

Heritage Preservation at the High Point

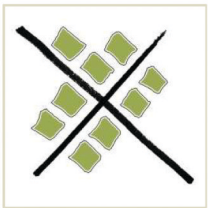
THREE INTERLACED HISTORIES

Yonge and Montgomery is a high point. It's situated on the crest of land overlooking in all directions. Here are to be found three historical memories, which are nested inside each other. They all owe their origins to the locality's unique magnetism, whose influence continue to affect the area through to day.



Rally Point for Rebellion in 1837

Frustrations over the governance of the time drew people from afar to assemble at Montgomery's Tavern and to then march upon Toronto. The choice of this location for convergence arises from its roads offering uninterrupted reach into the countryside making it clearly the best place to concentrate.



North Toronto Town Centre

Settlement quickened with the advent of electric trams in 1892. The Village became the Town of North Toronto in 1890 and was annexed to Toronto, Dec.15 1912. The buildings surrounding the crossroads today still reflect the village's focal point and its built form. This reminder of earlier times is challenged by today's intensification surge.



Post Office Station K – Franked 'Edward VIII'

The Post Office is a blend of architectural merit, regal notoriety and having a depository of North Toronto's history. It's the most concentrated tangible historical representation BUT only one part of the broader history of the area.

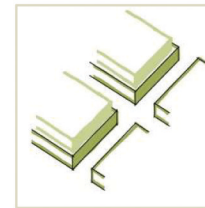
KEEPING HISTORIES ALIVE

Intensification is challenging the area's memories – meanwhile offering opportunities to preserve and enhance these histories, interlacing them into tomorrow's outcomes. A strategy is required that can inform planning and development up front in the initial stages while development considerations reside in a state of flux. The following suggests a three pronged approach.



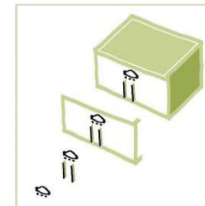
A Rally Place for Rebels or Patriots

The numbers present at the time varied during the course of the event, as does the accounting record. Nonetheless, an area of 1000 square meters is suggested as being reasonable. Within this area the streetscapes should be treated in a fashion that reflects the event, including: landscaping, lighting, furnishings, and building configurations...



North Toronto Town Centre Form

The traditional village's building scale should be embedded into the building facades extending from the crossroads to the adjacent intersections. Within this streetwall can reside heritage and existing buildings along with new buildings bearing a 'strake' at the traditional parapet height. Facades below this level should reflect the rhythm and rhyme of the traditional village's proportions.



Post Office Station K

The degree of preservation confronts a spectrum of considerations. These extend from the entire 2-storey structure, to its elevation components, to its entry portico, down to its regal insignia. Meanwhile, consideration is required that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts.