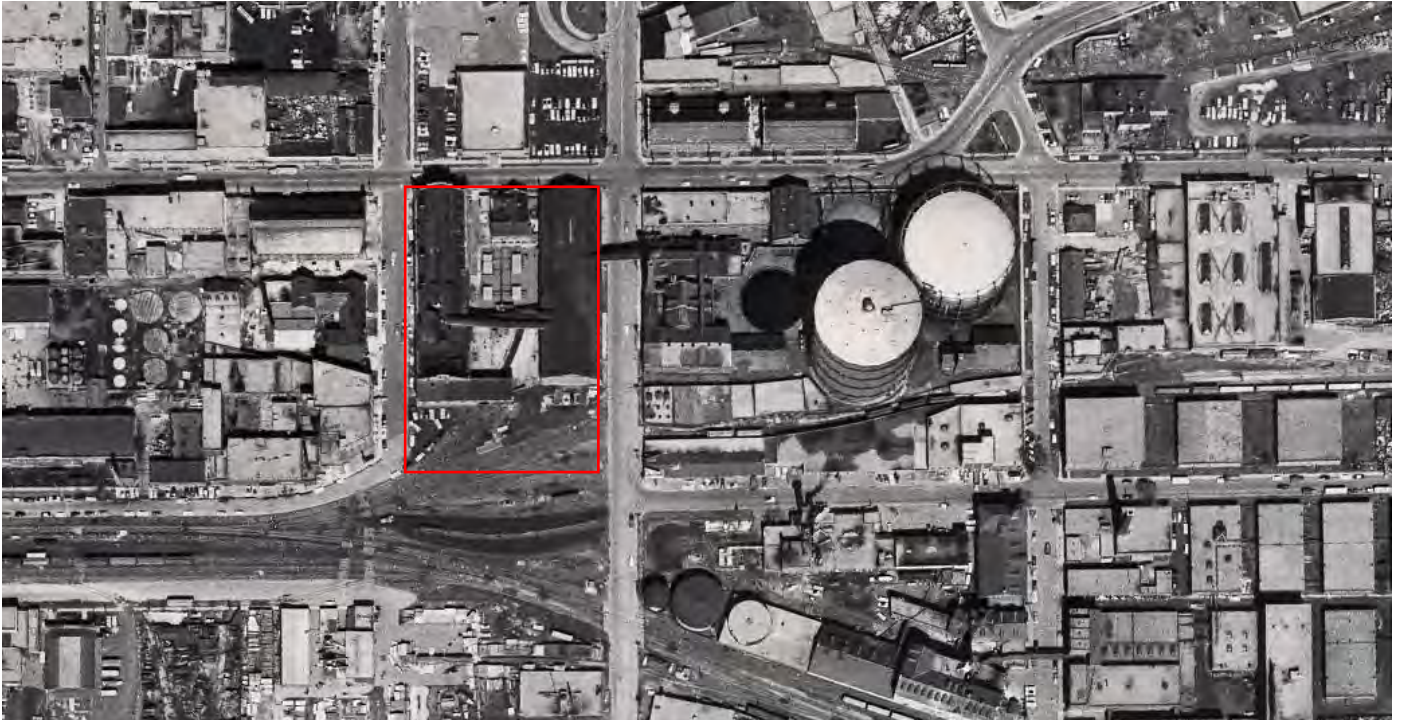
The site benefited from this relationship to the railways and wharves. The Toronto and Nipissing

Railway (T & NR) constructed its terminus just south of the site. A passenger and freight shed, a turntable and rail spurs are evident in the maps of the 1880s, along with a wharf belonging to T & NR extending south of Parliament Street. The Consumers Gas Company, which moved into the site in the 1870s were able to have dedicated freight service and easy access to the wharves for the delivery of raw materials (oil and coal) to create coal gas and water gas. Though T & NR was taken over by Midland Railway in 1881 and then Grand Trunk Railway in 1883, the Consumers Gas retained access to the rail system until its demise.

By the turn of the century, shipping and railway use began to give way to automobile use, with increasing reliance on paved roads within and between communities as the primary transport system. The areas between wharves were filled in with landfill or excavated soil and re-adapted for industrial use. By mid-1960s, the railway corridor was relocated southwards, and the esplanade corridor south of the site was being reclaimed. By late 1870s, the Esplanade corridor was redeveloped as a residential area, with a mix of low to mid-rise housing encompassing condos, public housing, co-ops, and town homes. A strip of land was transformed into park space, including the creation of the Parliament Square Park, just south of the current site.



61. Wadsworth & Unwin's Map of the City of Toronto, 1872



62. Aerial Photo, 1957 (City of Toronto, 1957, annotated by EVOQ)



63. Aerial Photo, 1963 (City of Toronto, 1963, annotated by EVOQ)

3.6 Recent History

The site's recent history of occupation consists of various small businesses, with one-storey structures for restaurants, carwashes, and car dealerships, among others. This coincided with the area's decline of heavy industry pivoting to a mix of commercial and light industry. Currently, the area still supports these industries along with emerging business within the creative and design fields as well as communications and information technology fields. The area is also experiencing a renewal of residential developments, such as condominiums.

The site was divided and passed through private hands, until land swaps with both the Province of Ontario (2003) and the City of Toronto (2012) were completed, bringing the site into public ownership.



65. Front Street East, Looking West from Parliament (Don Ritchie, 1973)



66. Parliament Street West (unattributed, 1973)



64. Aerial Photo, 1992 (City of Toronto, 1992, annotated by EVOQ)



67. Aerial Photo, ca.1977 (annotated by EVOQ)

4.0 Preliminary Narrative and Thematic Analysis

Based on the historical review and evaluation of the site, initial research was completed to identify preliminary narratives and themes that have potential to become part of the interpretation strategy. Review and refinement of these stories will be completed in conjunction with public consultation, visioning workshops and roundtables. Further targeted research is expected to clarify and advance the potential narratives and themes.

The narratives have been grouped under larger topics. Potential connections to other sites of importance within the city and beyond have also been included.

4.1 Evolution of the Natural Landscape

Potential narratives may explore:

- The natural development of the landscape and topography, original wildlife, and its importance to the siting the first parliament buildings and Town of York;
- The site and its relationship to indigenous settlement, early trade and European presence;
- Impact of the changes to adjacent shoreline and watercourses in its vicinity and the site's reciprocal relationship to the industrialization of the area:
 - Importance of the site in relationship to the harbour, shipping routes, and railway access in the 1800s and early 1900s;
 - Environmental impacts on the natural landscape.

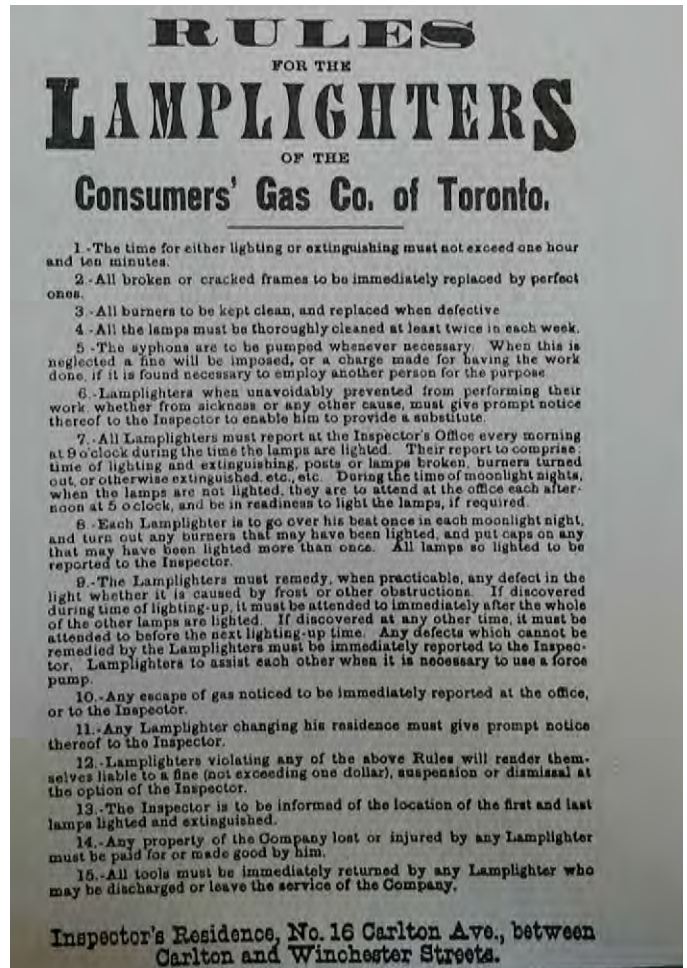


68. Sketch of the Ground in advance of and including York Upper Canada (George Williams, 1813); illustrating original shoreline, and possible source of brick for construction of First Parliament Buildings

4.2 Development of Toronto

Potential narratives may explore:

- The impact of city planning policies on the site and how it affected early city settlement patterns:
 - Including relationship to government reserves and walks & gardens trust;
- Relationship of the site and its buildings with the early residents, immigrants and military presence in Toronto;
- The site's historic uses and their impact on the development of other institutions (legislative institutions, courthouse, lunatic asylum, poor-houses);
- The history of Labour, as a theme for all the activities that took place on the site;
- Impact of the gasworks to the development of the city and its modernization of industries, institutions, and residential living:
 - gas street lights in the late 1800s;
 - gas cooking and heating in the 1900s;
- Coal supply and trade;
- Notable figures associated with the site and the development of Toronto;
- The site's decline, and its revival due to grass-roots community efforts, and the larger renewed efforts and interest in cultural heritage in Toronto.



