Jane Finch Initiative

Update: Cultural Heritage Resource Assessment

CAC Meeting 20 December 2022







Refresher: What is a CHRA?



What is a Cultural Heritage Resource Assessment (CHRA)?



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What are the Outcomes of a CHRA?

- Establishes an understanding of the historic development of the study area, and informs policies and guidelines for the area's future planning framework
- Identified potential heritage properties will be considered for inclusion on the City of Toronto's Heritage Register
- CHRA is a publicly accessible report that can inform future City and community initiatives, including public art and interpretation etc.





Aerial photographs: 1954 (above) and 1978 (below) (City of Toronto Archives)





CHRA Status Update



Historic Context Statement in progress



1851 York County Map

1961 Aerial Composite

1977 Aerial Composite



Property identification in progress

- Technical heritage consultants have surveyed the properties in the Study Area
- Next step: Inform heritage evaluation process with direct input from local communities







Seeking Community Input



How are we working with communities?

- We worked with the Jane Finch Centre to send out an open call for Heritage Focus Group members and confirmed 9 participants
- We held two meetings with the Heritage Focus Group in 2022
- We are engaging with Indigenous communities
- We will be sharing the draft Historic Context Statement with the CAC and beyond
- We are planning two additional meetings with the Heritage Focus Group in Spring 2023



Encouraging words: Randy Mills, left, talks with Linda Morowei and Sheldon Taylor of the Jane Finch Concerned Citizens Organization, 1988. Toronto Star Photograph Archive, Courtesy of Toronto Public Library.



Individual Interviews

- Interviews to focus on identification of places that are important to Jane and Finch's communities
- 10-12 interviewees representing the breadth of Jane and Finch's communities (both present and past)
- Interviewers from the community potential for intergenerational dialogue
- Transcripts to be made available for future community use



Discussion: Approach to Selection of Interviewees

- Who are the knowledge keepers of the communities of Jane and Finch?
- What are the communities that should be represented?
 - Eg. ethno-cultural groups with largest presence in the Jane-Finch area as of 2016 according to Census records
 - Black, African-Canadian, and Caribbean (Including Jamaica, Guyana, Ghana, Nigeria, Somalia
 - Chinese
 - Filipino
 - Indian ("East Indian")
 - Iraqi
 - Italian
 - Latin American
 - Vietnamese



Thank you!

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