

Market Lane Park Improvements

Community Workshop #1

The Planning Partnership

ERA Architects

Two Row Architect

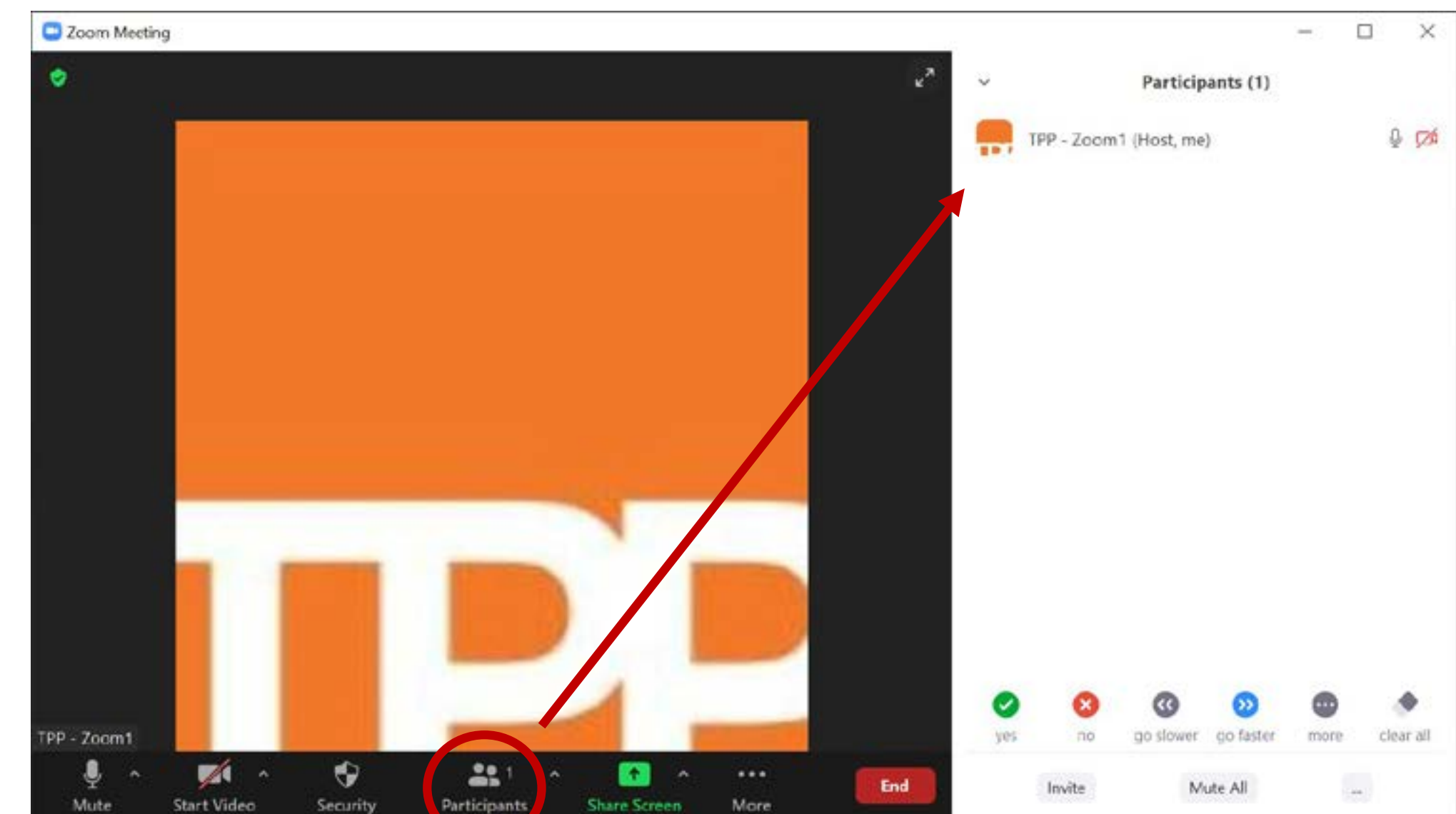
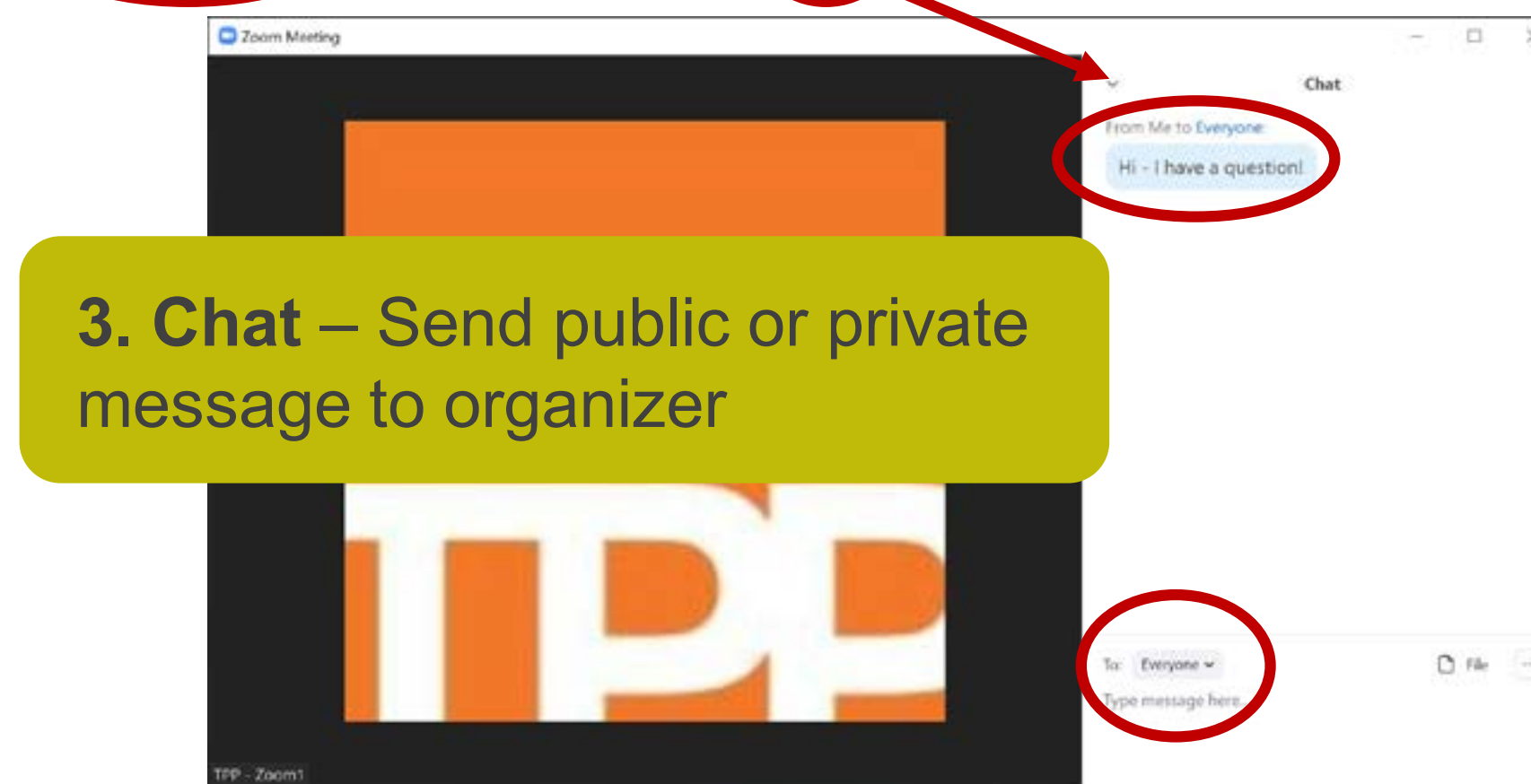
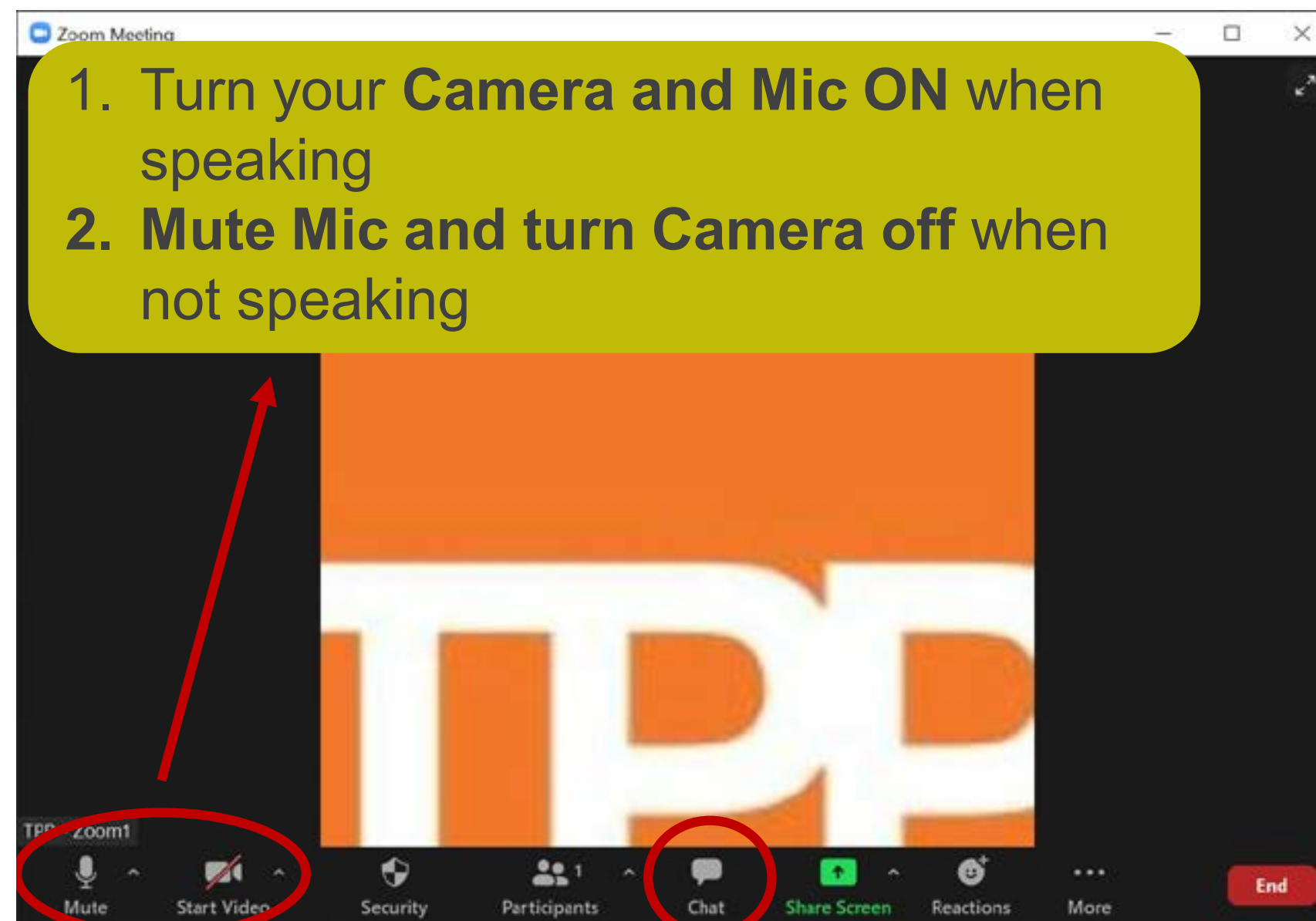
June 29, 2021



Welcome to the Meeting

Some quick tips for a better meeting:

- › Close other programs on your computer
- › Take a minute to get familiar with the options / controls



Agenda and Overview

Land Acknowledgement

Introductions

Stakeholders

Overview and Timeline

History and Context

Early Observations

Examples of Great Linear Parks

Draft Vision, Principles and Big Moves

Key Issues and opportunities

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the land and water we are meeting on are territories shared by many nations for thousands of years 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 peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is a part of Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit and the Dish with One Spoon Wampum.

Stakeholders

City of Toronto

Parks Forestry and Recreation

Transportation Services

Indigenous Affairs Office

**Economic Development and
Culture**

St. Lawrence Market

Corporate Services

Heritage Planning

CreateTO

Neighbourhood

**St. Lawrence Neighbourhood
Association**

**St. Lawrence Market
Neighbourhood BIA**

**Market Square Condominium - 85
Front St. E. and 35 Church St.**

Adjoining Property Owners

Objectives

Scope of Work:

To improve Market Lane Park through a design and construction process that responds to heritage, maintains pedestrian connectivity from King Street to Front Street, connects with the new St. Lawrence North building, integrates Indigenous place-keeping, and enhances park amenities. It will re imagine the fountain and integrate the Return of the Magri-Stecchi public art feature.

The design will evolve through consultation with stakeholders, area residents, Indigenous communities and the general public to achieve design excellence and meet the current and future needs of the community.



Timeline

Master Plan

Develop a park master plan based on the community vision

Spring-Winter 2021

Design

Develop a design based on the park's master plan

Spring-Summer 2022

Build

Build the park based on the design

Summer 2022-2023

Phase 1

Background & Analysis

Phase 2

Consultation and Concept Design

Phase 3

Detailed Design Development

Phase 4

Contract Documentation

Phase 5

Tender

Phase 6

Construction Administration

Phase 7

Close Out

Overview of Consultation

Community Engagement

Phase 1 Background Review, Site Investigation and Analysis

Spring-Summer 2021



TAC

May 26



IWG

May

One-on-one
conversations

May

Topic focused
discussions and
interviews

May
June

Phase 2A Vision, Principles and Big Moves

Summer 2021



TAC



IWG



CRG

June
15

Indigenous
Placekeeping
Circle

late
June

Public
Workshop 1

Vision, Principles
and Big Moves

June
29

Online Survey

Phase 2B Concept Options

Fall 2021



TAC



IWG



CRG

Indigenous
Placekeeping
Circle

mid
Sept

Public
Workshop 2

Discuss Concept
Options

mid
Sept



POPUP

Online Survey

Phase 2C Preferred Concept Design

Winter 2021 - Spring 2022



TAC



IWG



CRG

Indigenous
Placekeeping
Circle

early
Jan

Public
Workshop 3

Preferred
Concept

mid
Jan



POPUP

Online Surveys

Consultation and Engagement -

Will be consulting with many audiences:

- **residents**
- **business owners**
- **Indigenous communities**
- **institutional/cultural groups/agencies**
- **community groups**
- **vulnerable communities**
- **local service providers focused on indigenous community**

using many tools including:

- **conversations through online meetings, telephone calls, email and face-to-face (workshops, meetings, pop up) when we are allowed**
- **online surveys**
- **information sharing through mail outs, webpage, social media**