69. Rules for the Lamplighters of the Consumers Gas Co. of Toronto (Consumers Gas, undated); illustrating the work requirements of the street lamplighters.

4.3 Upper Canada

Potential narratives may explore:

- The relationship between the site and the development of Upper Canada governance, through both parliament and gaol eras;
- Important early legislation enacted. This included:
 - 1804 – to establish a Superior Court and to regulate the Court of Appeal;
 - 1807 – to establish public schools in every district;
 - 1809 – to enable married women to purchase, hold and sell real estate;
 - 1820 – to increase the representation of the commons of the province in the House of Assembly;
 - 1821 – to incorporate the Bank of Upper Canada and to establish a uniform currency;
- Important Upper Canadian political figures;
- The site’s importance in Upper Canada military history and the War of 1812;
- The evolution of incarceration in Upper Canada, and the role of the Home District Gaol within this narrative;
- The penal system of the 1800s and the prevailing penal philosophies of the era.

4.4 Justice System

Potential narratives may explore:

- Crimes, punishments and discrimination of the mid-1800s;
- The gaol and its relationship to the varied demographics of prisoners in the mid-1800s and its impact to changing social norms, prison reforms and the development of the welfare state;
 - Women, prostitution, law and gaol time;
 - Mental illness and the institutions;
 - Young offenders and juvenile reforms;
 - Gaol treatment for the poor and debtors;
- The site’s historic use as a gaol unearthing stories of who stayed, lived and worked within the site, including living conditions, food arrangements and hard labour.

Name.	Pol.	No. of days imprisoned & month or less	Name.	Pol.
1. McLaughlin Thomas	Boy	222	2. M'Kally Patrick	234
1. McLaughlin Mary		222	1. Moore James	234
1. McLaughlin John		222	1. M'Donnough Catharine	234
1. Williams Mary Anne		225	2. M'Donnough Catharine	235
1. M'Kally Patrick		223	1. M'Leach James	233
2. McLaughlin Thomas		225	1. M'Leach Angus	235
1. M'Leach William		224	3. M'Connell Susan	235
1. M'Quinn Anne		224	1. M'Pike Math	235
1. M'Leach Peter		224	1. M'Lee James	236
3. M'Donald Robert		224	3. M'Connell David	236
1. M'Kellie Duncan		224	4. M'Coffee Robt	236
3. M'Quinn Mary		225	1. M'Leach Rosa Anne	236
1. M'Quinn Robert		223	1. M'Connell Clara	236

70. Extract from the Register of Criminals, from Feb. 2, 1847 to Dec. 31, 1852, (Police Dept. Toronto, 1847-1852); illustrating the number of boys, women and men incarcerated, and the number of offenses they incurred.



71. Upper Canada’s First Mace (Legislative Assembly of Ontario, undated); made of wood and painted gold, it was stolen by the Americans during the War of 1812 from the First Parliament Building, and only returned to Toronto in 1934.

150

130

TORONTO POLICE REGISTER

OF CRIMINALS.

DATE	PROSECUTING MAGISTRATE	OFFENDER	COMPLAINANT	OFFENCE	HOW DISPOSED BY	COUNTRY	GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
July 5 99	The Mayor	John Dalton	Constable McCaffrey	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	Second offence for 1850
100	Macnamra Campbell	William Dalton	John Dalton	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First "
101		John Dalton	John Dalton	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First "
102	The Mayor	James King	John Dalton	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
103		John Dalton	John Dalton	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
104		James King	George Kelly	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
105		Henry John Boulton	Thomas Gault	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
106		John B. Robinson	"	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
107		Patrick Cassels	"	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
108		Patrick Keenan	"	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
109		John Harper	"	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
110	The Mayor	Estlin Macdonald	Chief Constable	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	Second offence
111	Macnamra Campbell	Michael Galt	John S. Smith	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First "
112	Macnamra Campbell	Michael Keegan	Constable McCaffrey	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
113	The Mayor	Robert James	Marion Hughes	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence
114	The Mayor	John Smith	Edward Paul	Assault	One month's imp. to S. I.	England	First offence

72. Extract from the Toronto Register of Criminals, 1850 (Police Dept. Toronto, 1850); illustrating the date, magistrate, offender, complainant, offence, how it was disposed, country, and other general observations.

we found under the following heads -

For Soup and porridge	£ 147 .. 15 .. 1/2
" Bread	204 .. 8 .. 0
" Medical Attendance	52 .. 18 .. 1/2
" Fire Wood	160 .. 3 .. 9/2
" Soap	12 .. 11 .. 3
" Oil	25 .. 8 .. 6
" Water	8 .. 5 .. 6
" Conveying prisoners to Penitentiary	32 .. 9 .. 7
" Disbursements for Sundry Articles	52 .. 9 .. 1/2
" The Sailors Salary	250 .. 0 .. 0
	<u>£ 908 .. 3 .. 11/2</u>

It will be seen from the foregoing statement that during

73. Extract of a letter from George Gurnett, Clerk of the Peace, to Charles Daly, Clerk Common Council (George Gurnett, February 12, 1845), illustrating the expenses of keeping and maintaining prisoners in the gaol.

4.5 Technological Innovation

Potential narratives may explore:

- Design and construction of the parliament buildings representing the building technologies in early Upper Canada;
- Design and construction of the Home District Gaol and the prevailing penal design theories of the 1800s;
- Impact of the site on the development and production of coal gasification and its relationships within the city and beyond, such as Montreal and Halifax;
- Technological innovation of water gas production, and its relationship with petroleum supplied by Oil Springs, Ontario;
- By-products (such as coke and tar) of the gasworks and impact on new industrial uses;
- Pivot of Consumers' Gas from gas lighting to gas range for cooking and gas heating and to further industrial and retail clients.



74. Toronto Arcade (Consumers' Gas, ca.1885); the arcade was lit with hanging and pedestal gas lamps

75. Top photo right: Old Horizontal Retorts (Consumers' Gas, 1923)

76. Bottom photo right: New Vertical Retorts (Consumers' Gas, 1923)



77. Laying of asphalt blocks, a by-product of the gasworks, on Victoria Street (Consumers' Gas, ca.1904)



4.6 Potential Connections to Other Sites

Placing the site and its history within the greater context is part of the larger heritage interpretation strategy, revealing its relationship to other important sites within Toronto, Ontario and beyond. The following is a preliminary list of relationships that may have connection with the First Parliament site.

With regards to the era of First Parliament, the following sites may be of interest:

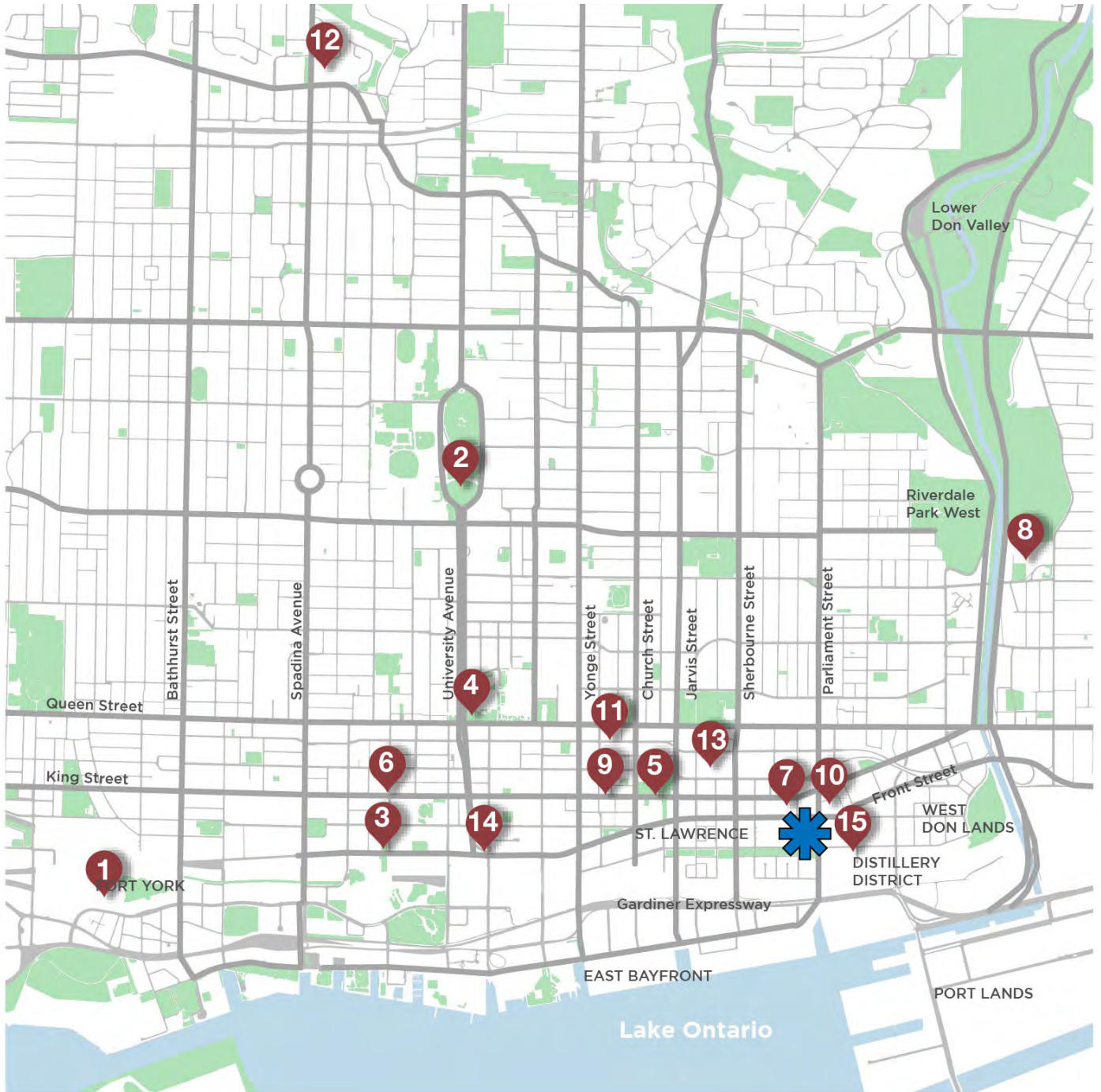
- **Berkeley House**, the oldest dwelling within the Old Town of York (now commemorated in the mid-block connection through the new Globe and Mail Building);
- **Fort York, Toronto**, regarding the defensive fort's relationship with First Parliament;
- **Tod Morden Mills**, early 1795 sawmill in the Don Valley, commissioned by Lt. Governor John Graves Simcoe;
- **Queen's Park, Toronto**, as the successor to the Upper Canada Parliament Buildings, now seat of the Provincial Government;
- **St. James Cathedral, Toronto**; its earliest congregants met within First Parliament buildings;
- **Fort George, Niagara-on-the-Lake**, the location of the first Upper Canada parliament session;
- **Parliament Buildings, Ottawa**, the current federal Parliament Buildings;
- **Osgoode Hall, Toronto**; the original parliament buildings housed the court of law in early Upper Canada.

