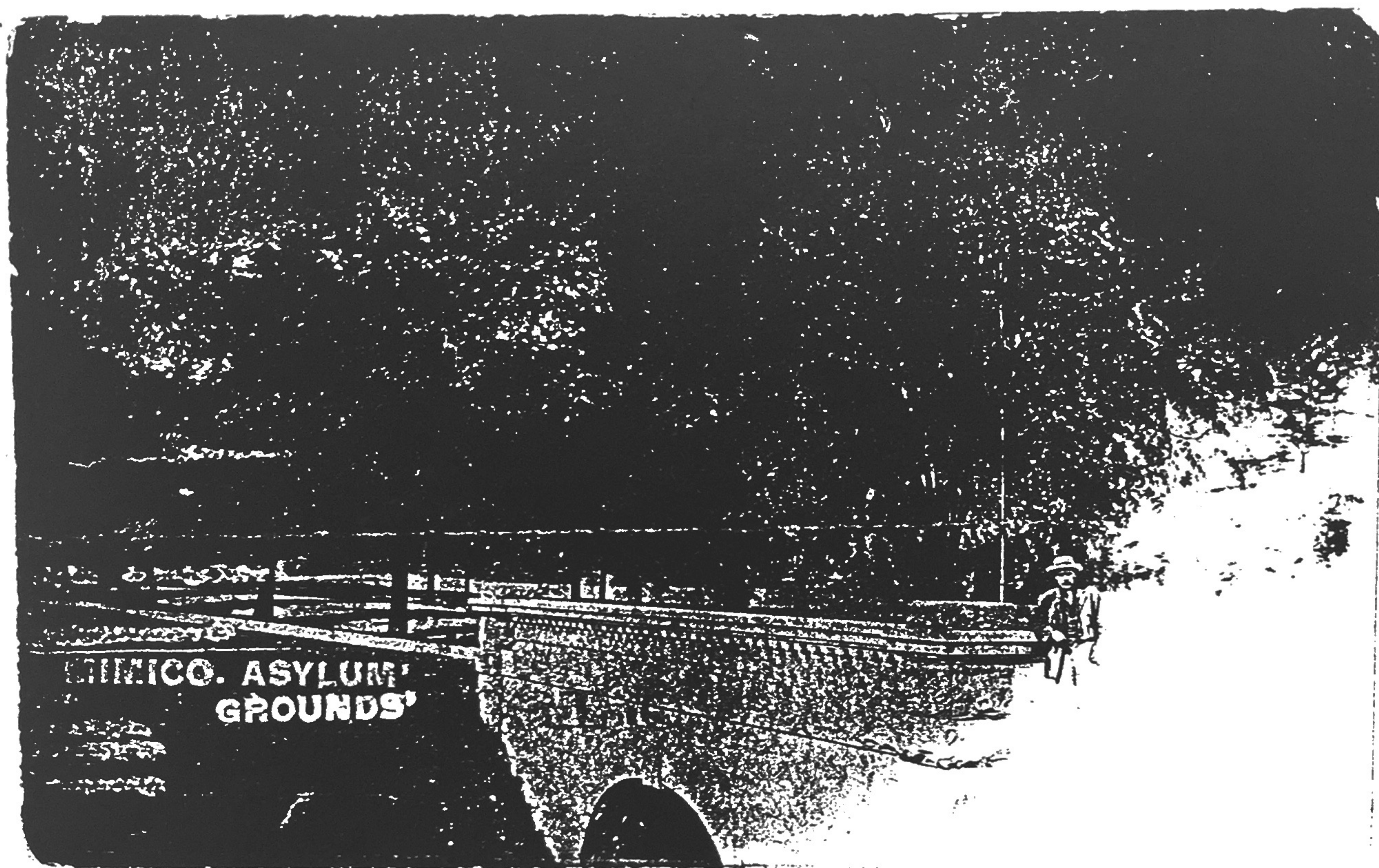


# **The Mimico Asylum/Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Grounds: Summary of New Research with Recommendations for Proposed Heritage Installation**



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## Overview

The goals of this research project were:

1. To document the nature and location of source material relating to the history of the Lakeshore site.
2. To recommend sources, particularly photographs, which may be suitable for inclusion in a heritage display on the grounds.

Certain aspects of the site's history, namely the history of the building and landscaping program from 1889 to 1911, were found to have been already well-documented in past research. Fundamental research was carried out by Margaret Carter in 1986, and more recently by Pleasance Crawford in 1995.<sup>1</sup> The present report is intended to be read in conjunction with their work. While this report does not needlessly repeat their research, it does make some of their findings more explicit and draw scattered information together into a more coherent whole. It also chronicles information which was not directly relevant to their research, but which may be of value for exhibition and/or current planning purposes.