Consultation and Engagement - Indigenous Place-keeping

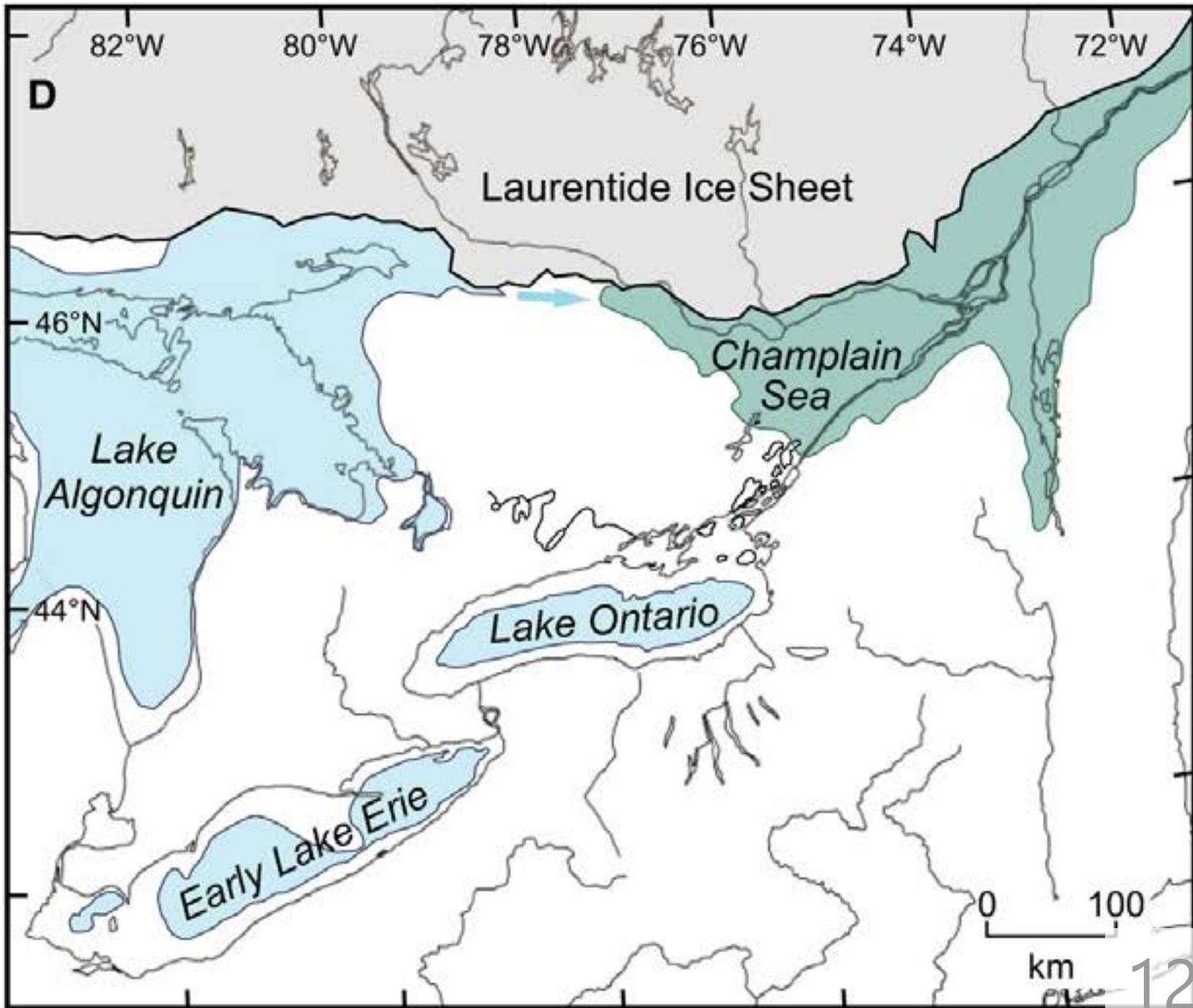
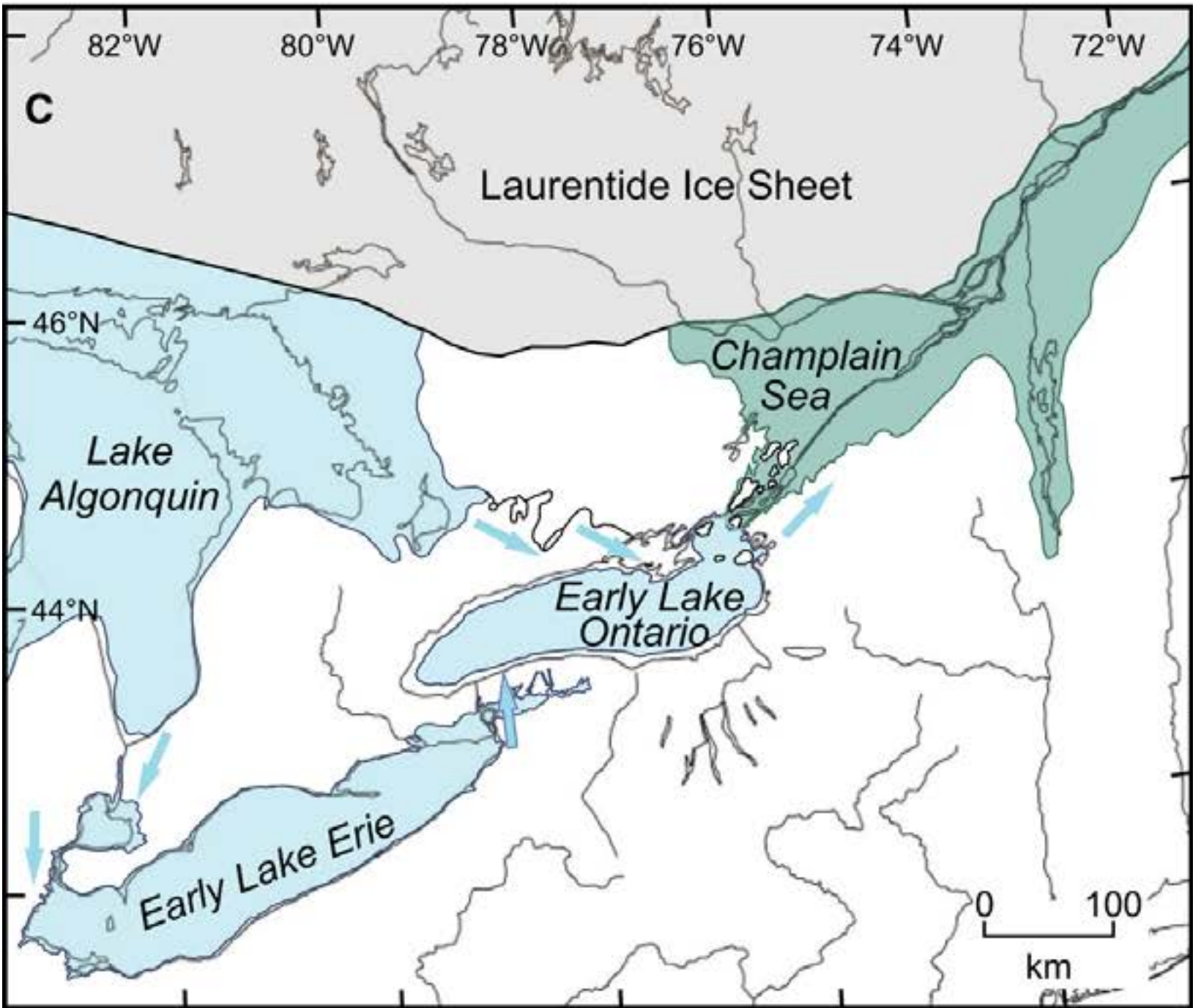
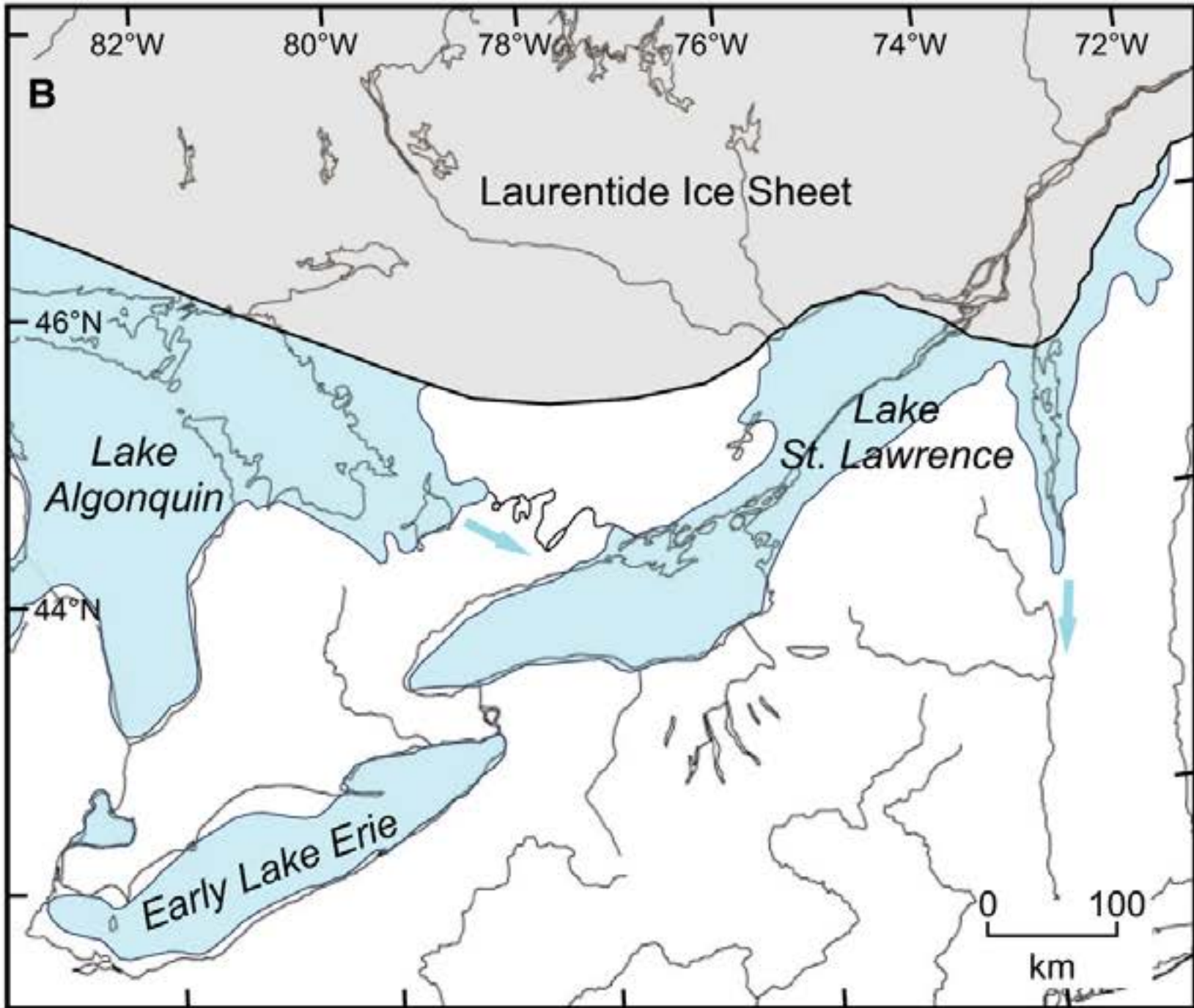
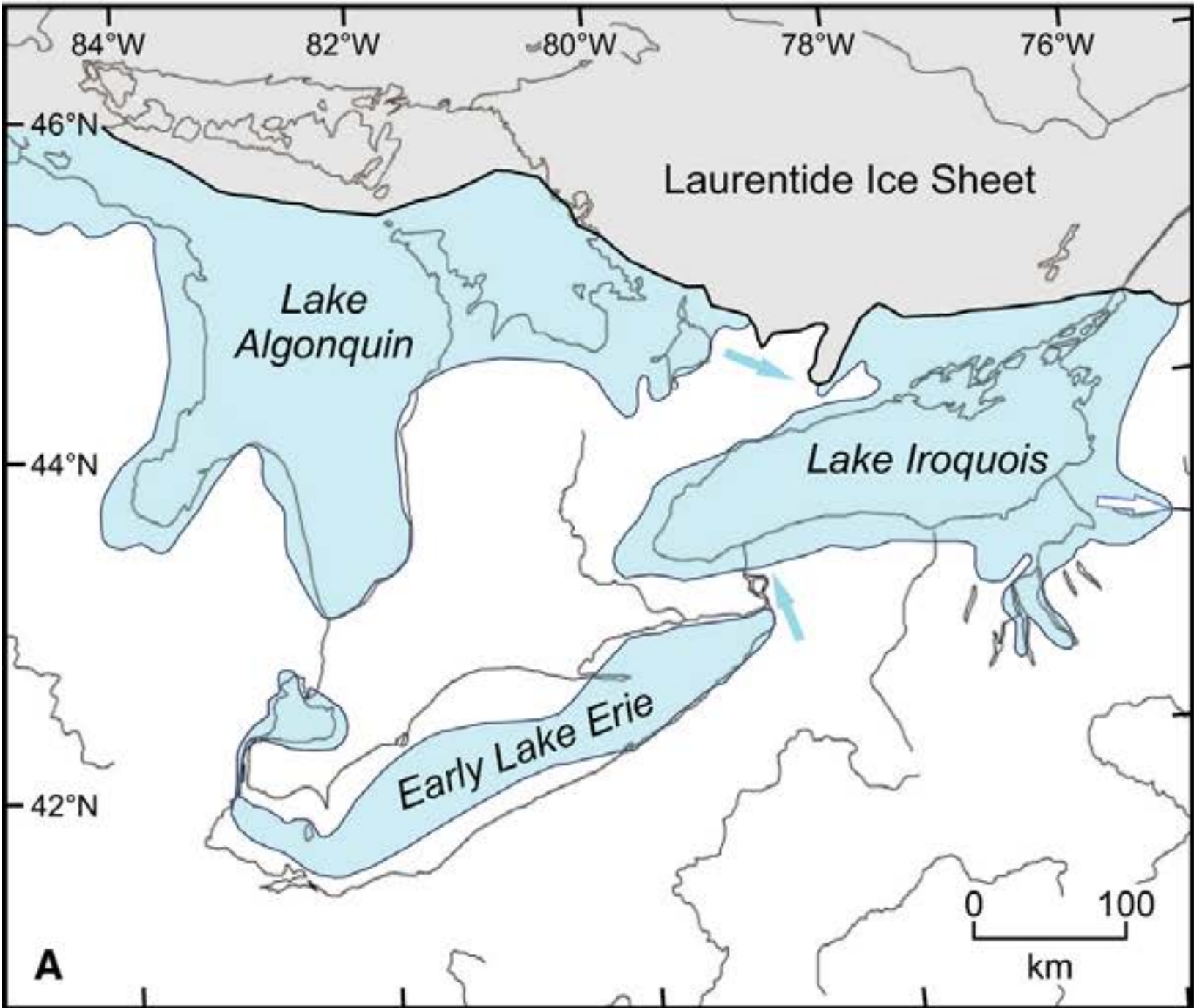
Small group conversations with local service providers, including:

- Nishnawbe Homes
- Council Fire Native Cultural Centre
- Anishnawbe Health
- Miziwe Biik
- Native Child and Family Services
- Toronto Aboriginal Support Services Council
- Native Women's Resource Centre
- Native Canadian Cultural Centre
- Toronto Inuit Association
- Toronto and York Region Metis Council
- Two Spirit People of Toronto
- ENAGB (youth agency)
- Association for Native Development in the Performing and Visual Arts
- Toronto Arts Council - Indigenous Arts

Integrating Indigenous Place-keeping in City parks is an important City initiative to recognize and honour the Indigenous historical presence on this land, and the contemporary diverse Indigenous community in the City.

History and Context

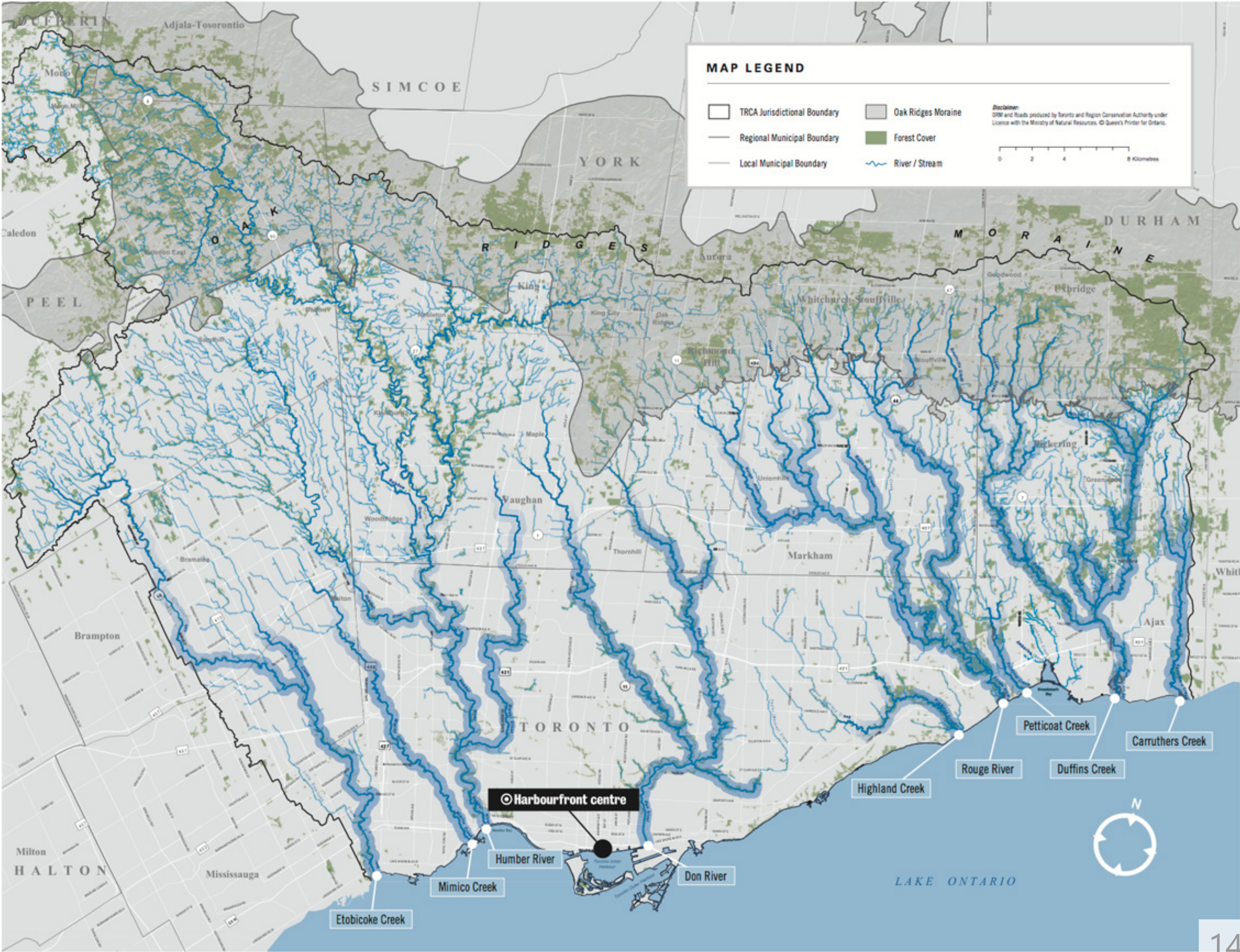
GLACIATION + LANDSCAPE



ROUTES OF TRADE + TRAVEL



ROUTES OF TRADE + TRAVEL

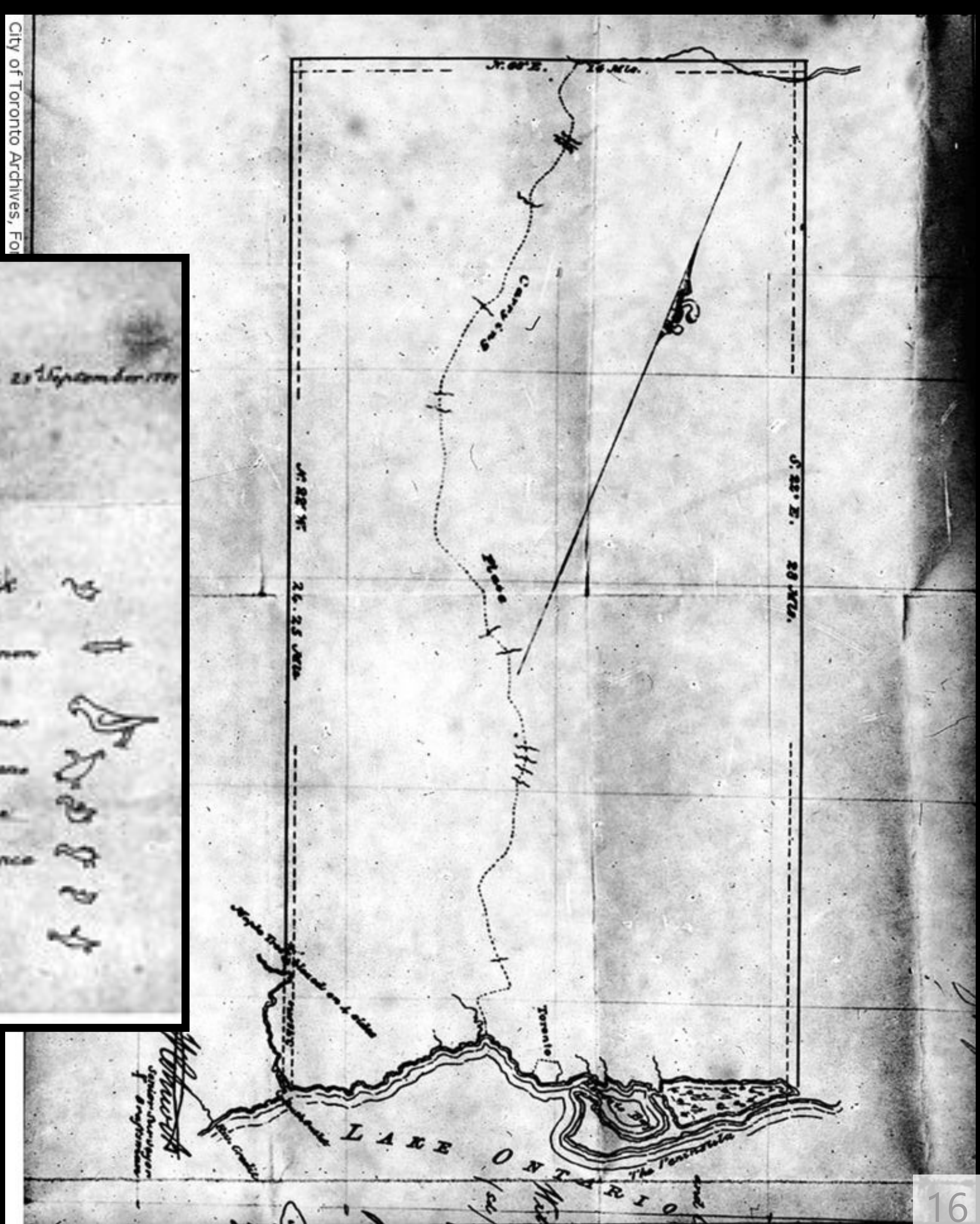


THE NAMING OF TKARONTO

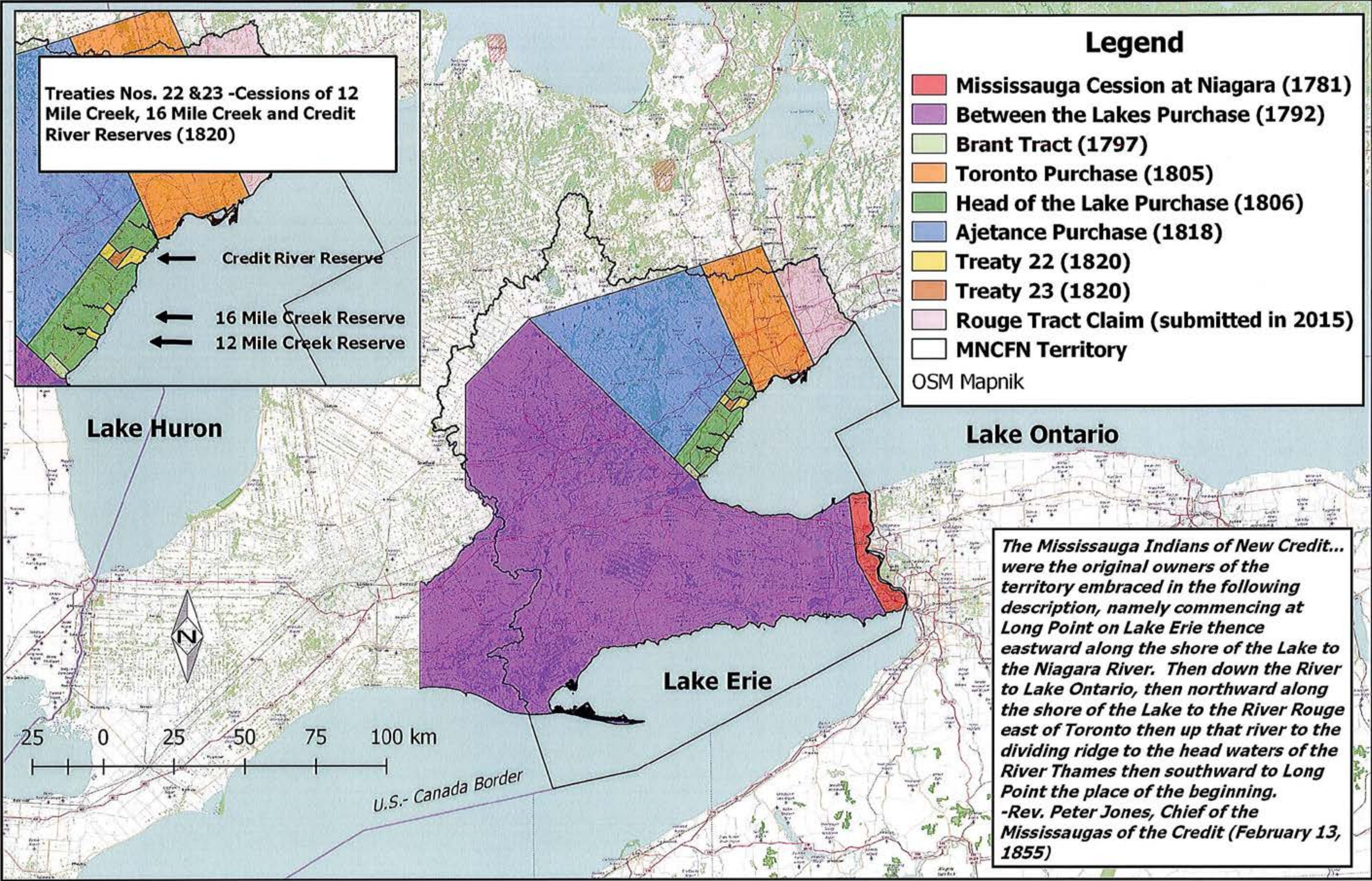
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TORONTO PURCHASE