With regards to the era of the gaol, the following sites may be of interest:



- **Don Jail, Toronto**, the successor to the Home District Gaol;
- **Kingston Penitentiary, Kingston**, a result of prison reforms in the mid 1800s;
- **CAMH, Toronto**, the result of social welfare reforms in the mid-1800s, spurred by inadequacy of the gaol to service the mentally ill.

With regards to the era of Consumers' Gas, the following sites may be of interest:

- Extant Consumers' Gas Buildings, such as **265 Front Street East, Toronto** (Police Division 51), **227 Front Street East, Toronto** (Canadian Opera House), **19 Toronto Street, Toronto** (Consumers' Gas headquarters), **415 Eastern Avenue** and **433-477 Eastern Avenue** (former Station B gasworks buildings);
- **Spadina House, Toronto**, residence of former presidents of Consumers' Gas (James Austin and his son Albert Austin);
- **Toronto's First Post Office, Toronto**; Charles Berczy, first post-master was also the first chairman of Consumers' Gas;
- **First Commercial Oil Field National Historic Site, Oil Springs, Ontario**; provided petroleum for the manufacture of gas through the water gas process at the gasworks;
- **Union Station, Toronto** and its relationship to the development of the railway corridor south of site;
- **New City Gas Building, Montreal**; Montreal businessmen established the Gas Light and Water Company to provide gas for lighting in Toronto before the advent of Consumers' Gas; New City Gas Building housed the successor of the Montreal gasworks.



Historic Associations

-  First Parliament Site
-  Places of historic connection

78. Places of Historic Association (DTAH)

5.0 Places of Historic Association

5.1 Toronto Associations

First Parliament Era:

- Fort York (War of 1812, fire);
- Queen's Park (Provincial government);
- Site of the third Parliament buildings, where the CBC building is now (legislature, parliament);
- Osgoode Hall, Toronto;
- St. James Anglican Church, Toronto (earliest church services in the north building);
- Site of the original Toronto General Hospital (King and John) (used on a temporary basis by the executive council after the second fire and then again in the late 1850s);
- Berkeley House (oldest dwelling, legislature).

Gaol Era:

- Don Jail;
- Sites of the previous two Home District gaols. (Both were on King between Yonge and Church).

Consumers' Gas Era:

- Remaining consumers gas buildings at Station A (Police 51 division, COC opera bldg), Toronto;
- Consumers Gas headquarters, 19 Toronto Street, Toronto (heritage designated);
- Spadina House, Toronto (Austin family connection);
- First post office, 260 Adelaide St. E, Toronto (Charles Berczy- first postmaster & first director of Consumers Gas);
- Union Station, Toronto;
- Distillery District, Toronto.

5.2 Broader Associations

First Parliament Era:

- Fort George, Niagara-On-The-Lake (Navy Hall).

Consumers' Gas Era:

- First Commercial Oil Field National Historic Site, Oil Springs, Ontario (Consumers Gas shipped raw material from here for use in water gas process);
- New City Gas Company building, 950 Rue Ottawa, Montreal.

5.3 Long List (TBD)

- CAMH, Toronto;
- Todmorden Mills;
- York-Durham Heritage Railway – tourist train that runs from Uxbridge to Stouffville along old TN&G railway route (final stop/shops were just south of Gas Works);
- Evergreen Brickworks, Toronto.
- Kingston Penitentiary, Kingston

6.0 Visible Traces of History

The First Parliament site preserves no visible traces of its use prior to its development as an automobile servicing site and parking lot. There are however, a number of features in the immediate neighbourhood which preserve traces of its historical context.

6.1 The Nineteenth-century Lake Shore

The original nineteenth-century shore of Lake Ontario was characterized by a narrow limestone shingle beach, lying below a steep shore cliff of up to eight metres height. The shore cliffs are depicted on numerous nineteenth century maps, as well as contemporary sketches and paintings. The lake filling projects carried out as part of the railway developments of The Esplanade in the 1850s resulted in the removal of the shore cliffs along much of the waterfront, but traces still may be seen a short distance to the west of the Parliament site on Jarvis and Market streets, where the topography drops markedly south of Front Street.

6.2 The First Town of York Surveys (The Ten Blocks)

Two surveys for a town plot at Toronto had been made by Gother Mann and Alexander Aitkin as early as 1788. These plans were not used, and a new survey for the Old Town of York was undertaken by Alexander Aitkin in the summer of 1793. This plan consisted of just ten blocks, bounded by George, Adelaide, Parliament and Front streets. By the summer of 1797, the survey of the town had been enlarged and included land as far north as Lot (Queen) Street, and westward to Peter Street (Winearls 1991:591; Firth 1962:11, 21). The layout of the original Town is distinct from that of the surrounding areas of later development as consisted of small, roughly square, blocks, rather than the more expansive, rectangular blocks seen

throughout the balance of the urban core. The street grid of the Old Town, northwest of the Parliament site, preserves the fabric of the original town survey.

6.3 The Esplanade

As pressure on the waterfront increased during the second half of the nineteenth century, ambitious “crib and fill” operations were carried out to create substantial areas of new, made land. The main proponents of this landmaking were the railways, which entered Toronto in the 1850s and set about filling along virtually the entire waterfront, behind a new shore wall—“The Esplanade”—constructed some 100 metres off shore, to create approximately 160 acres (65 hectares) of new land.

Located up to 100 metres offshore, The Esplanade consisted of a continuous 12-foot (3.66 m) wide timber crib wall behind which various forms of fill, but chiefly material cut down from the original shore cliffs, were used to create approximately 160 acres (65 hectares) of new land. The Esplanade extended from the Don River to Spadina Avenue, a distance of approximately 3.5 km (2.1 miles). The Grand Trunk Railway laid its tracks atop and to the rear of the shore wall. The linear green spaces making up David Crombie Park and Parliament Park, south and west of the Parliament site, preserve the alignment of this railway corridor.

6.4 Consumers’ Gas

The Consumers’ Gas Company of Toronto was incorporated in 1848 and began to manufacture coal gas shortly afterwards. The original gasworks were located on the east side of Parliament Street, south of Front Street. By 1910, the gasworks had reached its maximum size, covering about two and a half city blocks, extending along the south side of Front Street from west of Berkeley to Trinity Street. The company also had two gas purifier buildings on

the north side of Front at Parliament Street. Around this time the Front Street gasworks had become known as the Station “A” plant to distinguish it from the Station “B” gasworks at Eastern Avenue and Booth Street, which came into operation in 1909. By 1954, natural gas had replaced manufactured coal gas, rendering the Station A works obsolete.

The Station A buildings were characterized by a unified architectural style, comparable to that which is still preserved at the Gooderham & Worts Distillery District. Today the only surviving Station A structures are the former coal gas purifying building at 239-251 Front Street, the former office building at 26 Berkeley Street, and the water gas purifying building at 51 Parliament Street. Surviving Station B structures are found at 415 and 433-477 Eastern Avenue, while the company’s head office building at 19 Toronto Street also remains standing.

7.0 History of Planning/Stakeholder Involvement

7.1 Initial Stakeholder Involvement

Rollo Myers's curiosity about the First Parliament site was initially sparked by his work in 1990 with the Town of York Historical Society in creating a 3-D model of the original Town of York. Spurred by references to the parliament buildings, Myers undertook archival research, unearthing a long-forgotten site important to Toronto's history. Through grassroots efforts of meeting with various community groups, owners and government officials, Myers and colleagues were instrumental in bringing the importance of the site to light.

Myers went on to help found the community group Citizens of Old Town in 1996, representing residents, businesses, and institutions within the roughly 10 original planned blocks of the Town of York. Its mandate was to work on enhancing and revitalizing the area through a bottom-up and citizen approach. Myers was also part of the Town of York Historical Society, in collaboration with Heritage Canada, who issued a 1997 report titled 'A Plan for Renewal' of the area. The plan's goals were to

- create and intensify awareness of the Old Town of York's significance as the birthplace of Toronto and as the foundations of the city's commercial and cultural assets;
- market its unique characteristics;
- bring the area back into the life of the city.

A key aspect of the revitalization plan was to enhance Old Town's rich heritage, with the site of the First Parliament playing an important role.

The burgeoning interest in the First Parliament site was revealed in a report produced in 1997 by the City of Toronto's Urban Development Services (UDS) King-Parliament Community Improvement Plan. It noted the site should be commemorated, though no progress was made subsequently. The site, subdivided at that time, resided wholly in private hands.

7.2 Planning Development

In 2000, the First Parliament site resurfaced through an archaeological investigation directed by ASI, and intended to verify if any traces of the parliament buildings remain. Indeed, brick remains and charred wood structures were found and noted in an ASI 2001 report. This investigation was financed on a cost sharing basis by the then property owners and the City of Toronto.

A first portion of the site (265 Front Street East) was brought into public ownership in 2003 through a series of land exchanges between the City of Toronto, the Province of Ontario (Ontario Heritage Trust) and the then landowner.

In 2011, a development proposal was again put forth, on the remaining privately-owned portion of land, which involved a 57-storey condo tower. It spurred a second land exchange, again involving the City of Toronto. Completed in 2012, the arrangement finally brought the remainder of the site into public ownership. City Council also approved the First Parliament site as the location for a new district library branch.

7.3 First Parliament Working Group

In 2013, Councillor Pam McConnell assembled the First Parliament Working Group. The group's mandate was to propose and consider opportunities for the development of the site, including design, planning and programming options. Ontario Heritage Trust was a key partner in the project.

The group's diverse membership consisted of both city staff and community citizens. The group is headed by the Councillor's office, and as of November 2017 counts within its committee, City of Toronto staff from City Planning, Heritage Preservations Services, Parks, Forestry & Recreation, Real Estate Services, Facilities

Management, Toronto Parking Authority, Toronto Public Library and Urban Design. Stakeholder community groups represented include Citizens for the Old Town, Corktown Residents & Business Association, Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association, Heritage Toronto, St. Lawrence BIA, St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association, Little Trinity Church, South East Downtown Networking Alliance and the West Don Lands Committee. Other organizations involved include Waterfront Toronto and the office of the local MPP.

The committee held its first meeting on July 11, 2013. Following a number of meetings, a visioning workshop was held in June 2016 to generate ideas and to develop a vision for the site resulting in the First Parliament Site Visioning Workshop Summary Report. The participants were asked the following questions:

1. How should we tell the story (stories) of the First Parliament site?
2. How do you see the library, park and interpretation centre working together on the site? How should the uses be connected/linked to one another? Are there site features/specific elements that the City should consider?
3. Are there other uses/users that are important to the future of the site? Is there an opportunity for commercial or residential uses?

The group reached consensus on the following points:

- Tell the entire story of the First Parliament site (the parliamentary buildings and War of 1812 is the primary story but Gaol, Consumers' Gas, automotive uses are important secondary and tertiary stories);
- Design the library and the interpretation center as one facility;
- The entire site should be designed as a whole;

- Create a public and multi-use development with programs, events and festivals;
- Create physical connections/linkages with other historic sites in the City (Distillery District, St. Lawrence Market, Fort York);
- Some commercial uses would be appropriate (restaurant, café) as they would bring people to the site and provide a revenue stream.

Concurrent with the First Parliament Working Group meetings, the Ontario Heritage Trust outlined the principles for the long-term vision of the parliament lands in a document 'Parliament Site (Toronto) – Planning Framework'. It was approved by the Trust's Board of Directors June, 2014. A Statement of Significance for the site was most recently updated in 2015. Both of these documents are appended to this report.

The heritage interpretation strategy is one part of this larger master plan for the site. An important element of this strategy is to delve in-depth into a historical analysis of the site.

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Appendix 7

Potential Historical Narratives

The following potential narrative list synthesizes succinctly the topics and stories that were unearthed as part of the completed historical research. This preparatory work was broad and overarching with the intent to place the site and its history within its local, provincial, and national context. The methodology consisted of gathering as broadly as possible all themes and stories that have the capacity to form the content for the Heritage Interpretation Strategy. The research also strives to illustrate the connections between the site of the First Parliament to other important sites within the city, province, and beyond. At the same time, it refrains from limiting the potential of narrative threads with a pre-determined hierarchy or judgement on its interpretive heritage value. This broad foundational work is to allow the subsequent development of the Statement of Significance and the Heritage Interpretive Strategy.

The list below is presented in chronological order without any hierarchy. Its content is derived from historical research, community and indigenous consultations, workshops, roundtables, and subject matter expert interviews. Potential connections to important sites and buildings that may relate to that era have also been noted.

Chronological:

1. Lands & Environment

- a. Historical evolution of area
- b. Native wildlife and plant life of the area
 - i. Fish and birds
- c. Original watercourses of the area
 - i. Taddle Creek
 - ii. Don River
 - iii. marshlands
- d. Original shorelines – Lake Ontario
 - i. floodplains
- e. Geological history of the area
- f. Changing perceptions regarding the importance and value of the surrounding land and environment

2. Early Settlement

- a. Indigenous nations' presence in region
 - i. Indigenous use of the surrounding lands
 - ii. Land claims and treaties
 1. Tensions and relationships with the Mississaugas
 - iii. Indigenous life at the time
 - iv. Indigenous system of governance
 - v. Layering of different indigenous nations' presence on the land
 1. Huron-Wendat
 2. Iroquois (more settled, agrarian peoples)
 3. Mississaugas (more hunter/gatherer, nomadic peoples)
 4. Collaboration between sister tribes (including within US territories)
 - vi. Indigenous occupation of the lands
- b. Early French history and trade in area

- c. Early British history in area
- d. Migration and movement of settlers in the region
 - i. Impact of the American Revolution
 - ii. Diversity of the population
 - iii. Migrants & immigrants
 - 1. Enslaved and free Black presence
 - a. Prominent figures held back slaves (Russell, Jarvis)
 - 2. French presence (early franco-ontario & Lower Canada community)
 - 3. Diversity and discrimination
 - 4. Diverse religious & racial backgrounds
 - iv. Movement of the Indigenous peoples
- e. Relationship between indigenous peoples and early French/English migrants
 - i. Divergent social and political values
 - ii. Tensions and interactions between the peoples
 - iii. Trade relationships between the different Indigenous peoples as well as the French & British

3. First and Second Parliament Buildings

- a. Establishment of York
 - i. Relocation of the Parliament
 - ii. British/American antagonism and influx of Loyalists
 - iii. York and the War of 1812
 - 1. Site of community organization after the sacking of York
 - 2. Stolen mace and library books by US
 - 3. Its impact on York
 - 4. Relationship and borders between Upper Canada and the Americans
 - 5. Indigenous relations
 - a. Indigenous participation
 - iv. Indigenous role and relationships
 - 1. The Toronto purchase
 - 2. Land claims, water claims (fisheries claim), disputes & renegotiations of treaties
 - 3. Relationship to primary home of the Mississaugas, at New Credit (12 Mile Creek, 16 Mile Creek, Humber River)
 - 4. Trade & commerce between York and the Indigenous peoples
- b. Founding of Upper Canada
 - i. Growing prominence of English-speaking people in what were once predominately French territories
 - ii. Relationship between Upper Canada, British Crown and the Indigenous Peoples
 - 1. Responsibilities, power
 - 2. Missionary influence over the Indigenous peoples
 - 3. Governance over the Indigenous
- c. Development of Upper Canada governance
 - i. Important legislation enacted
 - 1. Abolition of slaves one of the first legislation enacted (at Niagara-on-the-Lake)
 - 2. Family law/laws concerning children

- 3. Laws concerning women
- 4. Property laws
- 5. Public services – i.e. public schools
- ii. Important parliamentarians
- iii. Structure of government
 - 1. Family compact and executive council
 - 2. Governing system, elections, appointments
 - 3. Rise of political opposition
 - 4. Influence of the British governing system and development of the Canadian law system
 - 5. Relationship of government with the people at large
- iv. Impact of upper Canada governance to existing indigenous peoples and their system of governance
 - 1. Tensions between the two systems; differences in views of property laws, ownerships, fencings etc.
- v. Its relationship to the legislative and governing system today
- d. City establishment
 - i. Site and its relationship to its context
 - 1. Government reserves
 - 2. Relationship to Walks and Gardens Trust
 - 3. Relationship of site to 10 block of town
 - 4. Relationship to natural environments
 - a. Defensive positions at harbour
 - b. Rivers and uninhabitable marshlands to the east
 - ii. Building & construction of both parliaments
 - 1. Brick building and material procurement
 - 2. Design, constraints, technologies of the time
 - a. Designer
 - b. Architectural form as a reflection of government system
 - 3. Available skills and labour
 - a. Worker demographics and lives
 - 4. Relationship of these buildings with subsequent parliament buildings
 - iii. Siting & related buildings
 - 1. Blockhouse
 - a. Built to deter aboriginal incursions into the Town and as rallying point for York Militia
 - b. Relationship to Fort York
 - 2. Importance of the siting close to Lake Ontario, the shoreline and the cliffs
 - 3. Outbuildings
 - iv. Its relationship to Upper Canada families and their prominence & influence
 - v. Its multi-functional uses
 - 1. Legislative uses
 - 2. Town meeting place
 - 3. Anglican Church
 - 4. Library
- e. Early city organization & life
 - i. Military presence