The report that follows is comprised of four main sections: 1) a summary of new research; 2) brief treatments of the various building and grounds' functions with an emphasis on information which supplements or clarifies past research; 3) general content recommendations for the heritage display, with an appendix of specific recommendations, namely quotes from original sources; and 4) a list of photographs suitable for display purposes. An annotated bibliography will follow.

### 1. Summary of new research with recommendations for further research

New sources examined in the course of this research fall into three main categories: administrative records; period newspaper and magazine articles; and photographs.

Administrative correspondence not cited previously was found in the Records of Ontario Psychiatric Hospitals, Record Group (RG) 10, at the Archives of

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<sup>1</sup>Margaret Carter, "Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital, Etobicoke" (Toronto: Ontario Heritage Properties Program, 1986). Pleasance Crawford, "Preliminary Cultural Landscape Chronology for the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Grounds, Etobicoke, Ontario" and "Preliminary Documentation to Support a Cultural Landscape of the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Grounds, Etobicoke, Ontario", Appendices to "Heritage Assessment & Conservation Recommendations: Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital/Humber College Site" prepared by Cecelia Paine and Associates, 1996. Crawford conducted further research in 1999 for Taylor/Hazell Architects Ltd.: "Addendum to Preliminary Documentation..."



Ontario.<sup>2</sup> This correspondence dates from as early as 1890 and originates from the offices of hospital superintendent and bursar. Two files in this series were found to be of particular interest: File RG 10-20-H-4-24.6 "Recreation" and File RG 10-20-H-4-24.4 "Repairs and Alterations to Buildings, 1895-1952". The file of correspondence regarding recreation reveals a great deal about the historical use of the amusement ground ("cricket oval") and the Assembly Hall building. The types of recreation and entertainments enjoyed by patients, staff, and members of the community at large are well documented here, as well as in a "Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings, 1919-1927" found in the same series (this scrapbook is discussed further below). The correspondence dealing with building repairs and alterations supplements the superintendents' Annual Reports and chronicles the dilapidated state into which many of the buildings had fallen by the 1930s as well as the steps taken to remedy the situation.

Further administrative correspondence and documents can be found in the Records of the Inspector of Asylums, Prisons, and Public Charities, RG 63, Sub-series A-1, also at the Archives of Ontario. A certain number of files in RG 63 have been previously documented by Crawford.<sup>3</sup> Other files in RG 63, however, have not been documented elsewhere and may be of interest to other researchers. Access to all of these files is restricted under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. An access request could not be processed within the time frame of the current research contract, therefore no attempt was made to view these records.

Period newspaper and magazine articles have not been sought out by previous researchers. The current research project, however, has been carried out with the view in mind of a heritage display on the Lakeshore site. Old newspaper or magazine articles showing the community context in which the institution operated would be of great value in any such display. A collection of articles was found in the above mentioned "Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings" (Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-6). These clippings, dating mostly from the 1920s, chronicle events at the Mimico Asylum/New Toronto Hospital including cricket matches and dances. Also among these clippings are general articles about the state of mental health care in Ontario in the 1920s. An article about the retirement of Superintendent Dr. N. H. Beemer (1894-1928) was found in the Biographical Scrapbooks, Special Collections, Toronto Reference Library.<sup>4</sup> Finally, an illustrated feature article on the "Mimico Mental Hospital" in MacLean's Magazine, March 15, 1923 was viewed at the Toronto Reference Library.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Archives of Ontario, Series RG 10-20-H-4, Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital, 1890-1968. In addition to administrative correspondence, this series contains financial and patient records.

<sup>3</sup>Crawford, "Addendum", 1999.

<sup>4</sup>Toronto Reference Library, Special Collections, Biographical Scrapbooks (microform), vol. 10, p. 107

<sup>5</sup>Reine, "Sunlight Through Shadow", MacLean's, March 15, 1923.



Several new photographs of the grounds (i.e. not cited in previous research) have been identified in archival and published sources. The photographs in the following list are in chronological order. Please refer to the bibliography for complete references.

- an undated (ca. 1900), oblique westward view of the central Administration building and cottages prior to plantings of trees and flower beds, and with a partial view of the central service buildings in the quadrangle beyond<sup>6</sup>
- a postcard view (ca. 1910?) of the stone bridge which once stood over the ravine on the main drive into the grounds, also showing ornamental plantings (trees and flower beds)<sup>7</sup>
- two illustrations in MacLean's Magazine (1923), one showing the stone bridge over the ravine with the Administration Building and Cottage 3 obscured by trees, and one showing a small wooden bridge at an unknown location on the site<sup>8</sup>
- photocopies of Mr. William Cumberland's personal photo album showing the lake shore, pavilions, and hospital buildings ca. 1940-1950. Mr. Cumberland is the son of T.D. Cumberland, Superintendent 1936-1959<sup>9</sup>
- aerial photographs dated 1947, 1950, and 1953 showing the location of farm buildings prior to destruction of the hospital farm in the late 1950s and 1960s<sup>10</sup>
- a 1963 shot of the orchard (trees bare) and another of a chicken coop prior to demolition<sup>11</sup>
- a group of color photographs from the 1960s showing the Administration building and the floral display in front, the newly constructed "Moorhouse", and the old Trades Building destroyed by fire<sup>12</sup>

In addition to the above photographs of the hospital buildings and grounds, several photographs of hospital administrators and doctors have been located:

- complete series of hospital superintendents from 1890 through 1978<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>6</sup>Archives of Ontario, Special Collections, Acc. no. 13172-15

<sup>7</sup>Montgomery's Inn

<sup>8</sup>MacLean's Magazine, March 15, 1923, pp. 15, 17. MacLean's photo editor Peter Bregg says these illustrations may be reproduced for display purposes provided the magazine is credited and the entire page on which they occur is shown.

<sup>9</sup>Etobicoke Historical Board files in the care of Molly Sutherland.

<sup>10</sup>City of Toronto Archives, Series 12, Aerial Photos, 1947-1965

<sup>11</sup>City of Toronto Archives, former Works Library, Series 4, Sub-series 2, nos. 2785 and 2786

<sup>12</sup>Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health, Gunn Collection, black binder with "Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital" embossed in gold letters.

<sup>13</sup>Archives of Ontario, Special Collections, Acc. no. 13172-1 through 13172-10



- portrait photo of Superintendent Dr. N.H. Beemer; outdoor shot of Dr. Beemer with fishing gear and cigar or pipe; photo of Assistant Medical Superintendent Dr. Claude MacLennahan standing by a wooden bench near one of the cottages; and a photo of Dr. Harry B. Moyle, an Assistant Physician (all from MacLean's, 1923)

Other aspects of the site's history, though outside the scope of the current report, are recommended for further research. The institutional history of Lakeshore Hospital can be pursued in the administrative and medical records extant at the Archives of Ontario, as well as in the statistical tables which follow each of the Superintendent's Annual Reports. Dr. Nelson Henry Beemer, hospital superintendent for 34 years (1894-1928), is himself a figure worthy of more serious historical research. Beemer was absolutely crucial to the success of the Lakeshore hospital during its primary period: he oversaw the expansion of the hospital's physical plant and advanced therapies which were innovative for the day. Beemer also appears to have been a prominent figure in Toronto during his tenure at Lakeshore. Historical knowledge of the hospital and its grounds may also be advanced by an oral history project. A contact list of potential interviewees is appended to this report (Appendix C).

## 2. Site Components and Historic Functions

### 2.1 Farms: The "North Farm" and the "McNeil Farm"

The hospital farms were vital to the economic survival of the institution and also played a significant therapeutic role in the patients' lives. The so-called "North Farm", located off-site approximately 1.5 miles north of the Lake, was the first part of the "Mimico Branch Asylum" to be established. According to the Annual Reports of the Inspector of Prisons and Public Charities, patients from the Toronto Asylum at 999 Queen St. W. were first sent out to work this 160 acre farm in the spring of 1888.<sup>14</sup> Prior to 1903, the North Farm was the primary site of the hospital's farming operation. Even after the acquisition of the farm adjacent to the hospital, however, the North Farm remained crucial to the hospital's agricultural production. A railway siding connecting the North Farm to the hospital grounds proper was built in 1909 to enable cheaper and more efficient delivery of farm produce.<sup>15</sup> And a 3000 yard trench was dug in 1915 to accommodate a pipe "to carry water from the main hospital to the buildings at the

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<sup>14</sup>These patients did not yet live on the farm but were transported daily between Queen St. and the Mimico farm. Annual Report, 1888, pp. 4-5. For the acreage see letter dated March 22, 1909 from Dr. Beemer to E.R. Rogers, Inspector of Asylums at the Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, Griffin-Greenland Collection, File no. 741