TRADE +
THE MARKET



Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation Land Cessions 1781-1820 and Rouge Tract Claim, 2015

THE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD

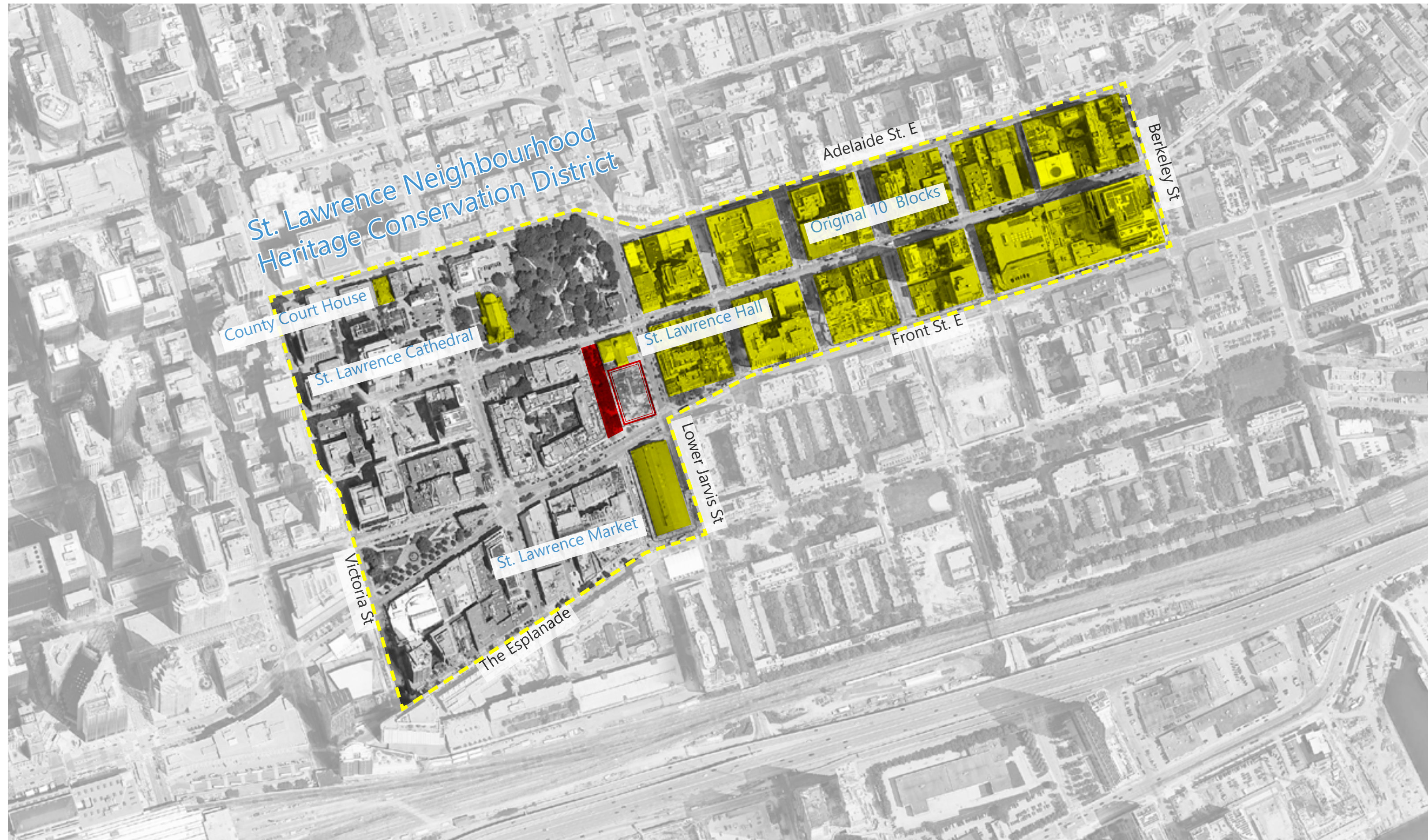


CONTEMPORARY URBAN INDIGENOUS

- ANISHNAWBE HEALTH TORONTO
- MIZIWI BIIK
- NISHNAWBE HOMES INC.
- COUNCIL FIRE
- TORONTO ABORIGINAL SUPPORT SERVICES
- NATIVE CANADIAN CENTRE OF TORONTO
- NATIVE CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES TORONTO
- ONTARIO FEDERATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
- ABORIGINAL BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTRE
- ABORIGINAL LEGAL SERVICES
- NATIVE WOMEN’S RESOURCE CENTRE
- OJIBIKAAN INDIGENOUS CULTURAL CENTRE
- FIRST NATIONS HOUSE
- METIS TRAINING INITIATIVES
- WIGWAMEN HOUSING
- URBAN INDIGENOUS EDUCATION CENTRE



Site Context



Land Evolution

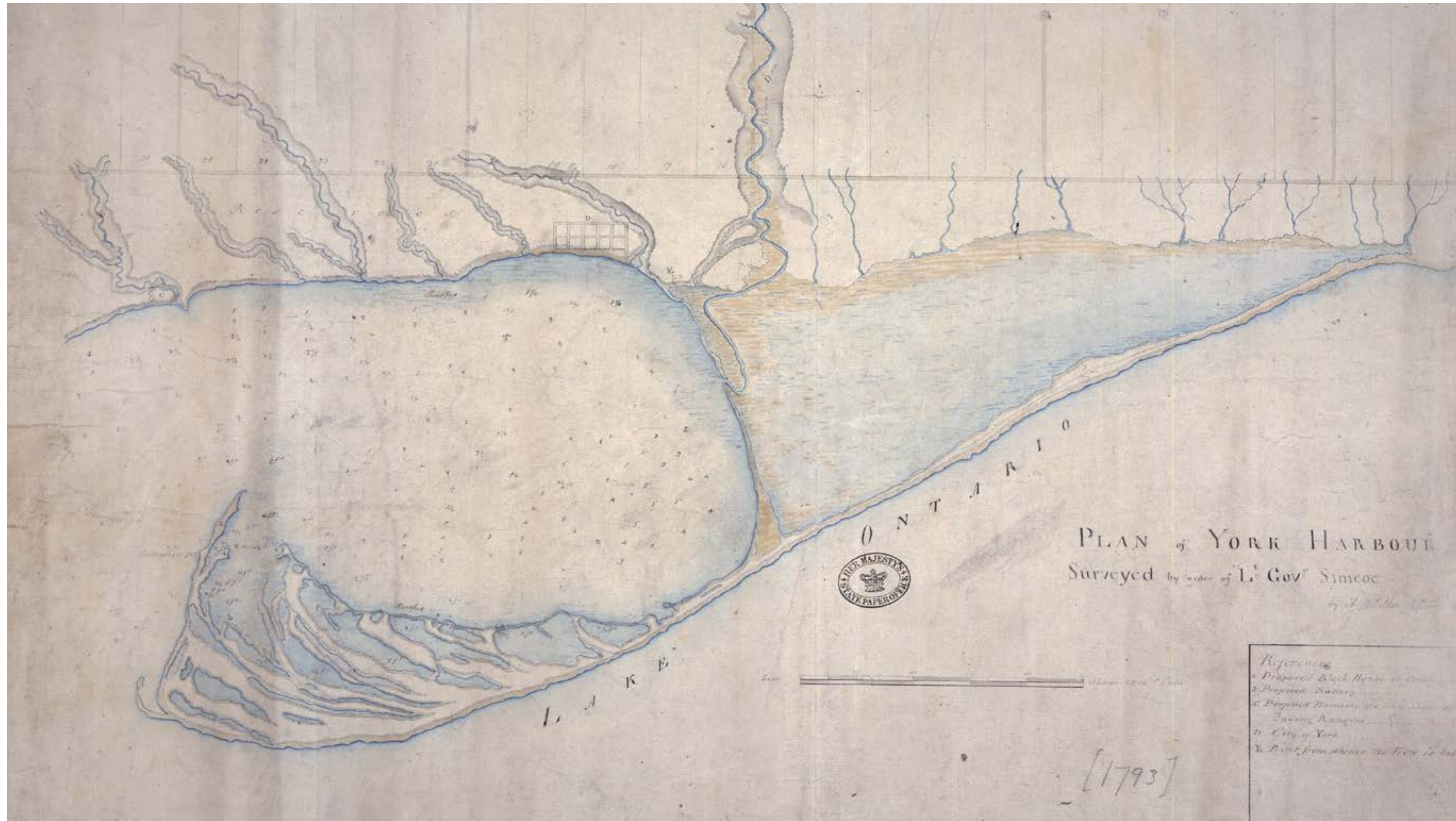
Lake Iroquois - c. 13,000 BP



Lake Ontario - c. 3,000 BP

Toronto Scarp - c. 12,000 BP

Land Evolution



Land Evolution



Market Block

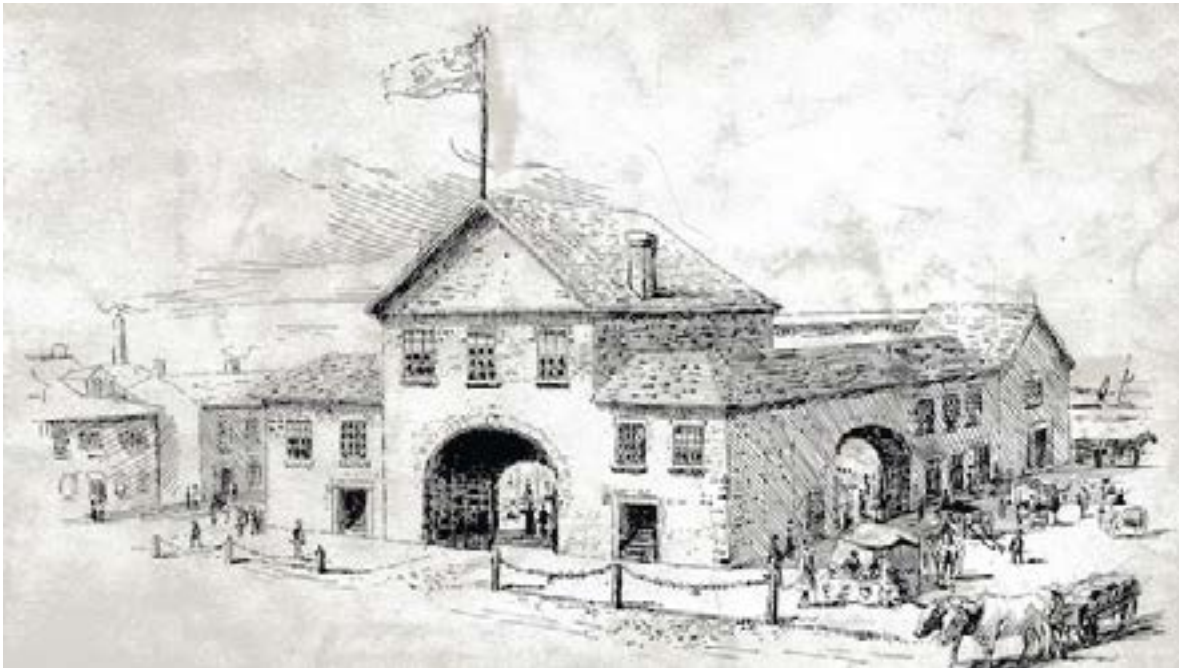


Market Square

1803- 1850



1803 - 1831



1833 - 1850

Market Street

1850 - 1968



1850 - 1903



1903 - 1968

Market Lane Park

1969 - Present



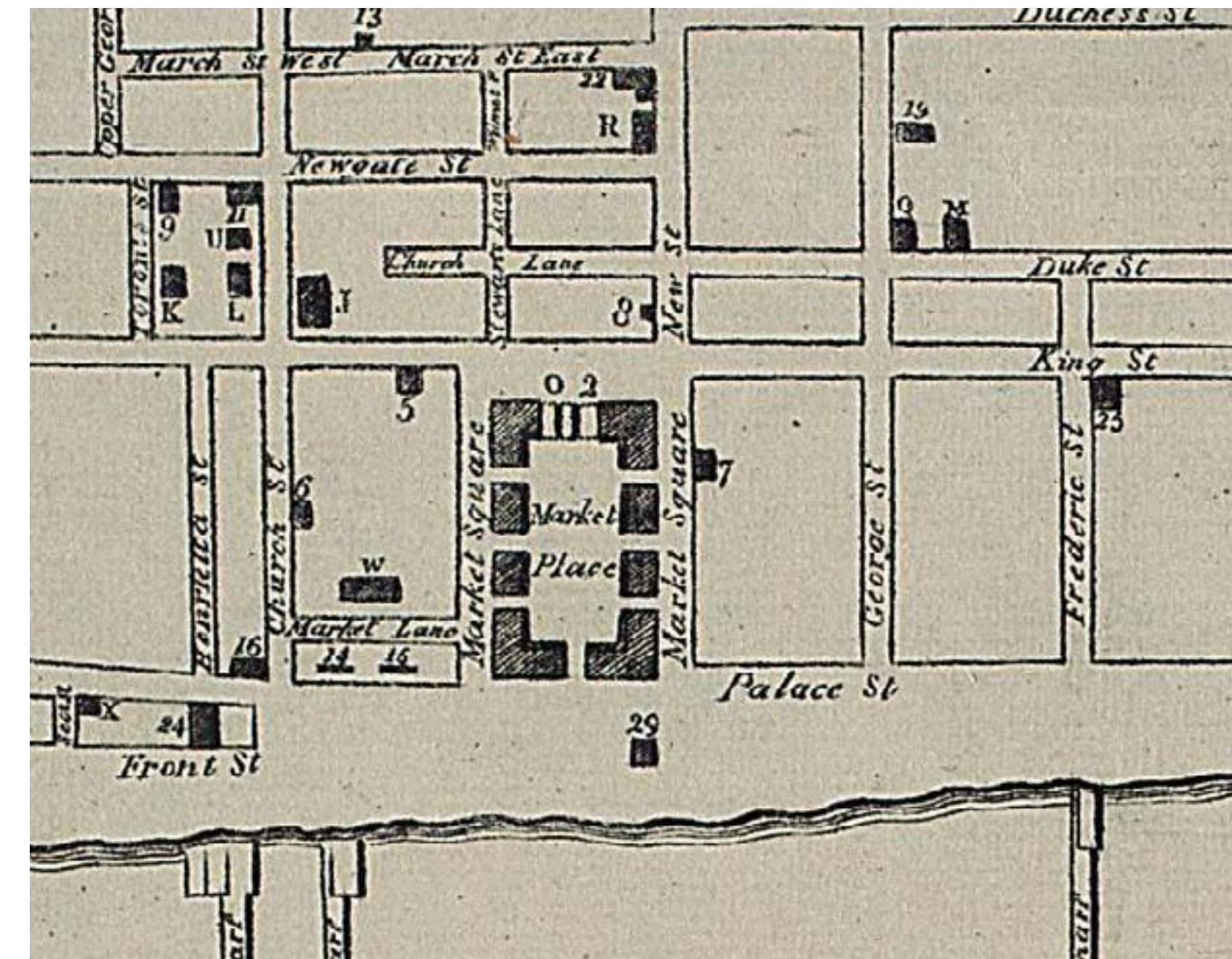
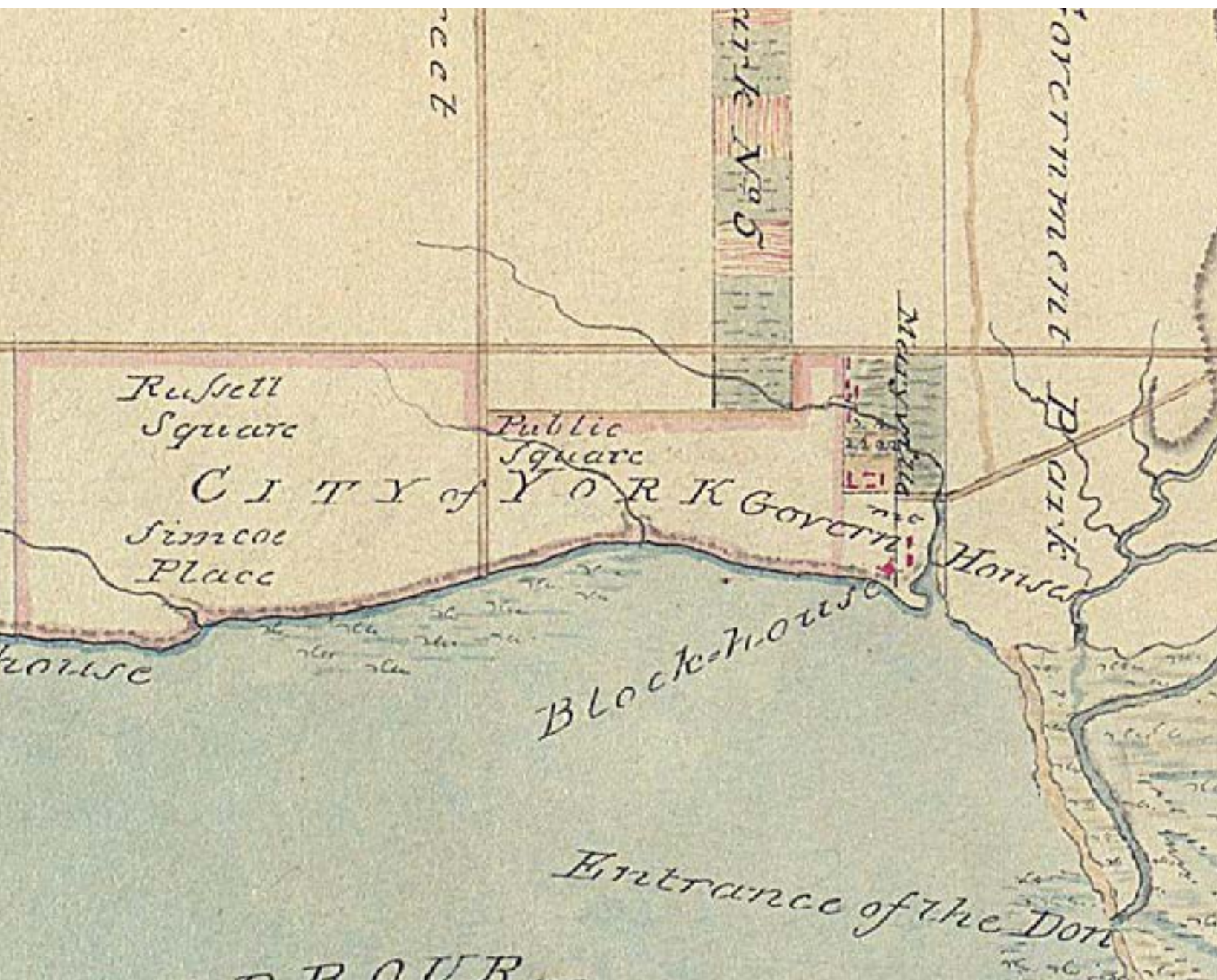
1969 - c. 1990