- ii. Early church history in Toronto
 - iii. Civic strife
 - iv. Early social life in York
- f. Notable figures
 - i. Simcoe
 - ii. Bishop Strachan
 - iii. Peter Russell
 - iv. Maitland
- g. Potential linkages
 - i. Fort York, Toronto
 - ii. Old City Hall, Toronto
 - iii. New City Hall, Toronto
 - iv. St. James Anglican Church, Toronto
 - v. Fort George, Niagara-On-The-Lake (Navy Hall)
 - vi. Legislative Buildings, Toronto
 - vii. Parliament Buildings, Ottawa

4. Home District Gaol

- a. Prison history in Upper Canada
 - i. Common gaols and evolution of incarceration in Upper Canada
 - 1. Relationship of Home District Gaol with legislative institutions
 - 2. Relationship with other gaols
 - 3. Relationship of gaol with previous and future iterations
 - ii. Catchment area of Home District
 - 1. Very large, creating issues
 - 2. Relationships with outlying communities and local lock-ups
 - 3. Transportation of prisoners
 - 4. Moved to the county system in 1850
 - iii. Its relationship and contrast to penal systems of the Indigenous
 - 1. Community sanctions, bylaws and punishments; chiefs as judges
 - 2. Initial nation to nation relationship
 - 3. Change to patriarchal relationship, possibly early 1800's
- b. Design and Construction of Home District Gaol
 - i. Siting
 - ii. Design and layout
 - 1. Design by Howard
 - 2. Design concept and philosophy (panopticon)
 - iii. Materials
 - iv. Construction of building & Jail Yard
 - 1. Builder
- c. Penal system of the mid 1800's
 - i. Crimes and punishments
 - 1. Prevailing penal philosophies of this era
 - 2. Typical crimes and punishments meriting incarceration in gaol (criminal code)
 - ii. Legal Systems
 - 1. Legal system of local magistrate vs appellate courts
 - 2. Punishments issued by courts but meted by jail service
 - iii. Relationship of gaol to other countries (such as Tasmania, Port Arthur)

- iv. Record keeping
 - 1. Documentation methods, questions and categories
- v. Reflection of society values at the time
- vi. Relationship with other institutions (police force) and places (cemeteries)
- d. Demographics of prisoners
 - i. Young offenders
 - 1. Juvenile delinquency and types of crimes
 - ii. Women prisoners
 - 1. Prostitution and the law
 - iii. The poor (debtors)
 - iv. Mentally ill
 - v. Political dissidents
 - 1. Participants in the 1837 Rebellion
 - vi. Relationship to upper Canada and York demographics
 - 1. Rapid population growth at the time of the gaol
- e. Discrimination
 - i. Against Irish and blacks
- f. Development of welfare state and start of prison reforms
 - i. Jail services were overwhelmed
- g. Prison life
 - i. Gaolers, gaolers' families & turnkeys
 - ii. The prisoners
 - 1. Length of stays
 - 2. Living and food arrangements and conditions
 - 3. Hard labour
 - a. City use of inmate labour
- h. Potential Linkages
 - i. Don Jail, Toronto
 - ii. Osgoode Hall, Toronto
 - iii. Kingston Penitentiary, Kingston
 - iv. CAMH, Toronto

5. Consumers' Gas

- a. Development of coal gasification industry
 - i. History of gas lamp lighting
 - 1. Gas lamps fixtures
 - 2. Infrastructure piping network
 - 3. Spread from/to other cities and countries
 - 4. Its impact on society and street life
 - ii. Changing technologies of this period
 - 1. Industrial innovations of gas extraction
 - a. Coal gasification
 - b. Water gas process
 - c. Materials & Resource acquisition (supply chain, see also impact to industries)
 - i. Coal, oil and water for gas production
 - ii. Lime for purification
 - d. Gas production processes

- 3. Conditions of work
 - iii. Labour history
 - 1. Factory work
 - 2. Risks, such as injuries, deaths and accidents
- f. Notable figures
 - i. First president was Charles Albert Berczy (first postmaster)
 - ii. James Austin and son Albert Austin had stints as president
- g. Potential linkages
 - i. The remaining consumers gas buildings (police 51 and COC opera), Toronto
 - ii. Consumers Gas headquarters at Toronto Street (19 Toronto St), Toronto
 - iii. Spadina House (Austin connection), Toronto
 - iv. First post office (Adelaide St, Berczy connection), Toronto
 - v. Oil Springs, Ontario (First Commercial Oil Field National Historic Site) – [Consumers gas needed raw material for Lowe water gas process]
 - vi. New City Gas Company building, 950 Rue Ottawa, Montreal
 - vii. Federal Coal Storage (east on Front Street) – gasworks supplied ammonia to them, Toronto
 - viii. Canada Iron Foundry (south near the Lake) – gasworks supplied gas to them, Toronto

6. Railways

- a. Impact on industry and changing landscapes
 - i. Relationship to Consumers' Gas
- b. Transportation technologies
 - i. Wharf and harbour access
 - ii. Railway innovations
 - iii. Shipping industries
 - iv. Horse-drawn transportation
- c. Railway development & shoreline impacts
 - i. Esplanade railway corridor
 - ii. TN & G terminus depot south of Consumers Gas
 - iii. Railway innovation
 - 1. Narrow gauge railways by TN & G
 - iv. Relationship between early railway corridors and current configuration
- d. Environmental Impacts
 - i. Land contamination
 - ii. Land reclamations and infills
 - 1. Extension of shoreline
 - 2. Burying of natural features – Taddle creek
 - 3. Construction technologies for land reclamation
- e. Notable Figures
 - i. George Laidlaw
 - ii. Gooderham Family
- f. Potential linkages
 - i. York-Durham Heritage Railway – tourist train trips from Uxbridge to Stouffville along the old route of TN&G line
 - ii. Union Station, Toronto
 - iii. The Roundhouse, Toronto

7. Rise of the Automobile

- a. Rise of the automobile
 - i. Expressway development
 - 1. Gardiner Expressway
 - 2. Don Valley Parkway
 - ii. Removal of railway infrastructure and its relationship to similar processes within Canada
 - iii. Public transportation around the site
- b. Neighbourhood changes
 - i. Decline of heavy industry and the rise of light industry, commercial and residential uses
 - ii. Changing demographics
 - iii. Renewal and reuse of industrial sites
- c. Redevelopment of the Site
 - i. Heritage Preservation Movement
 - 1. Early preservation movement (Canadian Club historic plaques) of bringing site into recognition
 - 2. Grassroots movements in the 1970's and 1980's of heritage preservation and its impact on the development of the site
 - 3. History of heritage advocacy
 - ii. Citizen and grassroots involvement with the rediscovery of the site
 - iii. Provincial/municipal interventions
 - 1. Impact of changing land-use policies
 - 2. Land swapping
 - iv. Archeological Discoveries
 - 1. Remnants found on site
- d. Potential linkages
 - i. Distillery District, Toronto
 - ii. Evergreen Brickworks, Toronto
 - iii. Todmorden Mills, Toronto

Appendix 8

Archaeological Investigations

1.0 Investigations

1.1 2000-2001 Investigations

In the fall of 2000, an archaeological testing program was carried out to determine if any remains of the first or second Parliament buildings had survived the various redevelopments that had occurred at the site (ASI 2001a). This work was co-ordinated by the City of Toronto's Heritage Preservation Services unit, then of the Culture Division.

Test excavations were conducted in three areas: Trench 1 was a ten metre by two metre excavation area located on the north part of the 265 Front Street East portion of the block, near the property line between 265 and 271 Front Street; Trench 2 initially was a ten metre by two metre excavation on the 25 Berkeley Street property to the west of the existing car wash and south of the truck wash, but it was later expanded in size, assuming a cross-shape; and Trench 3, also located on the 25 Berkeley Street property, was a five metre by five metre excavation north of Trench 2 and immediately south of the car wash and east of the automotive centre.

The excavation of Trench 1 revealed only modern surfacing materials, post-Consumers' Gas demolition fill, service pipes, and an underlying black oily sand. The latter was excavated to a depth of approximately 2.20 metres below grade, far exceeding the potential depth for intact Parliament era deposits.