<sup>15</sup>"This year the Grand Trunk Railway has built a railway siding five hundred and fifty feet in length for the use of the Institution near the road between the north and south farms, and it is conveniently situated for the delivery of all goods at either of these properties." Annual Report, 1909, p. 72



North Farm."<sup>16</sup> Norman Reilly Reine's 1923 McLean's article on the Mimico Asylum rather curiously treats of the North Farm to the exclusion of the farmland immediately adjacent to the hospital grounds.<sup>17</sup> Buildings known to have stood on the North Farm include a Cottage housing twenty patients, a house for the Farmer, Assistant Farmer and Mason, a barn, stables, piggery, root house, implement sheds, and slaughter house.<sup>18</sup>

The McNeil Farm, as it was known even after it was incorporated into the Mimico Asylum, comprised 73 acres of land west of Kipling Ave. stretching from Lakeshore Rd. south to the Lake. When this farm was acquired in 1903, Superintendent Dr. Beemer had been pushing the government to buy it since 1896.<sup>19</sup> Beemer's most immediate recommendations for the new farm included:

- the removal of the public road (Kipling Ave.) to the west of the farm property to keep out the "idle and curious". The new road (23rd St.) was opened in 1908.<sup>20</sup>
- the diversion of the creek which ran south-east through the McNeil property to the Lake. This was accomplished in 1906 through the construction of an underground water course, supervised by the Provincial Engineer, Mr. Fairburn.<sup>21</sup>
- the digging of a "sewage farm" along the northern edge of the property. Beemer, and his predecessor Dr. J.B. Murphy, had repeatedly complained about the confluence of the hospital's water supply with its sewage disposal system (the water intake pipe was located 400 yards east of the waste dumping site), and there were recurring outbreaks of typhoid fever. The sewage farm envisioned by Beemer involved a system of downward filtration in a series of open air trenches.<sup>22</sup> It is not clear if this system was ever realized.
- the removal of the stables from the west end of the quadrangle to the farm. This was not done until sometime after 1928.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>16</sup>Annual Report, 1915, p. 72

<sup>17</sup>Reine, "Sunlight through Shadow", MacLean's, March 15, 1923, p. 17

<sup>18</sup>Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, Griffin-Greenland Collection, File no. 741, letter dated March 22, 1909 from Dr. Beemer to E.R. Rogers, Inspector of Asylums

<sup>19</sup>The acquisition of more land to the west would allow for the relocation of the vegetable garden, the removal of the stables from the quadrangle, and also for the digging of a "sewage field", one of Beemer's pet projects. Annual Reports, 1896-1903.

<sup>20</sup>Annual Report, 1903, pp. 106-107; Annual Report, 1908, p. 69

<sup>21</sup>Annual Report, 1903, p. 105; Annual Report, 1906, p. 75

<sup>22</sup>Annual Reports, 1892-1903. See especially 1895 and 1903.

<sup>23</sup>Annual Report, 1903, p. 107; Annual Report, 1907, p. 118. Beemer complains that the stables have not yet been moved in 1912, Annual Report, 1912, p. 82. The Deputy Provincial Secretary refers in a letter of 1928 to "a barn" housing five horses standing behind the hospital kitchen which ought to be moved. Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-24.4, "Repairs and Alterations to Buildings", Letter dated April 16, 1928.



- the transfer of the vegetable garden from the land north of the men's cottages (immediately next to Lakeshore Rd. around the Assembly Hall building) to the new farm. It is clear from the Annual Reports that vegetable gardening did take place on the new farm, but the cultivation of the old plot continued through the 1950s (see 2.3 below).<sup>24</sup>

With the exception of the orchard in the far north west corner of the McNeil farm, no institutional farm land or buildings survive today.<sup>25</sup> A brick barn, 40' x 70' x 18', with a slate roof and cement floor was erected in 1907 on "the west side of the McNeil farm, near the new road."<sup>26</sup> Comparison of aerial photos taken before and after the construction of the Lakeshore Teachers' College (now Humber College) in the late 1950s, indicates that this barn once stood in the north west corner of the college parking lot, next to 23rd St.<sup>27</sup> Aerial photos also reveal that other farm buildings (sheds, granaries, chicken coops) once stood on the other side of the creek from the Laundry and Incinerator (refer to the Dept. of Public Works site plan of 1936 as reproduced in the Paine report), and west of the Power Plant. The northern half of the property, between the orchard on the east and the barn on the west, seems to have been used for vegetable gardening. An irrigation system for this garden was installed in 1913.<sup>28</sup> The southern half was given over to other crops.