c. 1990 - Present

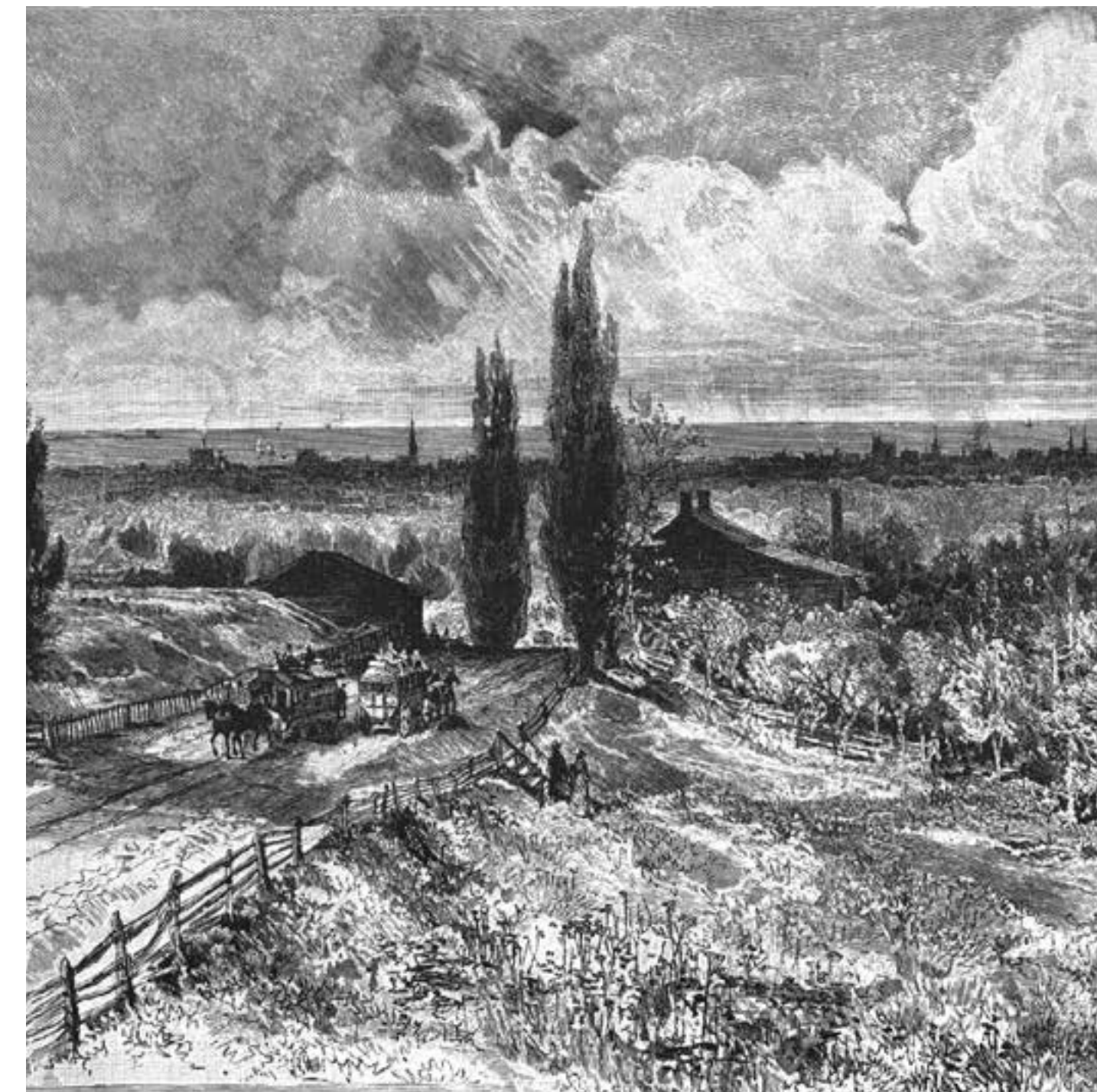
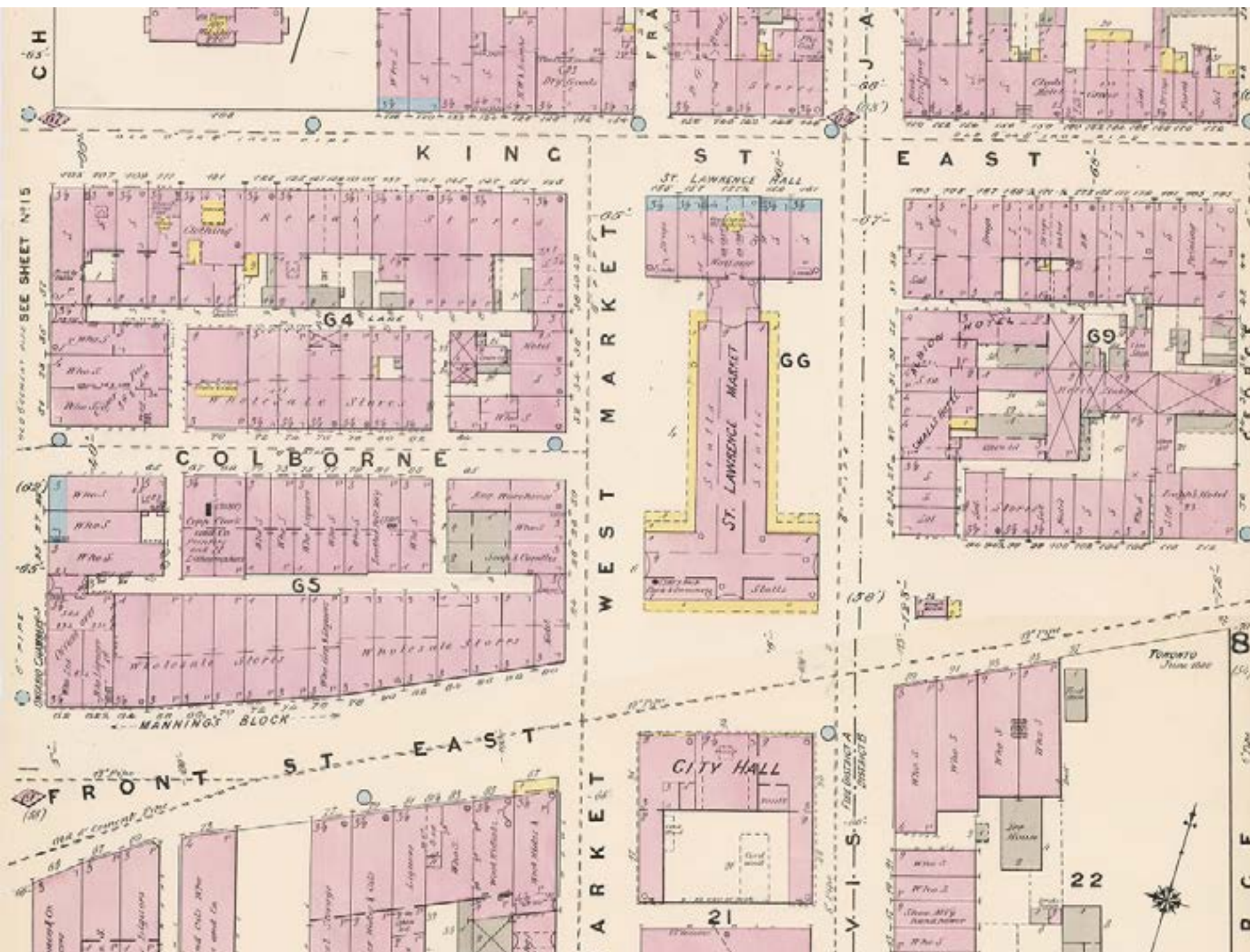
Market Square

1803- 1850



Market Street

1850 - 1968

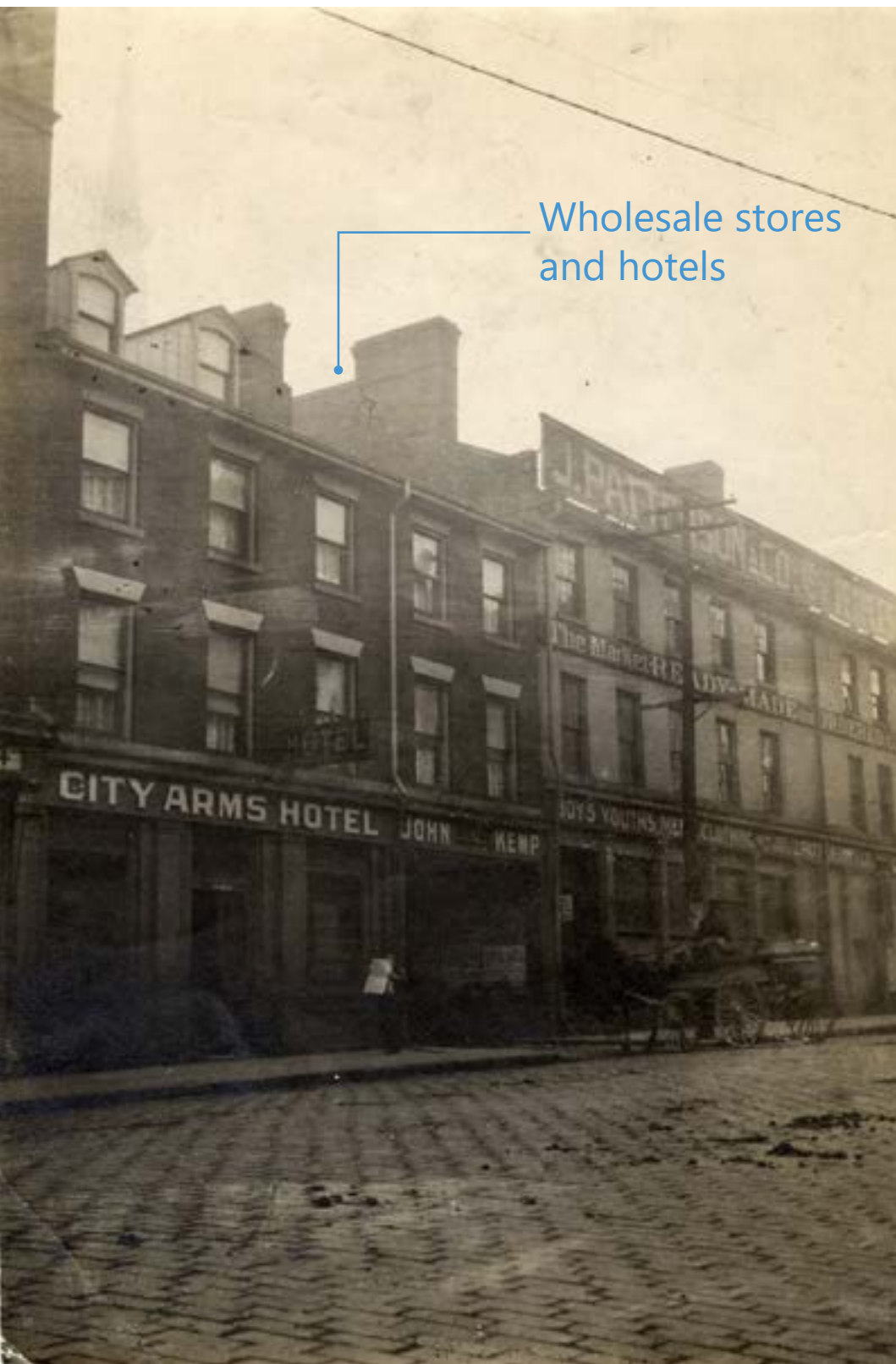


1885

1882 - Toronto from Kingston Rd.