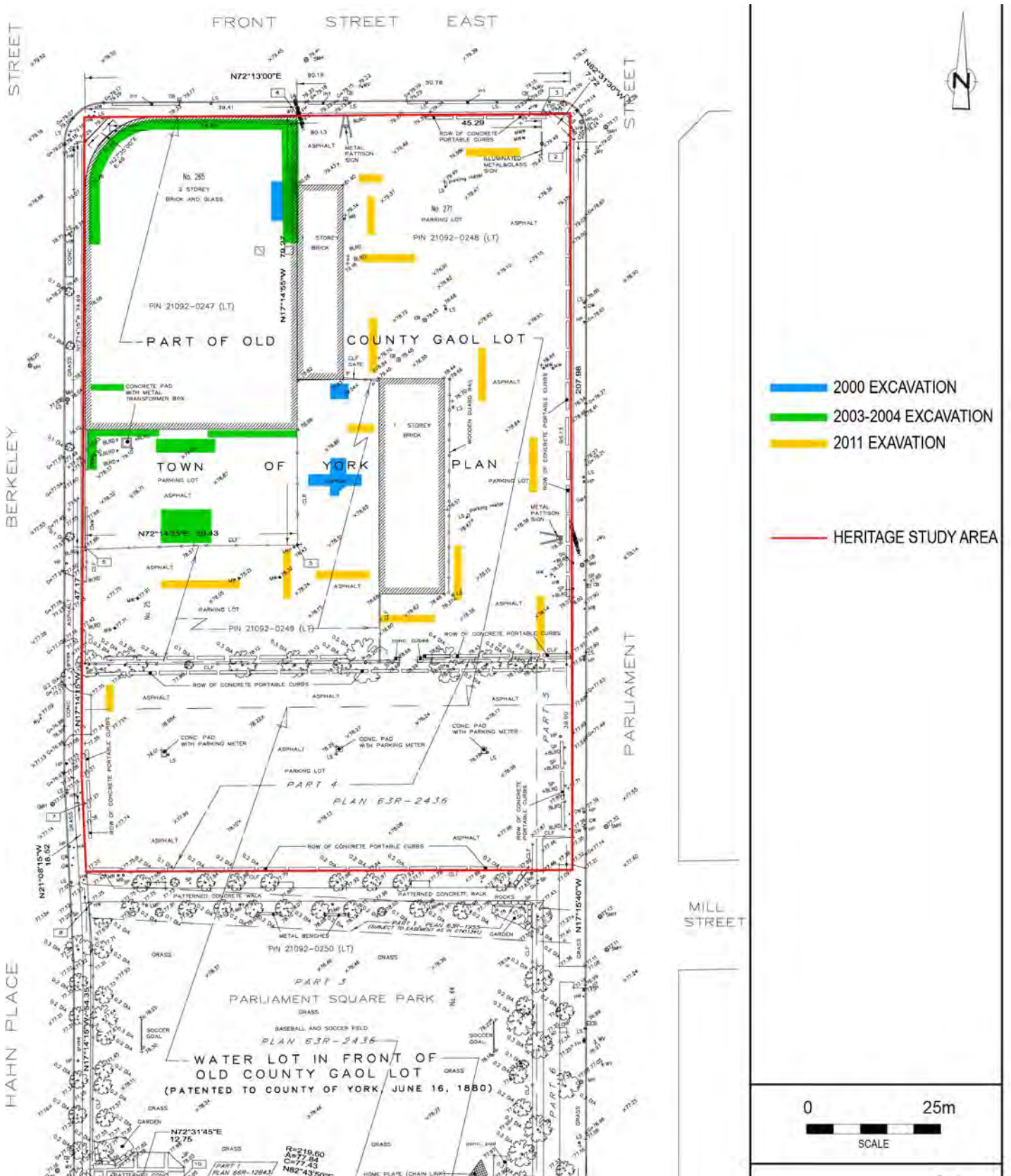
Trench 2 demonstrated that significant vestiges of the Parliament buildings survive in the central portion of the site, even though they are juxtaposed with remains of both the Consumers' Gas facilities and the Home District Gaol. In general, the

uppermost 0.40 metre of the soils in this area are fills laid down in the Consumers' Gas central yard during the later part of their tenancy or following the cessation of their operations. At greater depths, the general soil strata represent a mix of construction and demolition events, and accompanying grading and filling operations that are related to the Consumers Gas and Parliament eras and—to a lesser degree in the area that was investigated—the Home District Gaol. The majority of the in situ (non post-demolition event) remains of the Parliament building period were found at depths of between 0.60 and 0.95 metre.

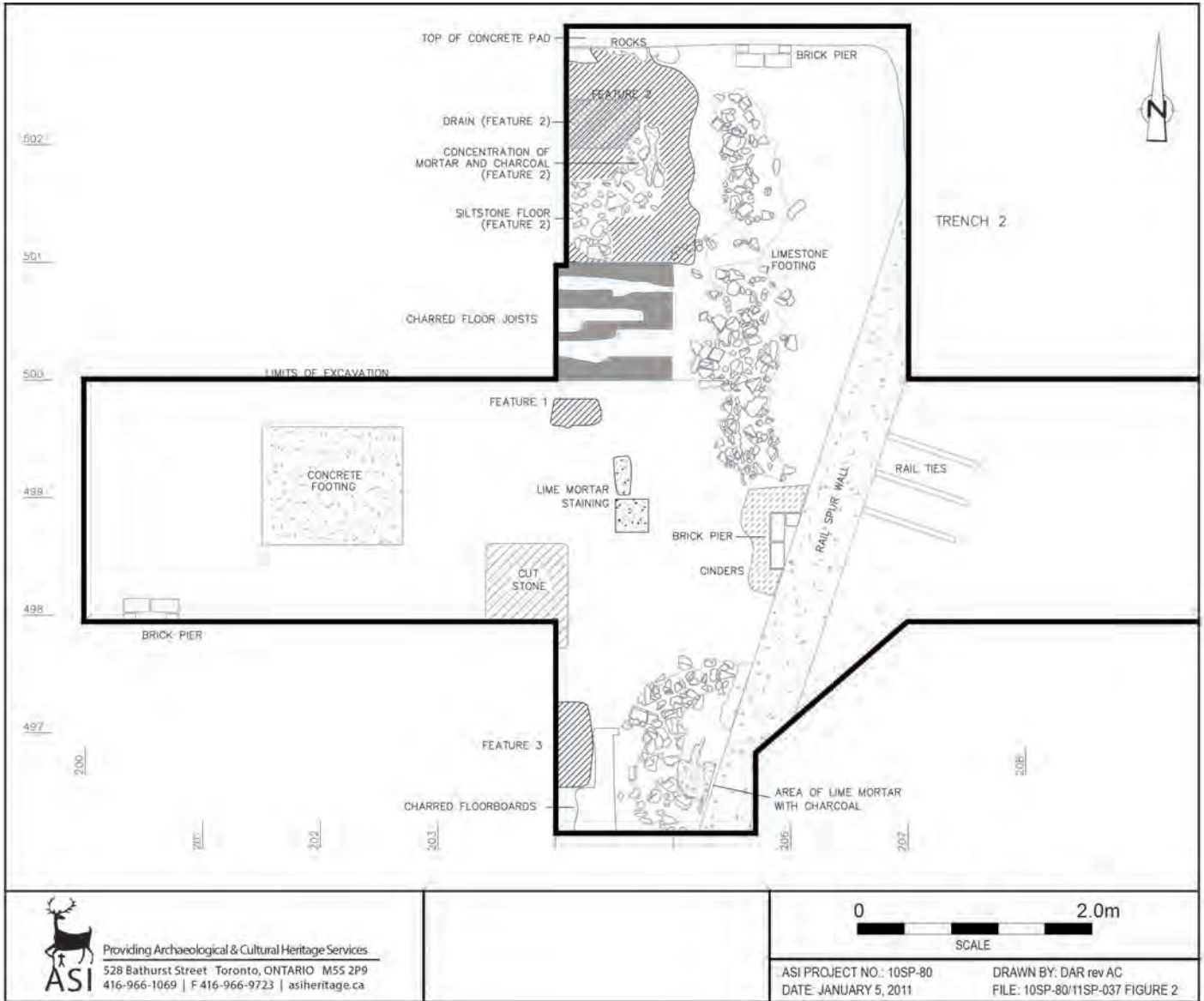
The Consumers' Gas structural features and deposits uncovered in Trench 2 consist of: a mid-twentieth century poured concrete pad; a 1920s concrete footing for a steel bent that supported the coal and coke conveyors that ran overhead across the central yard of the gas plant; a pair of brick piers from an early generation of trestles or conveyors; the west retaining wall of the sunken rail spur that traversed the central court yard; and various fill layers dominated by coal cinders and various quantities of demolition rubble and debris.

Gaol era remains were limited to architectural debris, faunal remains, including blanks for the manufacture of bone buttons, and some ceramic artifacts recovered from secondary fill contexts associated with the demolition of the prison building.

The Parliamentary period is represented by fragmented early clay bricks above a dry-laid, Gull River limestone wall footing, the charred remains of wooden floor joists and floorboards, subfloor elements such as siltstone slabs or flags, patches of lime-sand mortar and a shallow drain. These features likely make up the eastern portion of the brick Legislative Council building. The artifact assemblage from the layers associated with the Parliament era features were overwhelmingly



79. The location of previous excavations at the First Parliament site



80. Plan of the finds in the main 2000 excavation area (Trench 2).



Soil staining representing the burnt wood floor of the Parliament building



Initial exposure of the upper surface of the Parliament building dry-laid limestone footing



Investigation of part of the Parliament limestone footing, a spread of lime mortar, siltstone flooring and drain.

81. Examples of the Parliament era remains uncovered in Trench 2 in 2000.

dominated by creamware ceramics, manufactured in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Thin window glass and hand wrought nails within associated strata also provide clear evidence of the early date of those deposits.

