



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE YORK REGIONAL FOREST

Presented to
Committee of the Whole

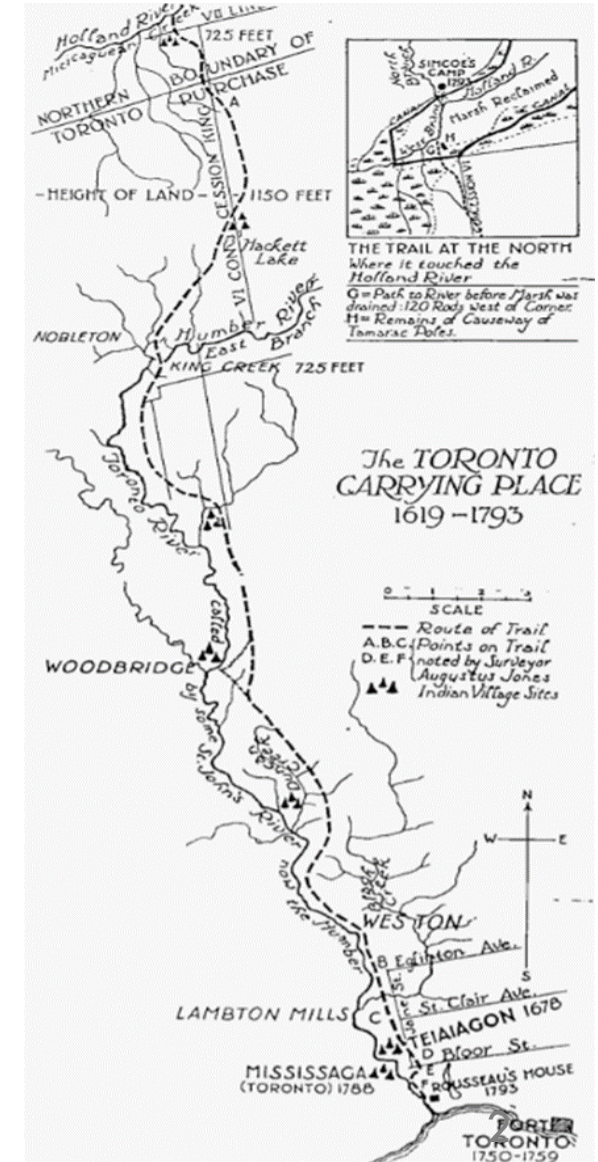
Presented by
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Presented on
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Cultural History of the York Region Forest

- The Forest has rich cultural heritage that includes many Indigenous Peoples who lived on these lands since time immemorial
- Today the Forest includes treaty territories of the Haudenosanuee, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Williams Treaties First Nations



Vanishing Forests

In the early 17th century, settlers cleared large areas of forest

By the 20th century, many areas had turned into barren wastelands unsuitable for farming



York Regional Forest Begins

Established in 1924 with the purchase and reforestation of the Hollidge Tract in Whitchurch Township

Guided by York County Reforestation Committee and Provincial forestry staff, additional lands acquired and restored



From Barren Sands to Thriving Forests

Restoration efforts transformed the landscape from sandy wastelands to thriving forests

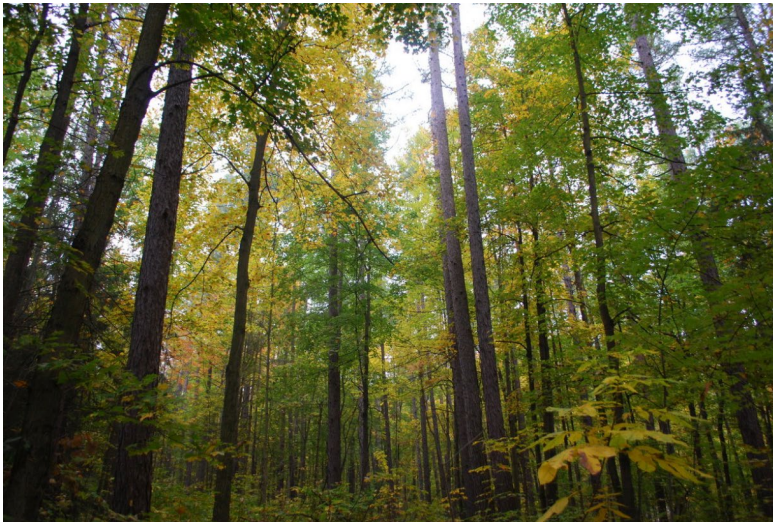
Today's Forest is over 2,500 hectares across 24 forest tracts



York Regional Forest Tracts - 24 tracts, totaling 2,521 hectares

1 Robinson Tract (43 ha)	9 Scout Tract (48 ha)	17 Godfrey Tract (20 ha)
2 Porritt Tract (80 ha)	10 Mitchell Tract (21 ha)	18 Pepperlaw Tract (579 ha)
3 Dainty Tract* (41 ha)	11 North Tract (332 ha)	19 Nobleton Tract (44 ha)
4 Clarke Tract (85 ha)	12 Bendor and Graves Tract* (181 ha)	20 Happy Valley Tract (26 ha)
5 Patterson Tract (50 ha)	13 Zephyr Tract (87 ha)	21 Peggy's Wood (19 ha)
6 Hall Tract (109 ha)	14 Brown Hill Tract (83 ha)	22 Davis Drive Tract* (49 ha)
7 Eldred King Woodlands (221 ha)	15 Metro Road Tract (84 ha)	23 Drysdale Woods (55 ha)
8 Hollidge Tract (83 ha)	16 Cronsberry Tract (39 ha)	24 Centennial Tract (142 ha)

*York Regional Forest Tract - Dogs Permitted Off-leash



Connecting Residents to Nature

With over 150 kilometres of trails, the Forest is used by York Region residents for outdoor recreation

Spending time in the Forest improves visitors' physical and mental health



A Forest for Future Generations

Through the Greening Strategy, new lands continue to be acquired to grow the Forest

Guided by the "It's In our Nature" Management Plan, Region is investing to protect the Forest and ensure an exceptional visitor experience



Commemorating 100 Years of Restoration and Conservation

Recently-acquired property at McCowan Road and Queensville Sideroad will be called the **Centennial Tract**

As part of celebrations, a public tree planting will be held there



Engaging Residents to Celebrate 100 Years

Events planned throughout 2024 to engage residents, including:

- Monthly forest walks
- Community tree planting
- Exhibits and displays
- Informational video
- Adventure challenge
- Photo contest





THE YORK REGIONAL FOREST
A GROWING LEGACY

EST. 1924

Thank You



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