Market Street

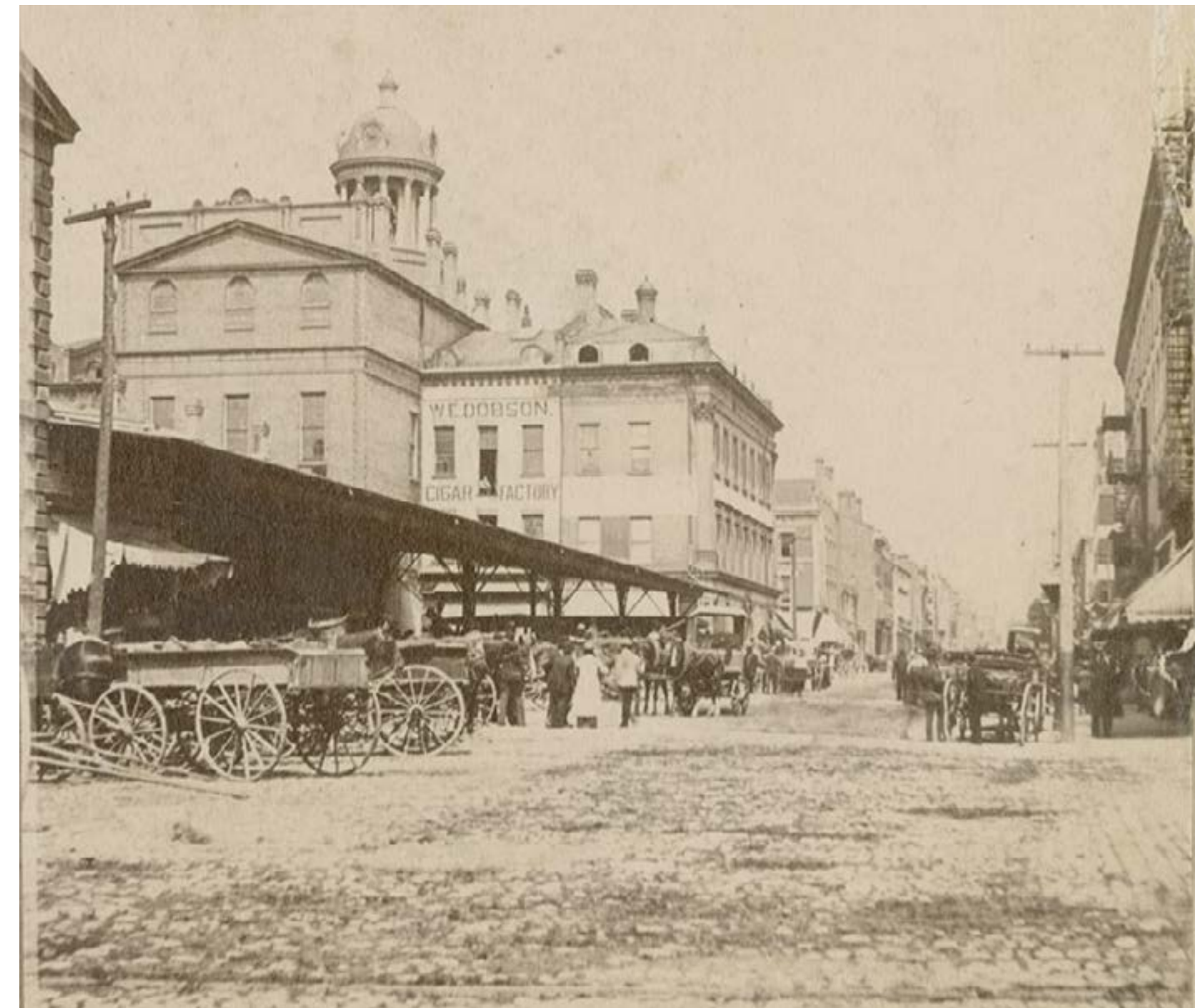
1850 - 1968



1911



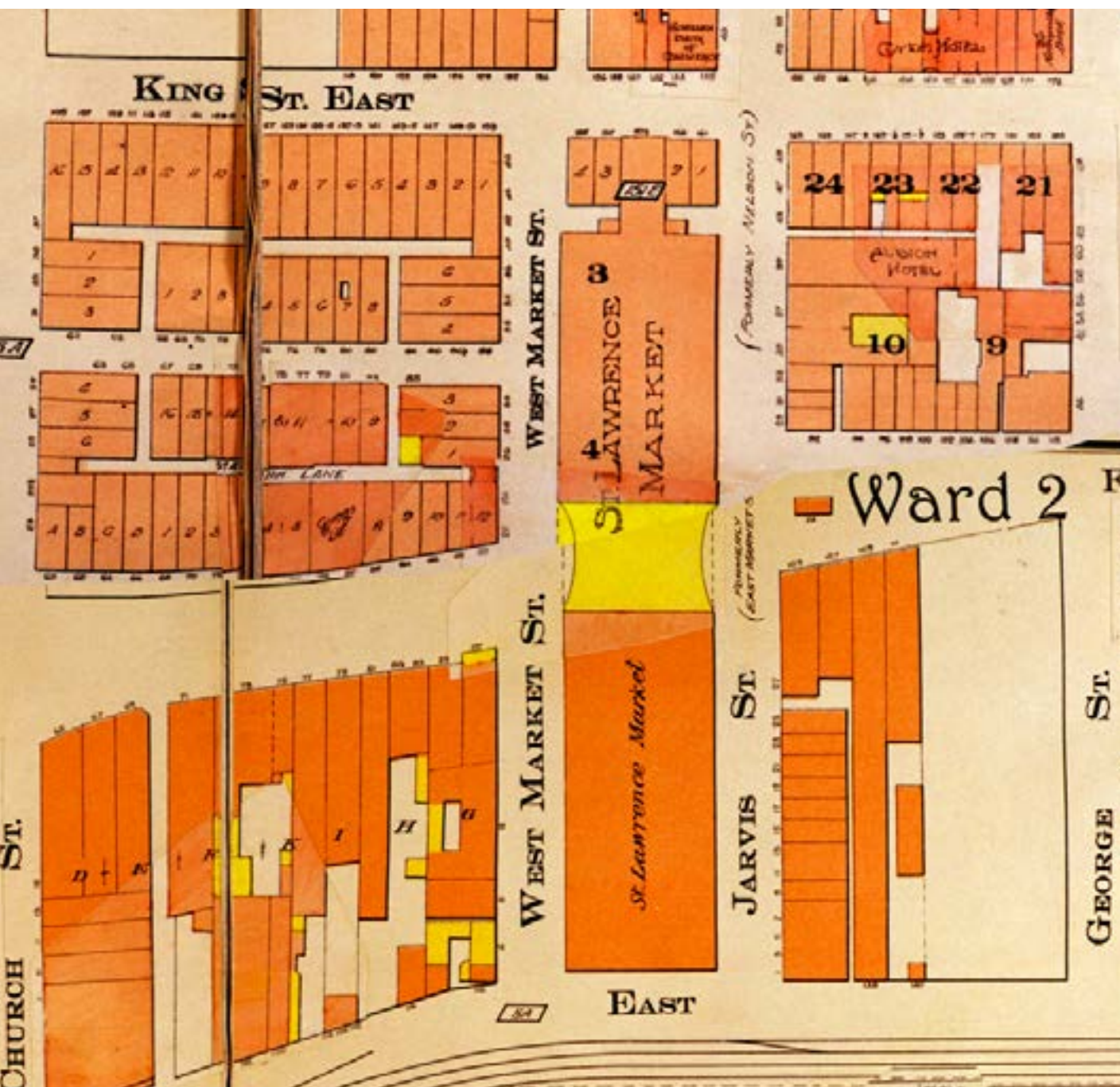
1898



1891

Market Street

1850 - 1968



1913



1920



1967

Market Lane Park

1969 - Present



1974



1972

Market Lane Park

1969 - Present



c.1989



c. 1989

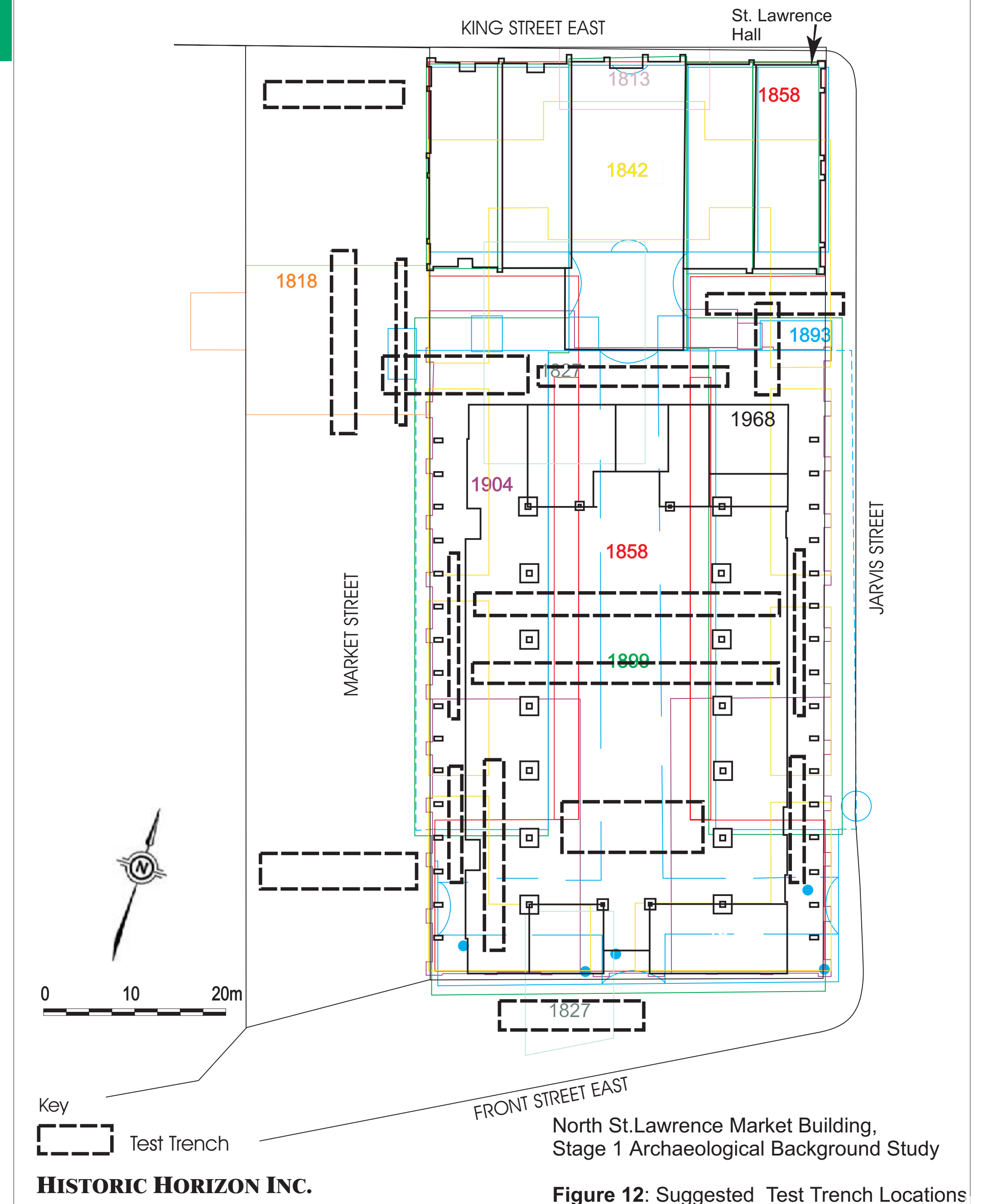


c. 1989

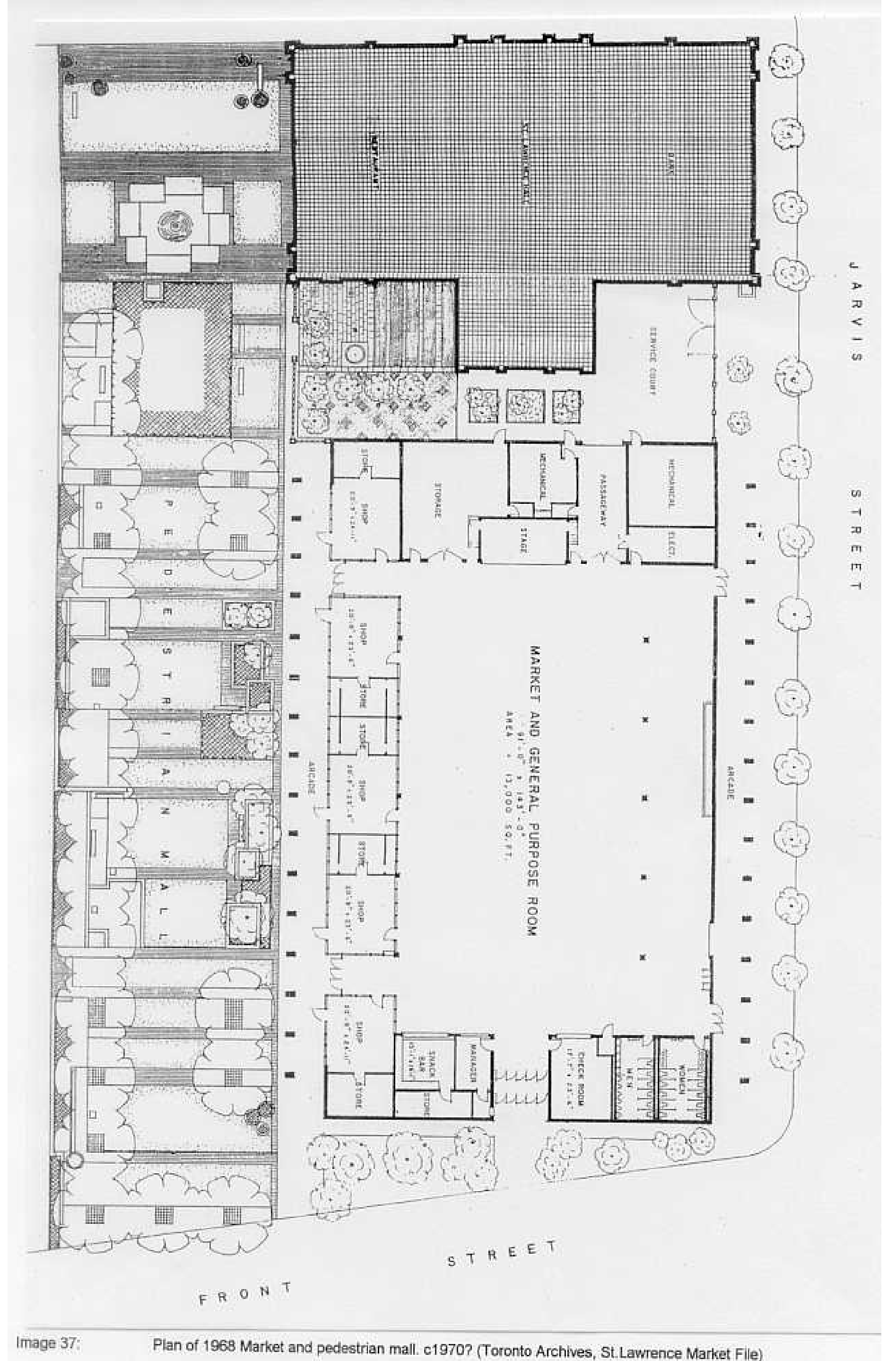
Archaeology

The site has archaeological significance

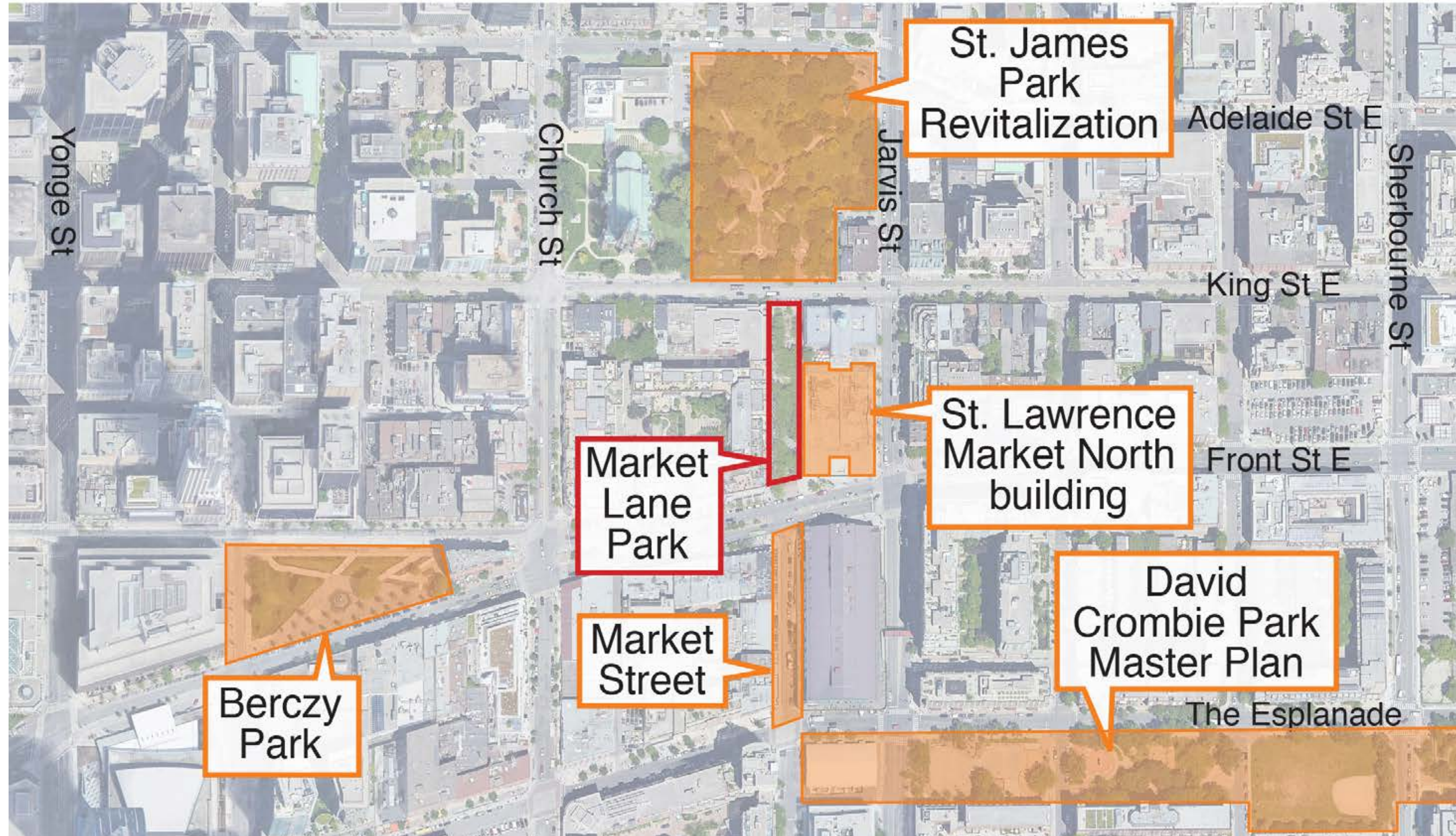
- site of 1818 market building
- excavation of test trenches expected summer 2021
- prefer to preserve in situ



Original site plan for Market Lane Park, 1968



Context and Public Realm Projects in the Area



Market Square Building

- designed by Jerome Markson
- the iconic yellow bricks are the last produced by the Don Valley Brickworks
- the form and scale of the building reflect the desire of the mayor and planners to respect the historic context and implement city-building ideas in this area
- the architecture has a Parisian approach in its courtyard form and units that address the park and street
- retail at ground level and the theatre were deliberately designed



Market Lane - Quick Facts

0.2
hectares
(0.5 acres)

110m
long

18m
wide

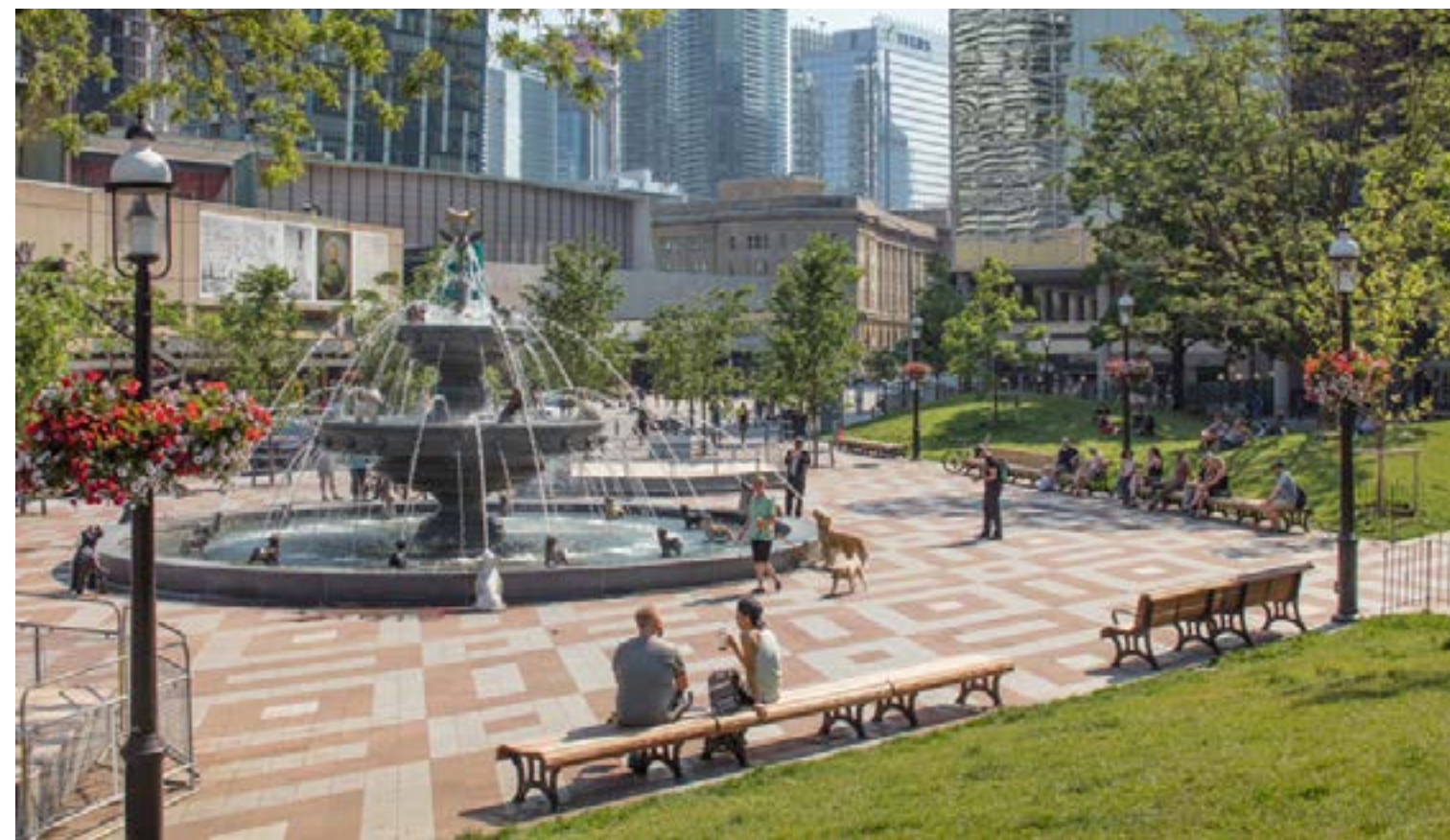
**6:1 length to
width ratio**



Design Cues



St. James Park



Berczy Park



Market Street

Downtown Parks and Public Realm Plan (2018)

Market Lane Park is part of the Old Town-St. Lawrence-Distillery park district

Calls for the realization of the BIA master plan for shared and flex streets



St Lawrence Market Neighbourhood, Toronto, Canada

St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood BIA Public Realm Master Plan (2015)