## 2.2 The Central Building Complex and Quadrangle

The history of the Administration Building, residential Cottages, and surrounding landscape has been covered extensively by Crawford and Carter, and the reader is referred to their reports. The following information is supplemental and may be of interest to current site planners:

- aerial photos show that the quadrangle was not paved for use as a car park until after 1963 (but before 1966).<sup>29</sup>

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<sup>24</sup>Annual Report, 1903, p. 107; below p. 8

<sup>25</sup>A cemetery on Evans Ave. once adjoined the North Farm. "All that is left of those rich arable acres is the hospital cemetery near Evans Avenue in which are buried about 2000 indigent patients." Dr. Ian Bond, "History of Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital", 1976, Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health, Griffin-Greenland file no. 741. References to the cemetery recur in the sources.

<sup>26</sup>Annual Report, 1907, p. 119

<sup>27</sup>City of Toronto Archives, Series 12, Aerial Photos

<sup>28</sup>"...a trench twelve hundred feet in length was made for a new water pipe along the south side of the garden as far as the brick barn. This new four inch pipe will supply small pipes branching off northward into the garden space." Annual Report, 1913, p. 80. Beemer reported a higher yield in vegetables the following year as a result of irrigation. Annual Report, 1914, p. 78

<sup>29</sup>City of Toronto Archives, Series 12, Aerial Photos, 1947-1965



- one of two skating rinks on the grounds stood in the quadrangle south of Cottages D and E (as noted by Crawford). In aerial photos ca. 1947-1953 a rectangular bald patch in the lawn behind Cottage D can be seen, which may indicate the rink's former location.<sup>30</sup>
- excavation was begun ca. 1921 for a swimming pool on the site of this same skating rink. Dr. Beemer imagined a multipurpose facility: swimming pool and emergency water supply (for fire fighting) in the summer; skating rink and ice supply (for cold storage) in the winter. The Public Works Dept. ordered him to stop all work on the pool in 1922, apparently for financial reasons.<sup>31</sup> According to the MacLean's article of 1923, however, the hospital administration had not given up on the project. The journalist, pointing to "a large excavation" behind the men's cottages, was told, "That will be our bathing pool".<sup>32</sup> But the pool was never completed.

The sources contain extensive information about the repairs, alterations, and improvements made to the central buildings. The changing functions of the various buildings and rooms are also well-documented in the source material. Cottage B, for example, was used as a TB ward from 1933 until 1945.<sup>33</sup> Also of interest, is the fact that the subway system originally housed an underground railroad for the "delivery of food from the kitchen to the cottages".<sup>34</sup>

### 2.3 Assembly Hall

The need for an assembly building was voiced by superintendent Dr. J.B. Murphy in 1892.<sup>35</sup> In 1895 Dr. Beemer complained that the 27' x 37' room above

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<sup>30</sup>Crawford, "Preliminary Cultural Landscape Chronology", p. 4; City of Toronto Archives, Series 12, Aerial Photos

<sup>31</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-24.6, "Recreation", Letters dated July 14, 1921 and Feb. 1, 1922.

<sup>32</sup>Norman Reilly Raine, "Sunlight Through Shadow: Story of the Development of Mental Hospitals in the Dominion of Canada", MacLean's, March 15, 1923, pp. 16-17. According to the superintendent's Annual Report for 1922, Reine visited the hospital in August of that year, six to seven months after Beemer was ordered to stop work on the pool.

<sup>33</sup>"...early in the year 1933 Cottage 'B' was renovated to care for the Tubercular Mentally Ill patients of all Ontario Hospitals, and accomodation was made in the basement of this cottage for the various members of staff in the Ontario Hospitals who had developed T.B. while on duty". After 1945 these patients were moved to other institutions. Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health, Griffin-Greenland Collection, #741, "Memoires [sic] of my office career at the Ontario Hospitals, New Toronto, Woodstock, Toronto 1930-1968" by Emily Hopewell, p. 2.