Trench 3 yielded strata related to the Consumers' Gas construction, operations and demolitions as well as the demolition of the Gaol.

The 2000-2001 excavations were accompanied by a mapping study that was intended to predict the locations of the various structures that occupied the site between the 1790s and the 1960s, and to identify areas of potential for the survival of remains of the Parliament buildings based on an apparent absence of post-1830s construction activity, to the degree that this could be estimated based on map sources and the results of the test trenching. This analysis led to the definition of five discrete areas of potential for the survival of the remains of the brick House of Assembly building, the brick Legislative Council building to its south, the colonnade between these two structures, the two frame buildings to their east that were used as committee rooms, and the Town Blockhouse located southeast of the Parliament buildings and overlooking the shore of the lake.

1.2 2003 Stage 1-2 Archaeological Assessment: 265 Front Street East

A Stage 1-2 assessment was carried out in 2003 at 265 Front Street East, the OHT-owned property operating as a car dealership. The assessment involved the excavation of a test trench and seven boreholes in the area of an addition to the existing concrete block building on the property (ASI 2012a). The test trench, located immediately east of the 2000 Trench 1, lay outside of any of the Parliament potential zones as they had been defined in 2000-

2001. Consistent with expectations, the excavation revealed a portion of the foundation of the 1890s Consumers' Gas administration building as well as various abandoned utility lines. The boreholes encountered miscellaneous rubble or fills. No Parliament era remains were found. Despite these results the report recommended monitoring of further activities required for the construction of the building addition.

1.3 2003-2004 Archaeological Monitoring: 265 Front Street East

Construction of the addition to the building at 265 Front Street East in 2003 and 2004 was subject to archaeological monitoring (ASI 2012a, 2012b), as recommended. The work resulting in subgrade impacts involved replacing the retaining wall along the Berkeley Street frontage to the rear of the existing building, the excavation of trenches for vapour pipes near the back of the building, removal of the existing parking lot surfacing, and other minor works. The excavations encountered portions of the foundations of the west, north and east exterior wall of the Consumers' Gas retort house. These consisted of massive limestone blocks, the uppermost three courses of which were dressed and stepped. The upper surface of the foundations was found at a depth of 0.20 metre below the asphalt surface of the parking lot. In addition, there was limited exposure of portions of interior poured concrete piers and surfaces and a stone footing that is likely related to the base of one of the interior conveyors or a coke bay as identified on some of the twentieth-century mapping of the operations. No pre-Consumers' Gas era deposits were encountered.

1.4 2010-2011 Stage 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment and Stage 2-3 Archaeological Resource Assessments of 271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street

Larger scale investigations of the 271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street portions of the site were carried out in 2010-2011 in advance of the proposed redevelopment of these two properties. Prior to any excavations, the 2000-2001 historical mapping exercise was repeated and involved some minor refinements to Parliament potential zones through consideration of some additional map sources and re-evaluation of some of the maps used in the original study. A Third Home District Gaol potential zone, which was not a major focus of the 2000-2001 study, was defined in a similar fashion. It overlapped with the Parliament potential zone to a considerable extent, but is somewhat larger.

The on-site investigations began with a Ground-Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey, focused on the areas of greatest potential for the presence of Parliamentary era structural remains. It was not successful in identifying any such features due to the complexity and intensity of alterations resulting from the construction and subsequent demolitions of both the Third Home District Gaol and the Consumers' Gas facilities (ASI 2012c).

A large-scale test trench strategy was then developed, targeting specific Parliament, Gaol and Consumers' Gas Station A features. Twenty-two trenches were excavated, thirteen of which primarily were oriented to Parliament remains. All of the trenches revealed large-scale fill layers, built surfaces, services and/or structural remains associated with the Consumers' Gas operations. Deposits associated with the Gaol, including both intact and robbed out sections of masonry foundations, were documented in four trenches.

Parliamentary era deposits were found in two trenches, both of which were located in the immediate vicinity of Trench 2 excavated in 2000. These consisted of part of a probable robbed out structural feature, thin layers of construction and demolition fill and an original ground surface. The location of the Town Blockhouse was found to have been completely destroyed by later landscape alterations related to lake filling operations carried out in advance of railway development along the lake shore (ASI 2012c).

The results of the 2010-2011 test excavations resulted in further refinement of the Parliament and Gaol potential zones, most notably a reduction in the size of the Parliament zone.

1.5 Stage 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment of 44 Parliament Street

The Stage 1 Archaeological Resource Assessment of 44 Parliament Street was carried out as part of a Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment of the property, together with 271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street. This research concluded that there is no potential for the survival of remains associated with the Parliament site or the Town Blockhouse. However, it identified the probability that vestiges of the 1870s turntable and engine house built by the Toronto and Nipissing Railway and later used by the Midland and Grand Trunk railways survive on the property and recommended that any future large-scale excavation for the purposes of environmental remediation and/or redevelopment of 44 Parliament Street be accompanied by archaeological monitoring and documentation.

2.0 Archaeological Resources

This section describes the known and potential archaeological resources on the site.

2.1 Indigenous Occupations

The shoreline that existed at the time of the founding of the Town of York in 1793 was comparatively young, having stabilized only a few millennia earlier. Thus, the shifting water levels of Lake Ontario are likely to have destroyed or submerged evidence of occupations along the shoreline in the Toronto waterfront area prior to circa 3,000 years ago. Moreover, the intensity of nineteenth- and twentieth-century land use in the study area is likely to have destroyed or dispersed the comparatively ephemeral archaeological deposits left by the circa 1,000 BCE-1700 CE precontact occupations of the area. No Indigenous archaeological resources have been documented within the study area, which encompasses the shore cliffs and tablelands to the immediate north and an embayment that had formed behind a sand spit on the west side of Taddle Creek where it emptied into Lake Ontario.

Limited indications of Middle and Late Woodland period occupations (circa 400 BCE- 800 CE and 800-1600 CE respectively) were found at the nineteenth-century Thornton Blackburn and Smith-Barber sites at the corner of Cherry Street and Eastern Avenue (ARC 1986; ASI 2011), approximately 500 metres northeast of the study area. These artifacts were found in secondary contexts such as landscape fills.

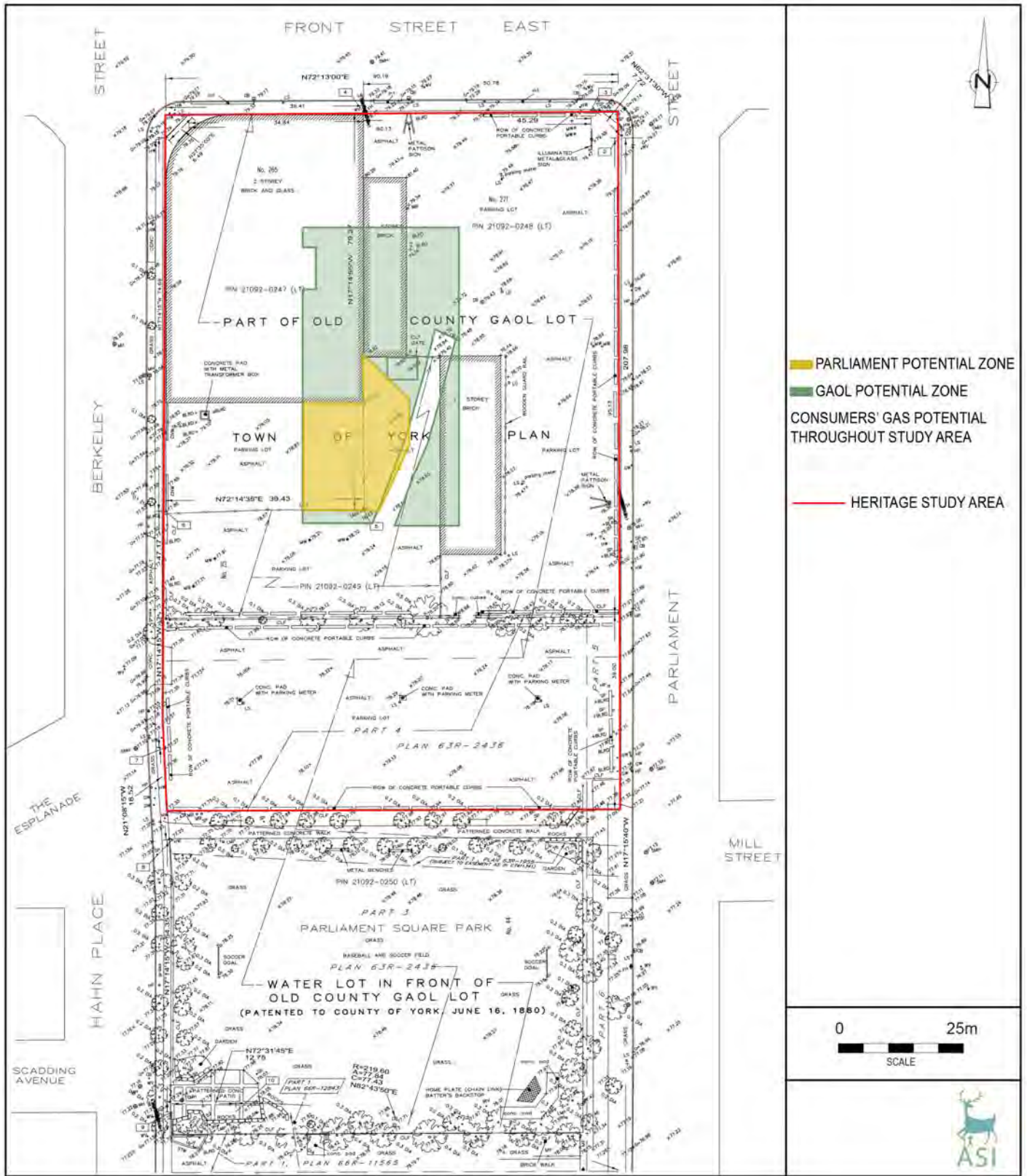
It is possible that Indigenous artifacts may be present in some stratigraphic contexts within the Parliament era potential zone within the central portion of the study area, encompassing parts of 265 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street. These deposits are not continuous throughout the Parliament era potential zone.