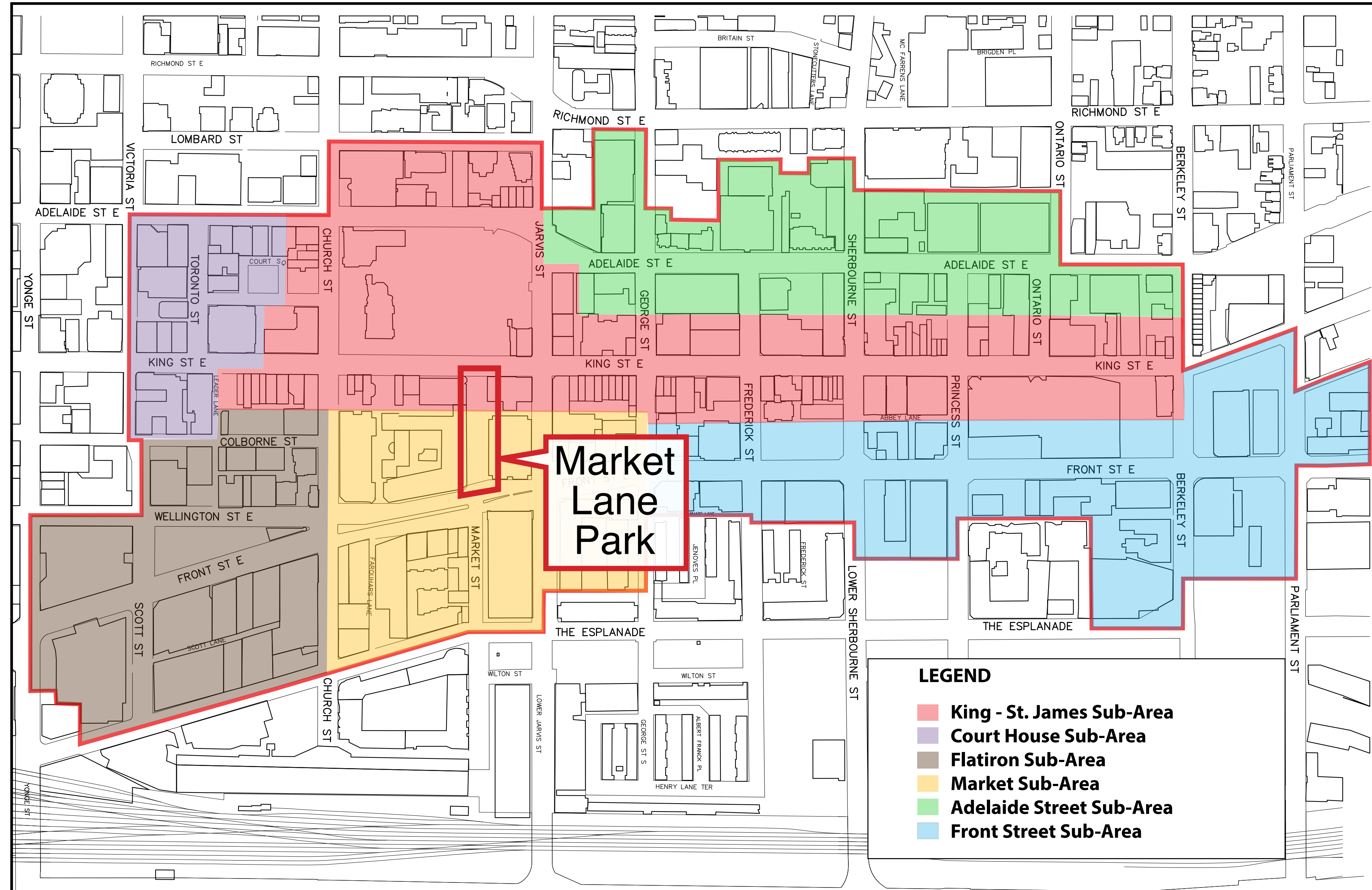
Key Initiatives

- Greening
- Expanded pedestrian boulevards
- Mid-block connections
- Improve parks
- Improve cycling
- Special streets
- Focus Area around St. Lawrence Market
- Special paving to surrounding streets
- Front Street East treated similar to Union Station



St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Heritage Conservation District (Draft 2015)

- Part of King Street-St. James and Market sub-areas
- Market Lane Park is part of a high-traffic pedestrian network linking public spaces and landmark destinations

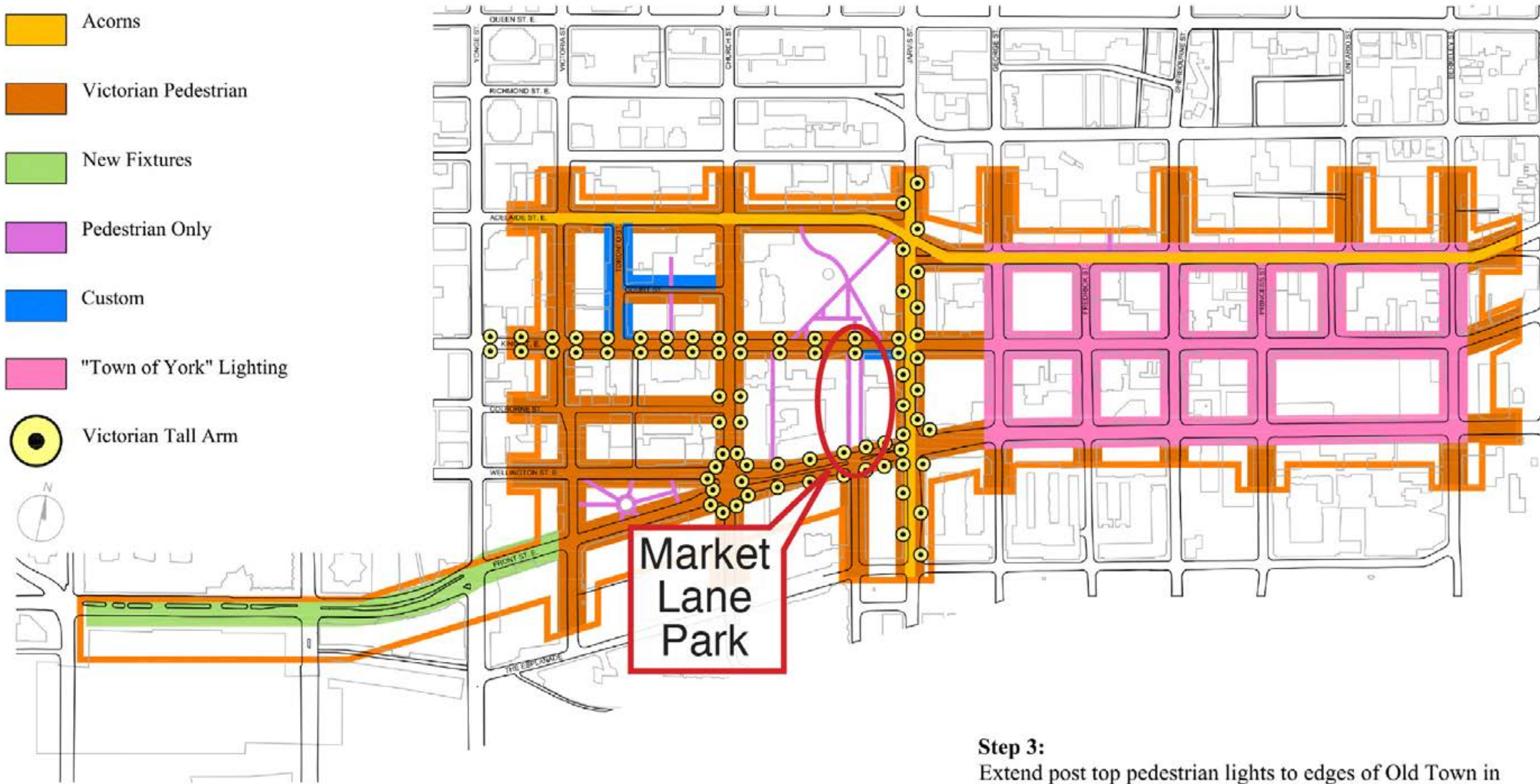


Heritage Lighting Master Plan for Old Town Toronto (2011)

Key Initiatives

- Focus on showcasing heritage buildings through lighting
- Heritage lighting recommendations for the district
- Pedestrian lighting within Market Lane

Light Fixture Types - Step 3



Step 3:

Extend post top pedestrian lights to edges of Old Town in a planned growth on high use streets or as projects are completed. Possibly develop unique street lighting solution for original 10 blocks, "Town of York" (as shown).

Key Initiatives

- Market Lane is part of the Market Precinct, an extension of the Front Street East Precinct – the focal point of the neighbourhood
- Guidelines seek to provide new landscaping and paving for Market Lane Park

An aerial perspective sketch of Market Lane Park and surrounding buildings. The park is a rectangular green space with a grid of trees and a central path. It is bordered by multi-story buildings with red and blue facades. A red callout box with the text 'Market Lane Park' points to the park area.

Market Lane Park

Early Observations

People Place

5

benches with backs
and armrests

3

benches no backs
or armrests

90

linear metres of
low seat wall

200m²

planter

33

trees

800m²

flex space

25

rental bicycles (Bike
Share Toronto)

2.3m

collonade (west side)

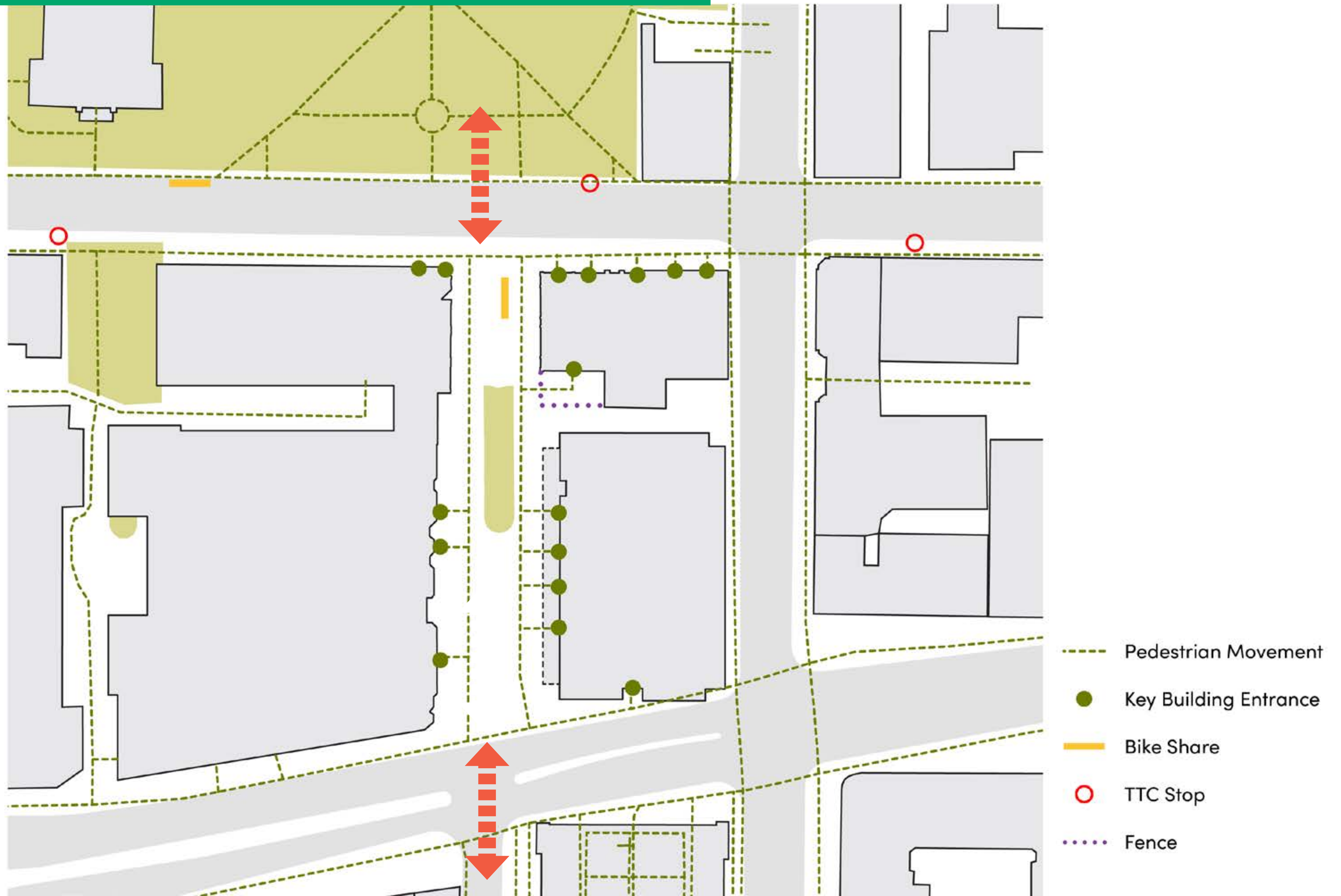
1.0m

collonade (east side)

Social Context

- pass through space and a destination space
- diverse users
- use of space and water features by street involved people
- proximity of condominium residents: noise/nuisance
- former events: Feast of St. Lawrence, Buskerfest, Woofstock - why did they go elsewhere?
- new North Market building will be a game changer

Existing Circulation



Public Facilities



Existing Character

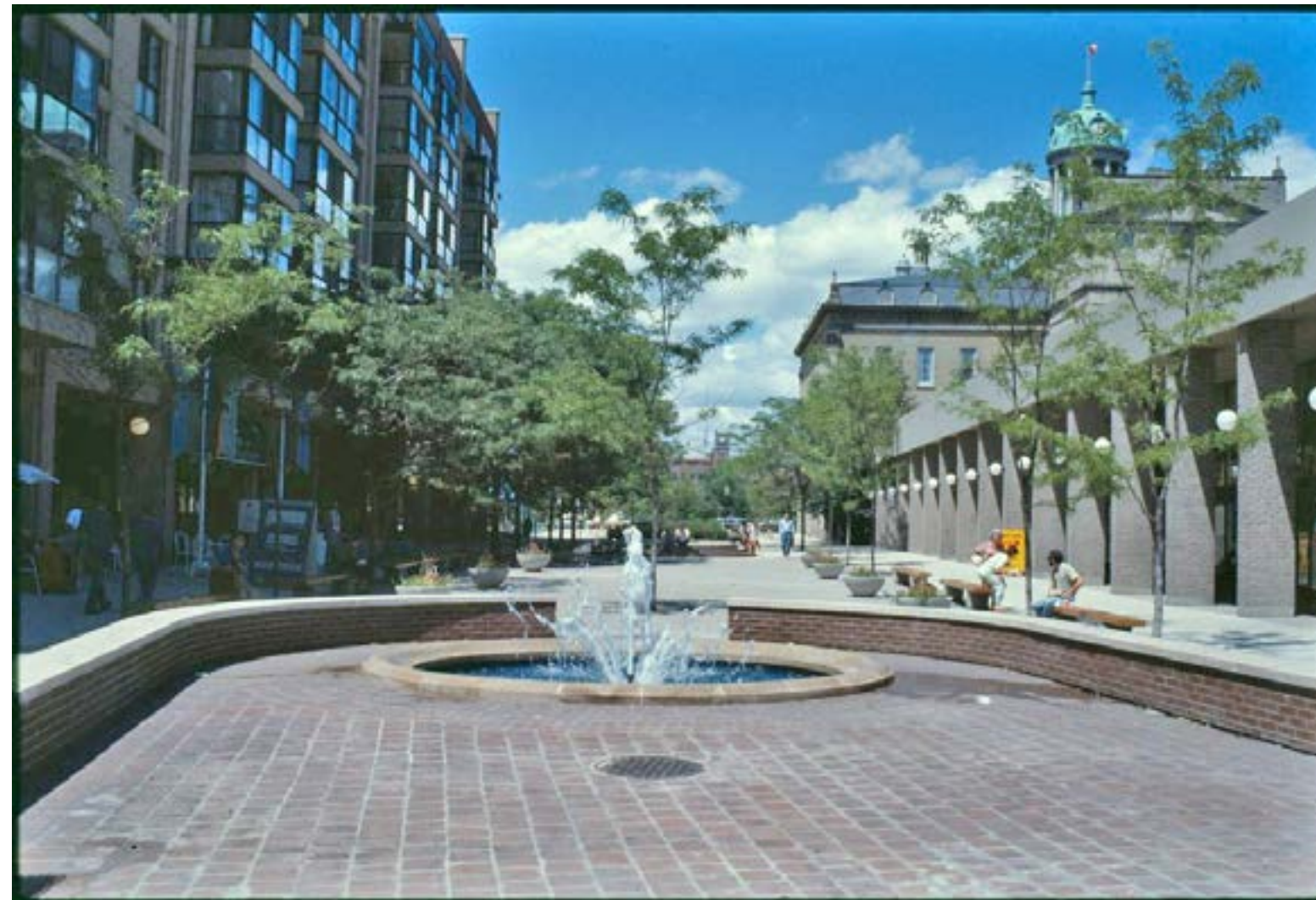


Past Character

First Design



Second Design



- establishment of the tree canopy
- modernist design language - rectilinear forms, circular forms - mixed with traditional elements
- horticultural display, planters
- water fountain
- red brick unit paving and concrete
- seating
- picnic tables
- globe lights

North Market Building

- Ground floor: public market, cafe, washrooms, space is flexible for other events
- Upper floors: demo kitchen, court operations



Existing Trees

- Preserve existing trees wherever possible
- established, healthy canopy with strong apical growth
- trees would benefit from more open surface area



Microclimate

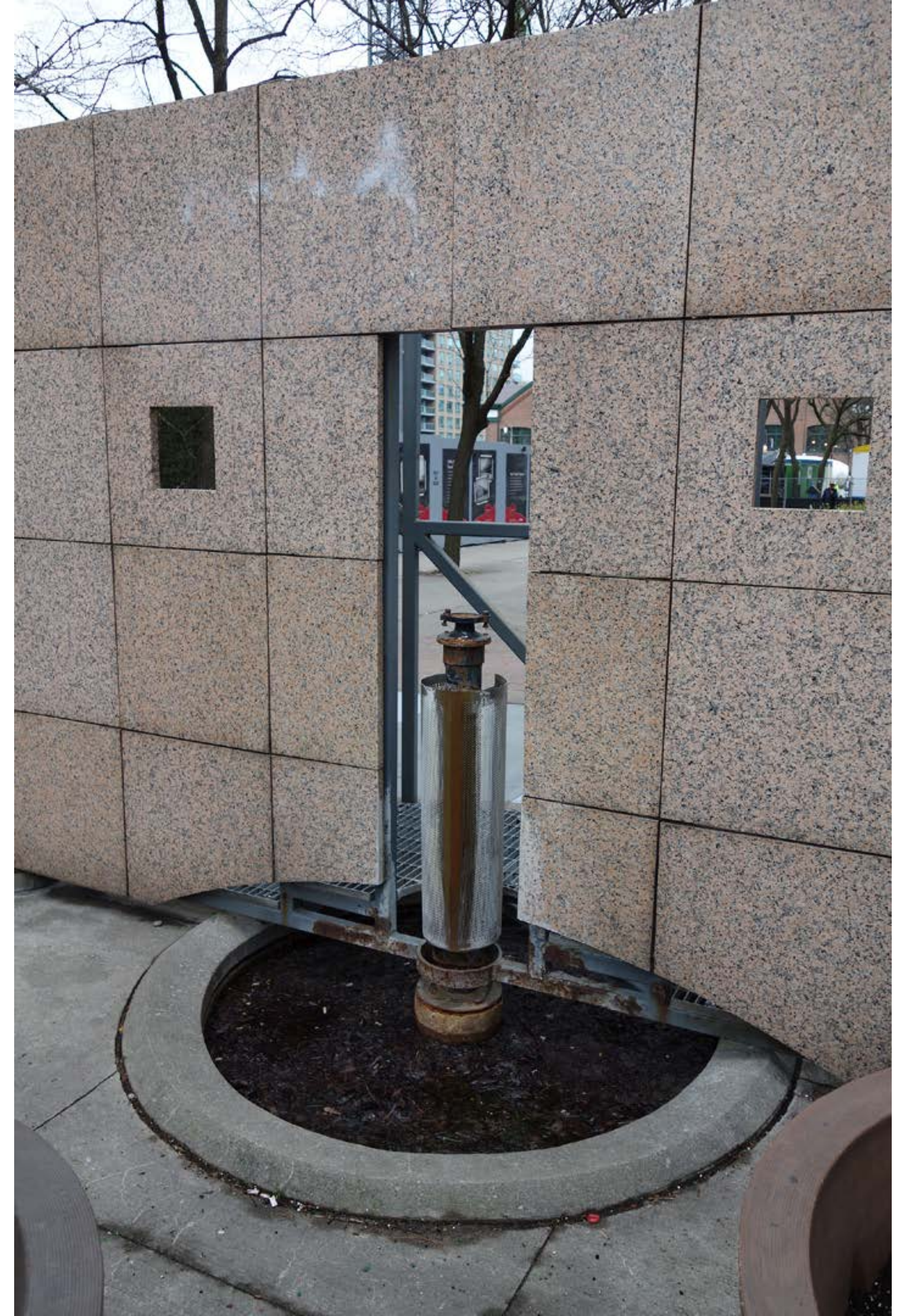


Access to sunlight will
become more constrained
- for people and trees

Front Street and the
existing fountain area will
have the most sunlight

Return of the Magri Stecchi

- Public art installation by Morry Edelstein and Brian McLaren (1985)
- The hand pump represents the original well of the City located nearby
- The holes in the wall represent the pillory, whipping post and stocks of the nearby jail
- This process is considering refurbishing, relocating or decommissioning the feature based on assessments of condition, cost, safety, views, maintenance concerns related to the water feature, the feature's message, and the artists' and City's preferences