<sup>34</sup>Beemer reported in 1908 that the "old turntables and iron tracks...had in many places become worn and almost useless through age, and have in a large measure been replaced by new and more durable ones." Annual Report, 1908, p. 68. According to the May 1961 Target article, the railroad ceased operation in 1932. S.J. Gamester, "A History of the Ontario Hospital, New Toronto", The Target (1961): p. 7, Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, Griffin-Greenland Collection, File no. 741. Crawford refers to the railroad briefly in her "Preliminary Cultural Landscape Chronology", p. 9

<sup>35</sup>Annual Report, 1892, p. 10



the boiler room which they were using for chapel and entertainment was subject to both overcrowding and overheating.<sup>36</sup> By 1898 a proper facility had been erected. This new building became known as Assembly Hall. It quickly became a central gathering place, not only for hospital staff and patients, but also for the Lakeshore community at large. Weekly church services and dances were held and concerts given by Toronto and Lakeshore neighbourhood choirs.<sup>37</sup> Demand for use of the Assembly building by the local community became so great by the 1930s that restrictions had to be imposed on access to it. A letter of 1934 by Superintendent Dr. H.A. McKay reported:

We have been so flooded with requests from all types of organizations for the use of the hospital for other purposes, particularly in connection with the Assembly Hall. The Honourable the Minister [sic] finally ruled that it should only be used for the purposes originally intended, namely care of patients, unless it might be some very particular charitable purpose in which all proceeds would go to welfare.<sup>38</sup>

According to a patient's history of the hospital, Assembly Hall in the 1930s was "the scene of boxing and wrestling matches, concerts, dances, etc." and was "also used for such social functions as wedding receptions".<sup>39</sup> Also in the 1930s, however, Assembly Hall, like other hospital buildings, began to show serious signs of age. A 1937 inspection of the hospital concluded that the assembly building was a fire trap.<sup>40</sup>

Assembly Hall was erected on the plot of land which was the original site of the hospital garden: "in front of the [men's] cottages and facing the front road" on the "most prominent section of our grounds".<sup>41</sup> Long after construction, the ground around the building continued to be tilled for this purpose. The Paine report says it was "cultivated until sometime between 1954 and 1978".<sup>42</sup> More precision in dating, however, appears possible on the basis of aerial photographs. Aerial photographs prior to 1957 show telltale ridges of cultivation surrounding Assembly Hall. Aerial photographs from 1963 onward do not show the same marks of cultivation on this part of the site.<sup>43</sup> It seems likely therefore that this space was converted from vegetable gardening to ornamental park at some time between 1957 and 1963.

## 2.4 The Amusement Ground, or "Cricket Oval"

<sup>36</sup>Annual Report, 1895, pp. 158-159

<sup>37</sup>For specific examples see the Annual Reports, "Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings", Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-6), and "Recreation", Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-24.6

<sup>38</sup>Letter of March 1934 by Dr. McKay addressed to Harry Price of the Anaconda Athletic Association, "Recreation", Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-24.6

<sup>39</sup>Gamester, p. 7

<sup>40</sup>Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, Griffin-Greenland Collection, Mental Hospital Survey Committee, "A Survey of the Ontario Hospitals" (New York, [1937]).

<sup>41</sup>Annual Report, 1893, p. 133

<sup>42</sup>Paine, p. 10

<sup>43</sup>City of Toronto Archives, Series 12, Aerial Photos, 1947-1965.



The cricket oval (1896) took two years of patient labour to complete. The ground chosen for it was very uneven -- there were depressions of six feet in places -- so a great deal of leveling was required.<sup>44</sup> The end result was an amusement ground of excellent quality. In 1896 Dr. Beemer proclaimed:

This ground which is just completed will compare favorably with any other amusement ground...(in Ontario)...and in all years to come, so long as the asylum stands, it will afford the best possible facilities for all sorts of outdoor sports for the patients.<sup>45</sup>

Not only did the patients enjoy the use of the amusement/sports ground. Dr. Beemer was an avid cricket enthusiast and throughout his tenure as medical superintendent at Mimico, the hospital had its own staff cricket team, which played regularly against other Toronto and area teams. The "Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings" at the Archives of Ontario includes several pages of clippings from local newspapers about matches played by the Mimico Asylum team.<sup>46</sup> But by the late 1920s the hospital team was disbanded. And although cricket was not the preferred sport of patients (softball and football were found to be more suitable), cricket matches continued to be played. Like Assembly Hall, the cricket oval was a facility not duplicated elsewhere in the Lakeshore community, and it also became a popular location with community groups. The Mimico Cricket Club, in a request to use the cricket oval, pointed out that "the grounds here [i.e. at the hospital] are practically the only good ones available any place in this neighborhood."<sup>47</sup>

## 2.5 The Lakeshore Pavilions

There has been considerable confusion in the past concerning the number of pavilions which stood at the water's edge and the date of their construction. According to Carter there were two pavilions, Taylor/Hazell Architects four, and Paine and Crawford five.<sup>48</sup> The current research indicates that Paine and Crawford are correct in their identification of five pavilions, or gazebos. The so-called "men's pavilion", the rectangular gazebo which still stands on the site, was built in 1893. That year, Superintendent Dr. Murphy reported that it was "a favorite resort for the patients" which was "never unoccupied" in fine weather.

