



 Jane's Walk route is marked in yellow

 Approximate area (based on 1880s map) of Long Branch Park

May 5, 2018 Jane's Walk Route is within the boundary of the original Long Branch Park (dating from 1884)

Speaking Notes: Stop 1: Lake Shore Blvd. & Long Branch Ave.

Walk route

Our walk will take us south down Long Branch Ave. to the Lake Ontario shoreline. From there we travel east along Lake Promenade for a short ways, where we stop for a look at the Lake Ontario shoreline. After that we travel north along Thirty Third St. after which arrive back at Lake Shore Blvd. West.

The route of our walk is inside the boundaries of the original Long Branch Park, which starting in 1884 extended west to a point that is about half-way between what are now Thirty Fifth St. and Thirty Sixth St.

To the east, the park boundaries extended to a point that is about half-way between Thirty Third St. and Thirty First St.

To the south, the boundaries extended to roughly where Lake Promenade runs now. However, in the original layout of Long Branch Park, what is now known as Lake Promenade stopped at Long Branch Avenue.

Lake Promenade then resumed its way at a point a short ways to the west, of where Thirty First St. is now located.

Long Branch Park

In between those two stretches of road was a beach, serving middle-class visitors from Toronto, who came by boat starting in the 1880s to enjoy the amenities of an exclusive summer resort, known as Long Branch Park.

It was a gated community, with a high fence, which served to keep out rowdy people who were not prepared to abide by the stringent rules, of the resort. By way of example, no drinking of alcoholic beverages was allowed.

The area that we call Long Branch has a history that dates back 10,000 years, when First Nations nomadic hunters first arrived in the area after the end of the last Ice Age. The settler society, that we are a part of now, is a much more recent development.

The Park began as a development some years after the first European settler in Long Branch, Colonel Samuel Smith had passed away.

In 1793, the colonel, who had fought on the British side in the American Revolutionary Wars, had been granted a tract of land that covered all of what is now known as Long Branch, and extended some ways beyond.

After the colonel passed away in 1826, the subdivision of Long Branch began, when the colonel's descendants started to sell off parcels of the original tract of land that had been granted to Colonel Samuel Smith. One of the first subdivisions was the parcel of land that was to become known as Long Branch Park.

To be more specific, in 1871, James Eastwood bought 500 acres of land from the Colonel Samuel Smith family. In 1883, James Eastwood sold 75 acres of the eastern portion of the property, which was subsequently developed into a summer resort called Long Branch Park.

Evolution of Long Branch Park

As we proceed with our walk, we will see that some of the original cottages, dating back to the Long Branch Park era, can still be seen along the route of today's walk. The City of Toronto's website features a Heritage Map, which shows which houses, along our route, are on the City's list of heritage houses. By way of example, 2 Long Branch Ave., 4 Long Branch Ave., and 6 Long Branch Ave. are on the registry.

The Preserved Stories website shows a Zoning Map for Long Branch, which I mention because the Zoning Bylaws are part of the more recent

evolution, in the neighbourhood that began as the original Long Branch Park.

To the north of Lake Shore Blvd. West, by way of example, there is a form of Zoning that allows a level of intensity, in development, that is not permitted as you move further to the south, from Lake Shore Blvd. West.

As well, along Lake Shore Blvd. West itself, we see the results of an Avenues Study, which was completed some years ago, which allows for the construction of mid-rise buildings, such as the building at the southeast corner of Lake Shore and Long Branch Ave.

Long Branch

By-Law No.78 / To Change the name of certain streets in the Village of Long Branch
Whereas: A postal delivery service is being established in the Village of Long Branch, and in order to prevent confusion with names of streets in adjacent municipalities it is desirable and necessary to alter the names of certain streets within the Village,
Therefore: The Council of the Corporation of the Village of Long Branch
 ENACTS as follows:

<u>Present Name</u>	<u>New Name</u> (may 13th 1935)
Government Rd	23 rd Street
Spirea Ave	24 th "
Lilac Ave	26 th "
Teak Ave	27 th "
Pine Ave	28 th "
Violet Ave	29 th "
Kingsbury Ave	30 th "
Myrtle Crescent	31 st "
Dahlia Ave	32 nd "
Lansdowne Ave	33 rd "
Long Branch Ave	same
Lakeview Ave	35 th "
Greenwood Ave	36 th "
Woodlawn Ave	37 th "
Eastwood Ave	38 th "
Lake Drive	39 th "
John Street	40 th "
Ridge Road	41 st "
Highbview Ave	42 nd "
Camp Street	43 rd "
Cedar Ave	Meaford Ave
Beech Ave	City Road
Balsam Ave	Ramsgate Road
Spruce Ave	Iris Road
Maple Ave	Shamrock Ave
Fir Ave	Jasmine Ave
Oak Crescent	Atherton Crescent
Connaught Circus	Arcadian Circle
Hazel Crescent	Crystal Crescent
Chestnut Ave	Lawson Ave
Beach Road	Lake Promenade
Elm Road	Dominion Road
Arbour Reserve	Muskoka Ave
Edgewood Road	Marina Ave
Park Road	Park Boulevard
Rose Ave	Fairfield Ave

John Sheanon,

 Reeve
W. B. Baker,

 Clerk

PASSED by a vote of three-fourths of all the members of the Council this 13th day of May A.D. 1935.