Park Infrastructure

- existing fountain:
 - concrete and tiles deteriorating
 - electrical disconnected
 - broken curb stop
 - new pump and piping in the pit
- a new water element is planned
- electrical connection for the park to the new THES vault under Front Street East
- primary lighting is from Market Square condominium building columns
- pavement wear, unevenness



Elements to Carry Forward

tree canopy

seating

lighting

waste receptacles

horticultural beds

moveable planters



bollards

wayfinding sign

Market Lane Park sign

Bike Share
(25 bikes)

Return of the
Magri-Stecchi ?

water feature
(new design)

Examples of Great Linear Parks

Jean Talon Market, Montreal

- Avenue Shamrock was significantly pedestrianized, first as a pilot project, then with permanent infrastructure
- The pilot project included seating, planters, a carousel, games and a winter warming station



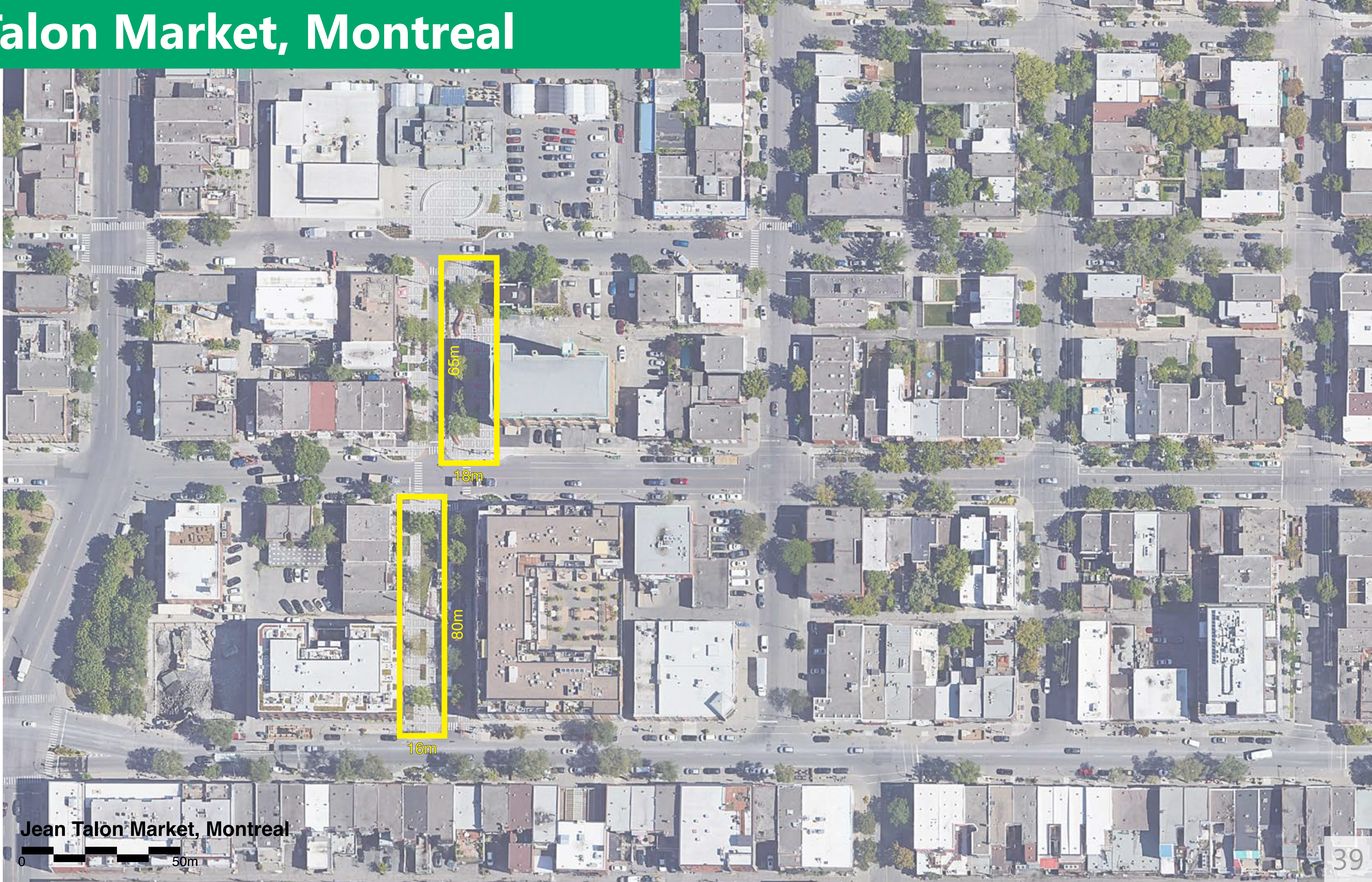
Jean Talon Market, Montreal

- The constructed design includes seating, planting, trees, lighting, public art, picnic tables and a sink/ countertop area



Jean Talon Market, Montreal

Market Lane Park



Jean Talon Market, Montreal

0 50m

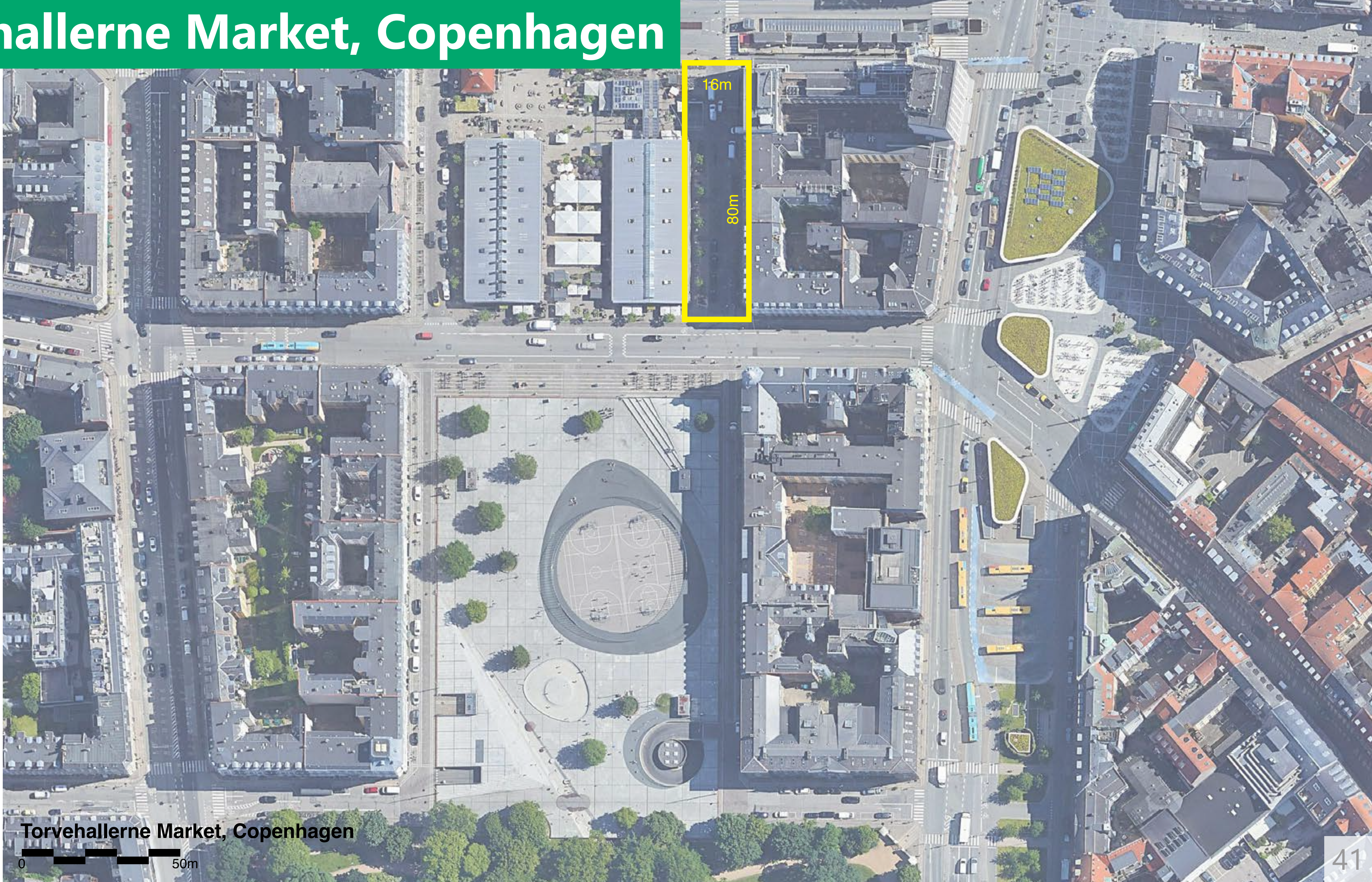
Torvehallerne Market, Copenhagen

- Flexible pedestrian spaces beside the market building are used for seating, eating, walking and bicycle parking



Torvehallerne Market, Copenhagen

Market Lane Park



Torvehallerne Market, Copenhagen

0 50m

Ogilvy Square, Ottawa

- 1-block pedestrian street
- Flexible surface for events, patios
- Trees, seating, lighting

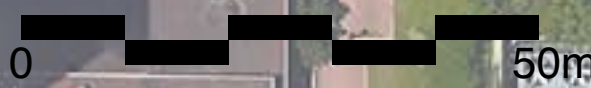


Ogilvy Square, Ottawa

Market Lane Park



Ogilvy Square, Ottawa



Faneuil Hall, Boston

- Network of streets and plazas around the historic market
- Pedestrian streets with seating, trees, lighting, patios, outdoor vending, events and programming



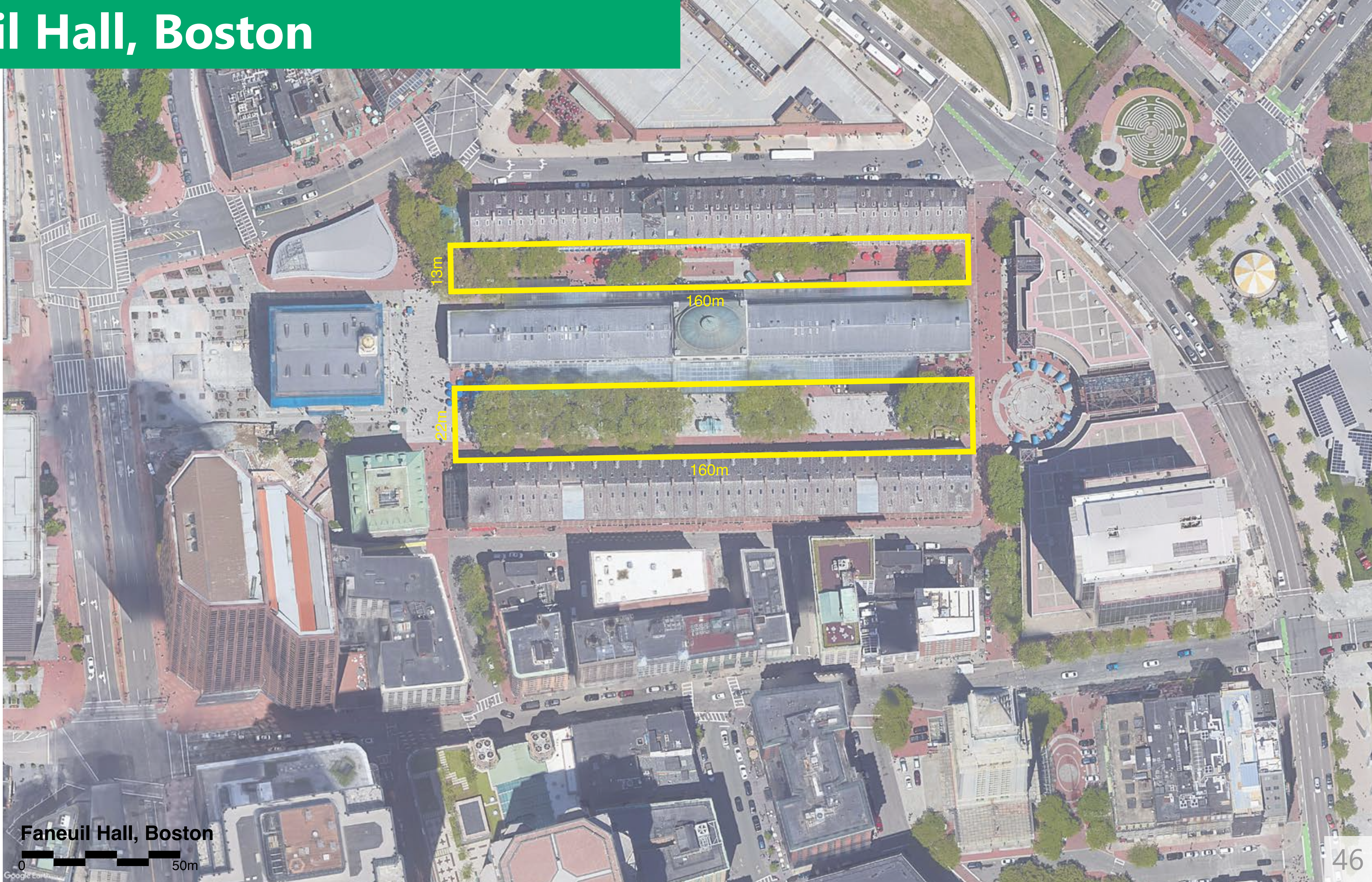
Faneuil Hall, Boston

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Faneuil Hall, Boston

Market Lane Park



Faneuil Hall, Boston

0 50m

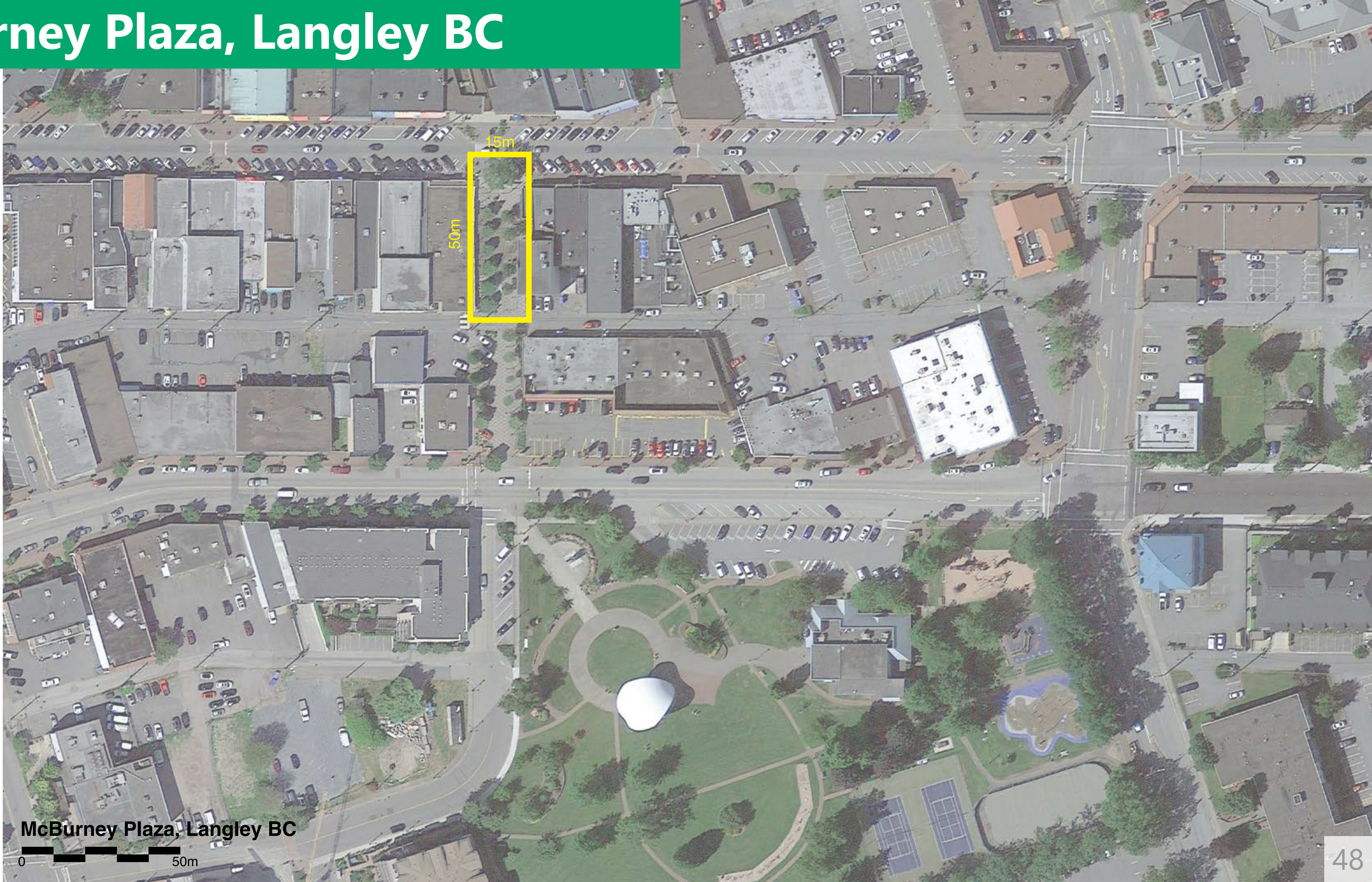
McBurney Plaza, Langley BC

- Pedestrianized street with trees, flexible paving, seating
- Programmed with events