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<sup>44</sup>Annual Report, 1896, p. 193

<sup>45</sup>Annual Reports, 1896, p. 193

<sup>46</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-6, Scrapbook, pp. 33-38, 49

<sup>47</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-24.6, File labelled "Recreation", Letter of Medical Superintendent F.S. Vrooman to Deputy Provincial Secretary H.M. Robbins, January 1929. This same letter indicates that while "there was formerly a strong cricket team in connection with this Hospital and for many years it was one of the best, if not the best, in this District", in recent years it had become "practically impossible to maintain a team".

<sup>48</sup>Carter, p. 11; Taylor/Hazell Architects Ltd., "Hexagonal Gazebo known as the 'Women's Pavilion', Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital (formerly Mimico Asylum)", (Toronto, 1995), p. 1; Paine, pp. 7-8



Prior to the construction of the other pavilions, male and female patients shared this original structure: the men patients had access to it in the morning, and the women in the afternoon.<sup>49</sup> At least two additional pavilions were built in 1896. As noted by Crawford, these were polygonal structures which may both have looked like the structure shown in the Annual Report for 1911. Two additional gazebos were built between 1922 and 1939.<sup>50</sup> These were hexagonal pavilions, and the frame of one remains extant.

### 3. Content Recommendations for Proposed Heritage Installation

The following content recommendations are submitted to provide planners of the proposed heritage installation at the Lakeshore site with display ideas derived from the historical record and to thereby avoid having planners duplicate research already completed. A general framework for the display, supported by specific facts, quotes, photographs, and artifacts which may be suitable for inclusion, is suggested below.

#### 3.1 General Recommendations

The report prepared by Cecelia Paine and Associates Inc. in 1996 included among its heritage conservation recommendations the education of "site owners, students, seniors, local residents and others about the history of the hospital, *including both health programs and site development*"<sup>51</sup> (emphasis added). The proposed heritage installation in the renovated Assembly Hall can contribute toward this end.

Research to date on the history of the Lakeshore Grounds has been conducted from an urban planning perspective. It has been conducted in order to assess the site's heritage value and to frame conservation and redevelopment guidelines for the future. The primary focus has therefore been on the architectural and landscape heritage of the site. Its history as a psychiatric institution from 1890-1979, and as a location providing (among other things) varying degrees and types of mental health services from 1979 to the present, has been of secondary interest in the research. While the history of "site development" would necessarily be an intrinsic element of the proposed heritage installation, the history of "health programs" at the site should also feature prominently.

The original design intent for the site and its buildings was to create a therapeutic institutional setting for the mentally ill. As recommended by the Paine

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<sup>49</sup>Annual Report, 1893, p. 132

<sup>50</sup>The Paine report dates the final two pavilions to the period "after 1911 and before 1939". But now evidence was found in the Annual Reports for the construction of new pavilions prior to 1922.

<sup>51</sup>Paine, pp. 19-20



report, the design intent must be respected, not only in terms of conservation and redevelopment, but also in terms of public education.<sup>52</sup> The proposed heritage installation affords site owners the opportunity to inform and educate the public about the history of mental health care in the Lakeshore community, Toronto, and Ontario. The public and community context in which the institution operated can be emphasized and individuals who made key contributions to the planning and running of the institution recognized. The City and the Asylum, an illustrated booklet about the history of 999 Queen St. W., is suggested as a useful model for the installation.<sup>53</sup>

The Paine report determined that "the primary period of significance associated with this site is 1889-1911" because the "buildings central to the design intent" and the "development of the grounds in response to the therapeutic concept" took place during those first two decades. This period is of primary significance, however, not only because the main buildings were erected and the grounds landscaped according to the design intent, but also because the buildings and grounds were fulfilling their intended function: providing an innovative therapeutic environment for the institutionalized mentally ill. In this sense, the site's "primary period of significance" extended beyond 1911 until 1928. After 1928 the onset of the Great Depression and changes in the hospital's administration led to a period of material and therapeutic decline at Lakeshore. The heritage installation should therefore focus on the years from 1889-1928.

For specific recommendations (quotes, etc.) please refer to Appendix A.

Photographs will, of course, figure prominently in the installation. A list of historical photographs, along with photocopies of many of them, is appended to this report (Appendix B).