A limited deposit of organic silty loam, interpreted as a relict A-horizon soil (Layer 7) was identified in Trench 2 during the 2000 test excavations (ASI 2001a). The same soil stratum, or one very similar to it in terms of composition and character, was identified in Trench 11-15 during the 2011 test excavations, and was designated Lot 89 (ASI 2012c). The upper surfaces of these deposits were recorded at ± 78.30 -77.95 m ASL and measured up to 0.30 m in thickness. There is also potential for the survival of features (pits, posts, etc.) cut into the B-horizon where the upper components of this natural geological deposit have not been truncated by later grade alterations.

2.2 The Parliament Era (1797-1824)

The 2000-2001 and 2010-2011 test excavations on the 271 Front and 25 Berkeley properties, in combination, indicate that any remains of the Parliament era use of the site, in the form of structural/architectural elements, cut features, natural or prepared ground surfaces, fill deposits laid down during construction or demolition events, etc. are confined to an approximately 150m² area in the northeast portion of 25 Berkeley Street. No detailed investigations have been undertaken at 265 Front Street. In the absence of such, the potential zone is defined as an approximately 350 m² area, bounded to the west by the footprint of the Consumers' Gas retort house. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, the potential zone includes the area underneath the floor slab of the existing 265 Front Street building.

While subsurface conditions may be expected to vary dramatically over the space of very short distances, within this potential zone, such that Parliamentary remains are not likely to be distributed uniformly or continuously throughout, it is concluded that any activity that would result in subsurface alterations below ± 78.30 m ASL



82. The Parliament and Gaol potential zones based on map analysis and archaeological findings.

would have adverse impacts on the surviving archaeological resources associated with the First Parliament buildings. Current surface grade in this area is ± 78.70 - 78.90 m ASL within the Parliament potential zone area on the 25 Berkeley and 265 Front properties.

There is no potential for the survival of remains of the Town Blockhouse, located to the southeast of the Parliament buildings. During the 2010-2011 project, a test trench in the estimated location of the structure revealed grading fills to ± 75.00 m ASL, at which point C-horizon/Sunnybrook Till was encountered. Given that 75.00 m ASL is approximately the mean elevation of the lake plane, it is clear that the landform on which the block house stood has been completely removed. This down cutting of the shoreline cliffs, on the part of the railways during the construction of the Esplanade and related works, has been in documented in other locations (ASI 2001b; 2012d, 2013; cf. McIlwraith 1991).

2.3 The Home District Gaol Era (1838-1879)

The previous investigations have led to the definition of a Gaol era potential zone measuring approximately 1500 m² and encompassing portions of the 265 and 271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street properties and incorporates much of the central block and the south and northwest wings of prison building, part of its west yard or compound, which was presumably walled, and the main entrance to the complex from Front Street (ASI 2012c).

There is considerable overlap between the Gaol and Parliament potential zones. Secondary and primary deposits associated with the Gaol period are found at elevations comparable to the Parliament remains, but extend to much greater depths. Extension of the

± 78.30 m ASL Parliament threshold throughout the Gaol potential zone will result in protection of the resources associated with this period of the site's use as well.

2.4 The Railway Era (1855-1965)

The 44 Parliament Street property was created during the construction of The Esplanade in order to facilitate the growing railway systems along the shore of Toronto Harbour in the 1850s. This work was accomplished through a campaign of lake filling behind a continuous crib wall built along the broken front of the original shore. With the exception of one trench excavated in 2011 in the extreme northwest corner of the property in the attempt to identify remains of the Town Block House, no archaeological testing has been carried out on the property.

The primary features of significance that stood on the property were a turntable and engine house as well as freight sheds, originally constructed by the Toronto and Nipissing Railway, circa 1870. By 1893, these facilities had been cleared and the property was covered by rail tracks, including spur lines servicing the Consumers' Gas Station A plant to the immediate north. There is also a possibility that elements of piling or cribbing systems related to the original landmaking process, and perhaps also the channelization of Taddle Creek through the area, may be present.

In the absence of any data concerning subsurface conditions and the survival or distribution of these potential archaeological resources, comparison may be made with the Queen's Wharf Station site, located to the east of Fort York (ASI 2012d). This complex occupied a block of made land that is contemporary with the 44 Parliament Street property. The surviving upper limit of the original made ground at the Queen's Wharf station was found at ± 77.50 m ASL, generally consistent with period cross-section drawings through the area

prepared by the military, which show that fills were to be laid down to a height of approximately two metres above the lake waters. The upper surfaces of the remnants of the various masonry and timber crib structures making up the site generally stood at ± 76.90 m ASL or less, but this is a less reliable indicator of potential sensitivities at 44 Parliament as it is more directly related to the site formation processes at work following the decommissioning of the Queen's Wharf Station, which may not necessarily have been the same at 44 Parliament. Current surface grade at 44 Parliament ranges from ± 77.30 to 78.30 m ASL. For planning purposes it is suggested that any proposed impacts below 77.0 m ASL have the potential to impact remains of nineteenth-century railway complex and related shore line engineering features on the 44 Parliament Street property.



83. Archaeological remains of an 1871 railway turntable documented in Ottawa. Photo courtesy of Jeff Earle, Past Recovery Archaeological Services Inc.

2.5 The Consumers' Gas Era (1879-1964)

The remains of Consumers' Gas Station A are ubiquitous throughout the 265-271 Front Street East and 25 Berkeley Street properties. Known and potential elements include: architectural remnants of the circa 1883-1884 coal shed built along the east side of the site; the circa 1888-1889 retort house and stores building on the west side of the site; the office building, first built in the early 1890s along Front Street, but completely rebuilt in 1899; a small frame scale house; footings, piers and pits related to coal and coke conveying and processing equipment; a subgrade rail spur; pavements; subsurface services; etc. Many elements are found immediately below the granulars underlying the asphalt surfacing, as high as ± 79.35 - 78.50 m ASL, across the various portions of the site. Current surface grade ranges from ± 78.70 to 79.10 m ASL on the 25 Berkeley property, between ± 78.30 and 79.10 m ASL on the 265 Front property, and from ± 78.15 to 79.60 m ASL on the 271 Front property.

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Figures

1. Plan of York (George Phillpotts, 1818), courtesy of City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 200, Series 725, Item 90. Illustrating First Parliament and the Town of York.
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11. Letter from Thomas Ross, Kingston, to the Mayor (1842), courtesy of City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 200, Series 1081, Item 882. It is a petition for a man's admittance into the lunatic asylum rather than the common gaol.
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24. Plan of Toronto Harbour with the rocks, shoals, and soundings thereof (Joseph Bouchette, 1792), courtesy of City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 200, Series 726, Item 1. Illustrating "Indian Hut" identified near the mouth of the Don River.
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35. Drawing of Ontario's First Parliament Buildings, 1796-1813 (John Ross Robertson, ca.1910), courtesy of City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1231, Item 2076
36. Sketch of the ground in advance of and including York, Upper Canada", (George Williams, 1813), courtesy of Library and Archives Canada, H2/440/Toronto/1813, NMC 22819. Extract illustrating 10-block town-site and Parliament Buildings.
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38. Third Home District Gaol (Frederic Victor Poole, ca.1880), courtesy of Toronto Public Library, Baldwin Collection, JRR 713 Cab
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41. Consumers' Gas Station "A" (ca.1950), courtesy of Toronto Sun collection, M. Filey
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46. Plan of 916 1/4 acres, in the Township of York in Upper Canada (William Chewett, 1802), courtesy of Toronto Public Library, Baldwin Collection, Ms1889.1.6
47. York (olim Toronto), the intended Capitol of Upper Canada, As it Appeared in the Autumn of 1803 (Edward Walsh, 1803),
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49. Plan shewing the survey of part of the Park East of the Town of York (Office of the Surveyor General, 1830), courtesy of Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Plan Ref: SR6469 Y P10-14
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52. Toronto in 1849 (attributed to Edmond Wyly Grier, undated), courtesy of Toronto Public Library, Baldwin Collection, JRR 341 Fra
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57. Coal Conveyors (Consumers' Gas Company Ltd., ca.1923), courtesy of City of Toronto Archives, Fonds 1034, Item 764
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63. Aerial Photograph of Toronto (31), 1963 (Northway Photomap, 1963), courtesy of Northway/Photomap/Remote Sensing Ltd.
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65. Front St. E, looking west from Parliament Street", (Don Ritchie, 1973), courtesy of Toronto Public Library, Baldwin Collection, RG 230-5
66. View of the north half of 271 Front Street East, facing west (Don Ritchie, 1973), courtesy of Toronto Public Library, Baldwin Collection, RG 230-3
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