McBurney Plaza, Langley BC

Market Lane Park



McBurney Plaza, Langley BC

0 50m

Linear Parks in the Urban System

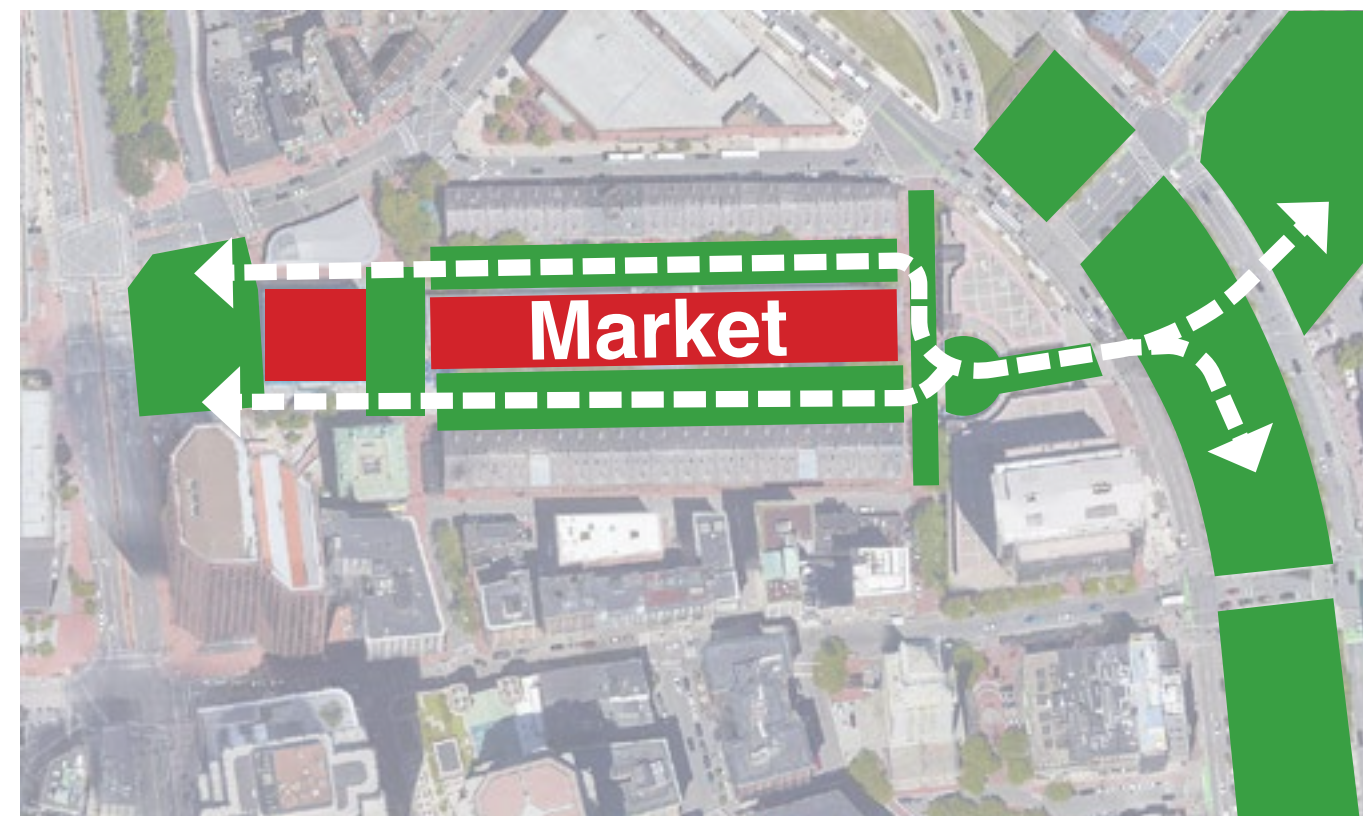
- Are active destinations with retail spill out and programming
- Connect a network of public destinations such as markets, plazas and parks



McBurney Plaza, Langley BC



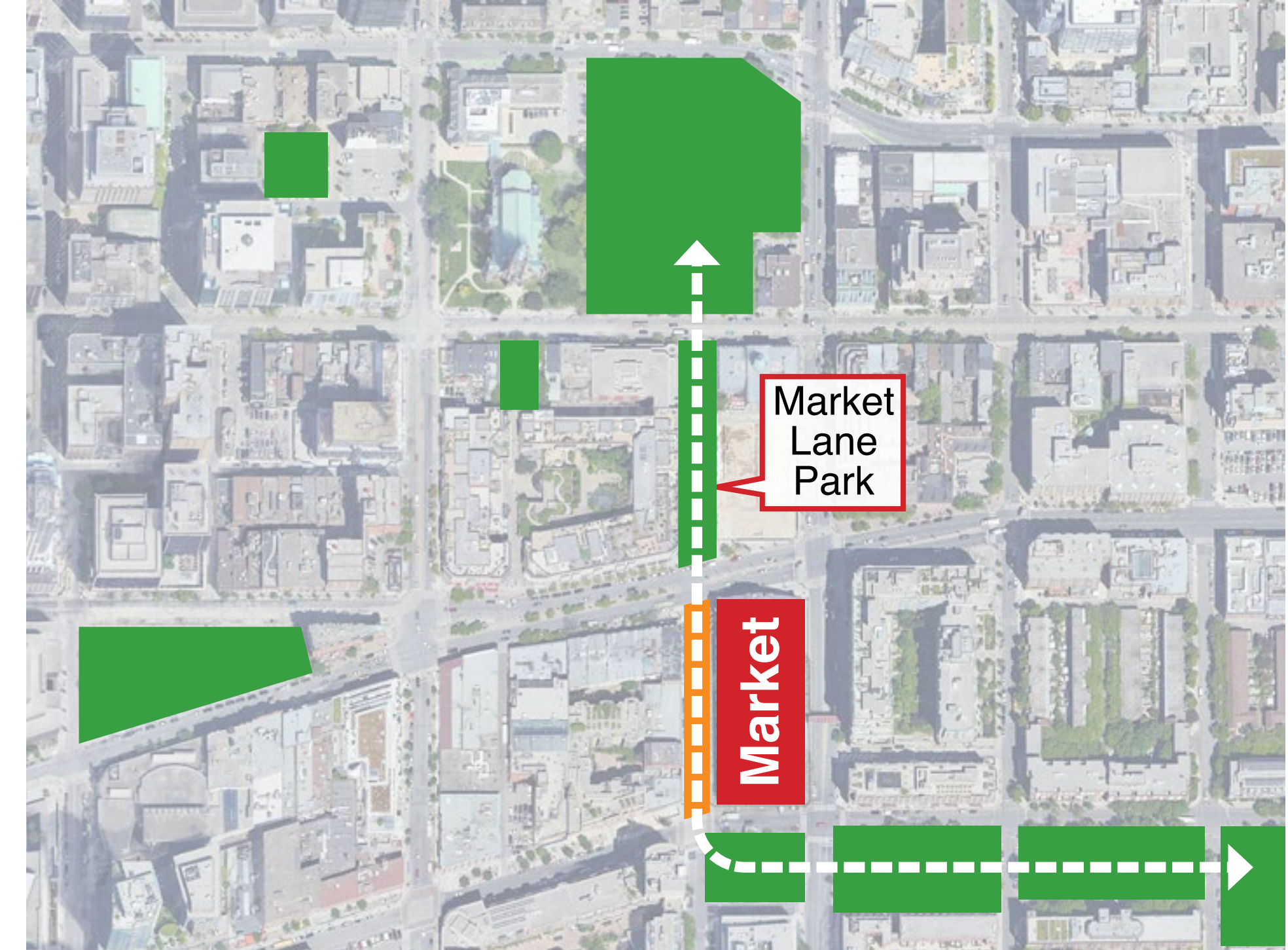
Ogilvy Square, Ottawa



Faneuil Hall, Boston



Jean Talon Market, Montreal



Market Lane Park, Toronto



Torvehallerne Market, Copenhagen

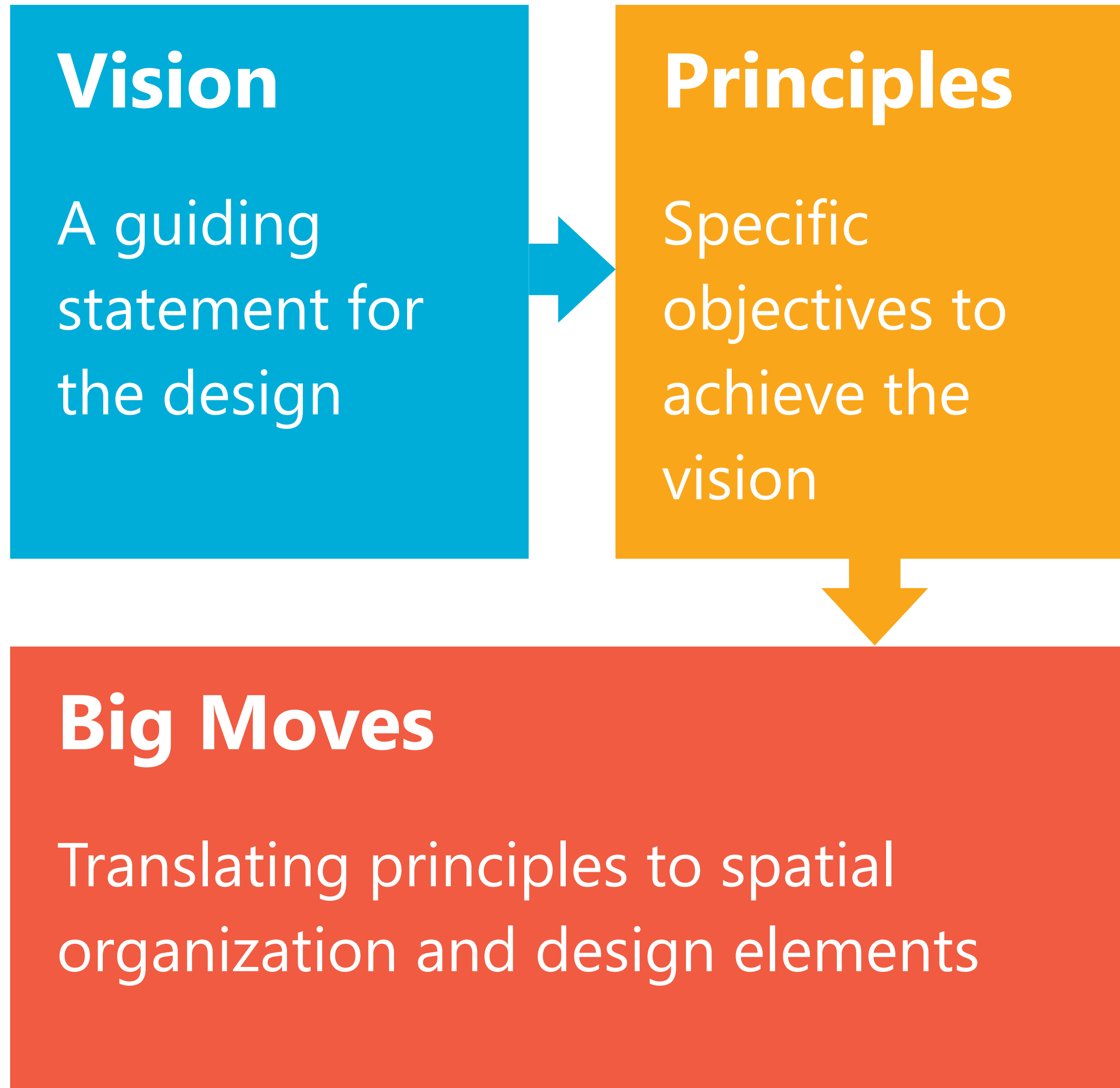
Lessons Learned

- plenty of places to eat that include tables and chairs, often picnic tables
- plenty of seating; mix of permanent and flexible options
- flexible areas that can be used for a variety of events, installations and uses
- actively programmed with events and activities
- built-in access to power and water
- high quality pedestrian oriented furnishing, paving and lighting
- trees in paving



Draft Vision, Principles and Big Moves

Vision



Draft Vision Statement

Market Lane Park will be a vibrant pedestrian space that supports the St. Lawrence Market Precinct and serves as both a meeting place and mid-block passage between King Street and Front Street. It will integrate Indigenous place-keeping and reference its rich cultural heritage.

Create a beautiful and functional city park

Enhance the St Lawrence Market Precinct

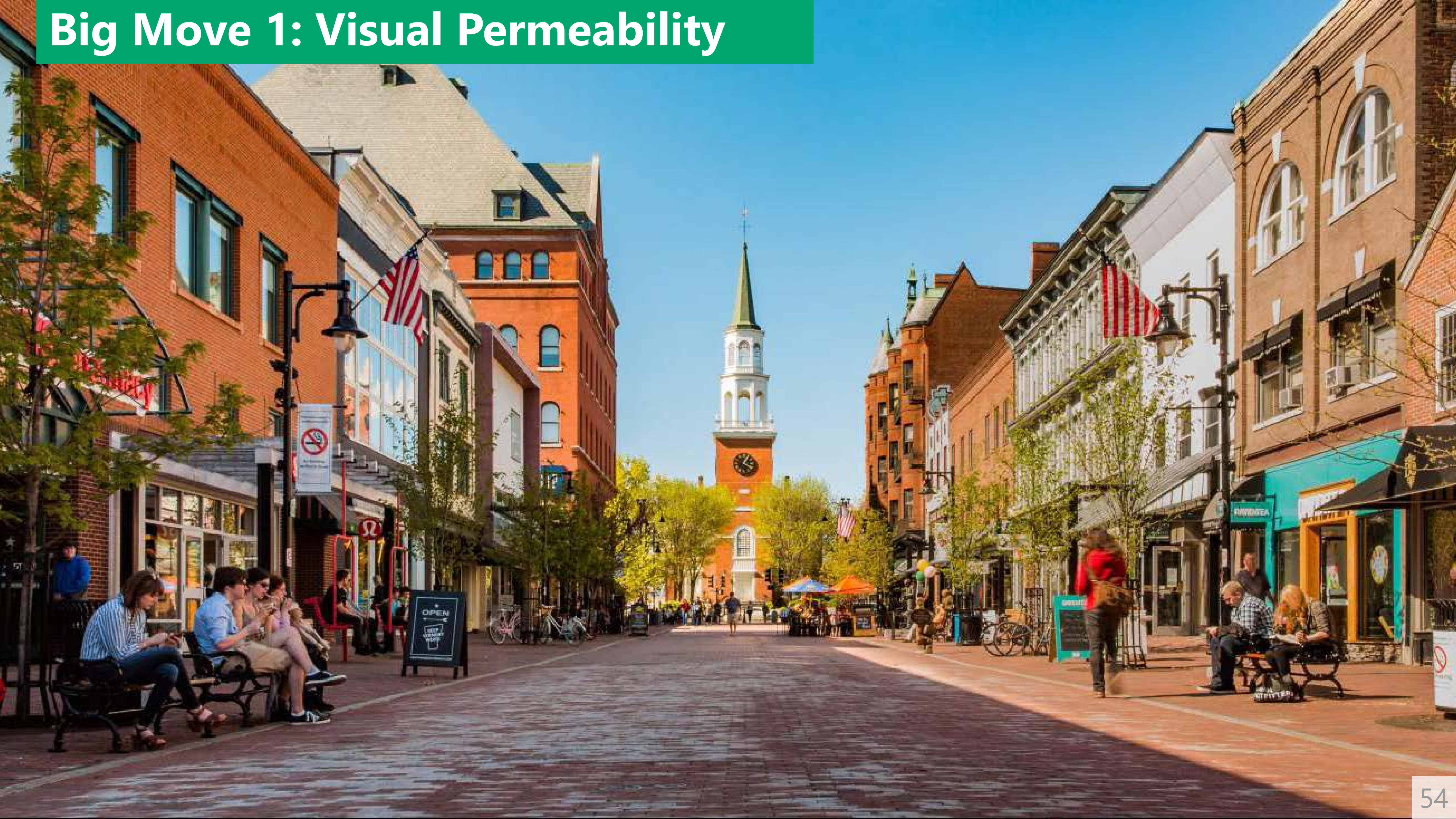
Welcome everyone

Integrate Indigenous place-keeping

Create a safe environment

Interpret its natural and cultural history

Big Move 1: Visual Permeability



Big Move 2: Retained and Reinvigorated Tree Canopy



Big Move 3: Flexible and Inclusive Ground Plane



Big Move 4: Integrated Infrastructure Supports Programming



Big Move 5: New Water Feature



Big Move 6: Great Lighting



Big Move 7: Reimagined Gateways at North and South



Big Move 8: Integrated Indigenous Place Keeping



Big Move 9: Lots of Seating



Big Move 10: Market Themed Horticulture



Discussion

Are there any words or phrases missing from the draft vision?

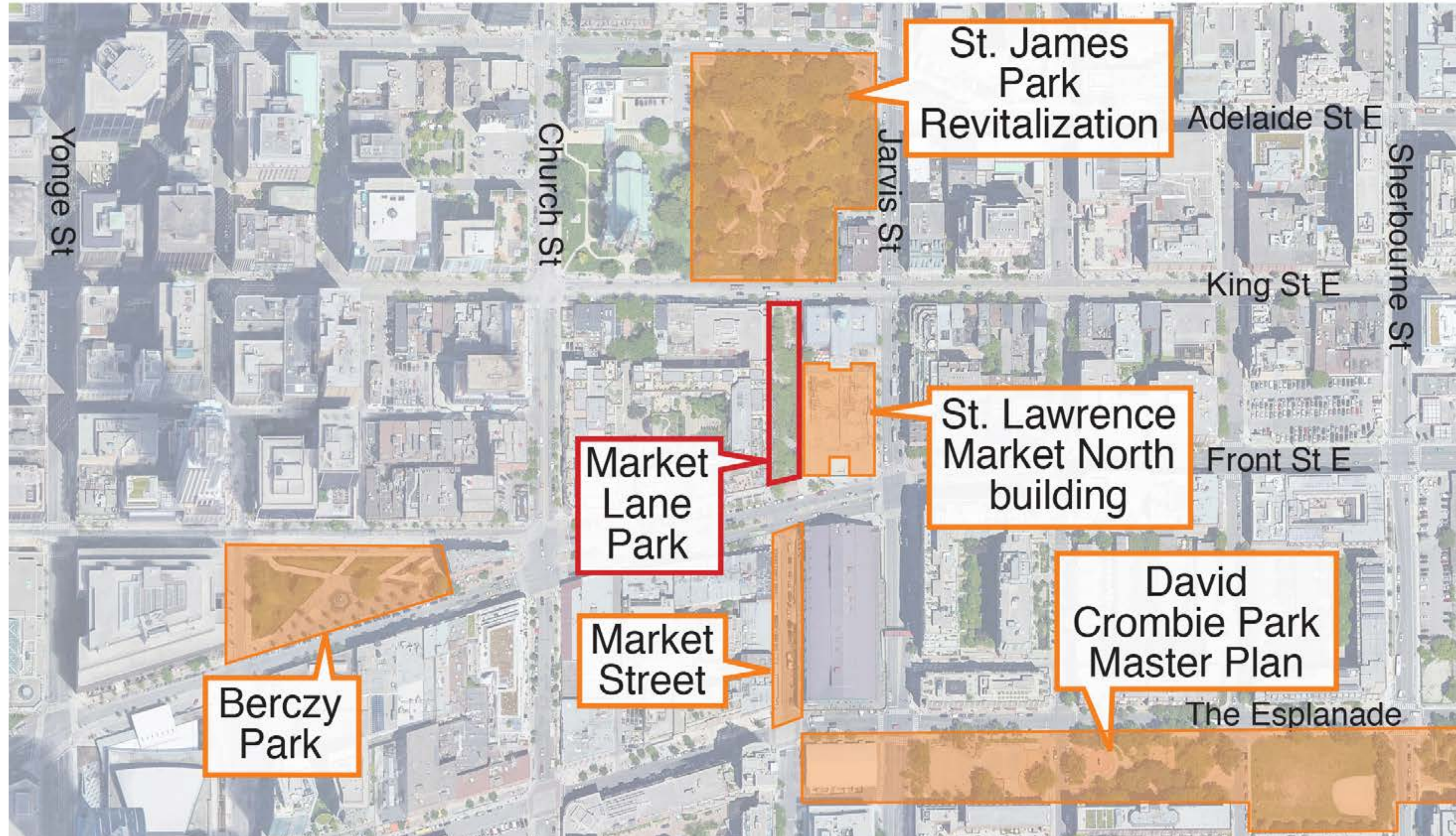
Market Lane Park will be a vibrant pedestrian space that supports the St. Lawrence Market Precinct and serves as both a meeting place and mid-block passage between King Street and Front Street. It will integrate Indigenous place-keeping and reference its rich cultural heritage.

Are there other big opportunities/moves to explore?

1. Visual Permeability
2. Retained and Reinvigorated Tree Canopy
3. Flexible and Inclusive Ground Plan
4. Integrated Infrastructure Supports Programming
5. New water feature
6. Great Lighting
7. Reimagined Gateways at North and South
8. Integrated Indigenous Place-Keeping
9. Lots of Seating
10. Market Themed Horticulture

Discussion

Are there elements in other Parks that you think are a good precedent for Market Lane?



Stay informed

Check the webpage toronto.ca/MarketLanePark

Complete the survey - click the link from the project webpage

Share additional thoughts in an email to nancy.chater@toronto.ca