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<sup>52</sup>Paine, p. 19

<sup>53</sup>The City and the Asylum (Toronto: Museum of Mental Health Services, 1993). This booklet can be consulted at the Toronto Reference Library or may be purchased from the Museum of Mental Health Services at 1001 Queen St. W.



## Appendix A: Specific Content Recommendations

### Mental Health Care in Historical Context

Nineteenth- and early twentieth-century ideas about the causes and cures of mental illness, may strike many people at the end of the 1990s as hopelessly misguided or even cruel. Historically, however, the introduction of "the cottage system" for housing the mentally ill was a true innovation, as was the use of ornamental grounds to promote the recovery of patients. After describing the asylum at 999 Queen St. W., a Toronto guidebook of the mid-1880s reports:

It is now considered advisable that what is called the Cottage System should be tried with the insane, and it is therefore contemplated to remove inmates of the Asylum to some remote place in the country.<sup>54</sup>

Soon after the end of the First World War the *Toronto Sunday Morning* paper boasted in an article headlined "Improving Treatment in Ontario Hospitals" (June 22, 1919):

It is only about 120 years since anyone in the world first attempted to take care of a mental case without chains. Practically every kind of restraint has bene [sic] used in these hospitals until recent years.

At the present time no patient in the province of Ontario uses a padded room, wears a straight jacket or is confined to a dark cell...

And MacLean's magazine writer Norman Reilly Reine observed at Mimico in 1923:

No longer are mental hospitals constructed as great, gloomy piles of masonry with narrow, barred windows, strait-jackets and padded cells. To-day, hospitals are located in bright, cheery surroundings, where all the beauties of healing nature may exercise their kindness, and spread the light of reason through poor shadowed minds.<sup>55</sup>

The language used to talk about mental health and mental health issues has changed in significant ways since then. It is no longer acceptable, for example, to use a word like "lunatic" to describe someone with a psychiatric disorder. But when the hospital at Lakeshore became independent of its parent institution at 999 Queen St. W. it was named the "Mimico Lunatic Asylum". Official government records from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century refer to psychiatric hospitals as "Lunatic and Idiot Asylums". Newspapers of the period use the same language, also referring to patients in these institutions as "inmates".<sup>56</sup> Mental health care professionals, however, were not entirely insensitive to the effects of this kind of derogatory usage. Lakeshore's longest serving medical superintendent, Dr. Nelson Henry Beemer, recommended a name change for the institution as early as 1895. He wanted it to be called a hospital rather than an asylum because the latter term carried with it a certain "odium" and

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<sup>54</sup>C. Pelham Mulvany, Toronto: Past and Present, A Handbook of the City (Toronto: Caiger, 1884), p. 65

<sup>55</sup>Norman Reilly Raine, "Sunlight Through Shadow: Story of the Development of Mental Hospitals in the Dominion of Canada", MacLean's, March 15, 1923, p. 15

<sup>56</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-6, Scrapbook. According to Molly Sutherland, secretary of the Etobicoke Historical Board and long-time area resident, patients at Lakeshore were routinely called "inmates" by the community at large. Even today the grounds are commonly known simply as "the bin". Interview, August 3, 1999.



because hospital was more suggestive of a program of treatment and recovery than asylum.<sup>57</sup> The government did not grant Beemer's request until 1911 when the "Mimico Lunatic Asylum" was renamed the "Mimico Hospital for the Insane". Then ca. 1919 it was renamed again, this time as Ontario Hospital, New Toronto. It took some effort, however, to bring about a change of consciousness outside official medical circles: a government official writing to the Manager of the Bell Telephone Company complained that the telephone book still listed the Toronto and Mimico Hospitals as "Hospitals for the Insane":

This is not consistent with the new name given these places under recent legislation (which eliminates the words "for the Insane" to avoid any chance of stigma attaching to the patients of these institutions), and I would be glad if you would kindly have these items corrected in your directory...<sup>58</sup>

The novelty of the therapy provided at Lakeshore, with its emphasis on patient work and recreation, is apparent in the earnest rhetoric of hospital doctors trying to prove the psychological benefits derived therefrom. Superintendent Dr. J.B. Murphy, reporting on a daytrip taken by 100 patients to the Exhibition August 30, 1893, wrote:

It seems that contact under proper conditions with their more fortunate fellow beings in the outer world has an influence for the good on the insane, and the beneficial effects of the day spent at the Exhibition could be observed for several days afterwards, in the cheerful appearance and conversation of many of them.<sup>59</sup>

Bearing in mind the real progress represented by the cottage system at Lakeshore, it should on the other hand be remembered that late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century ideas about mental health simply cannot be reconciled with modern medicine. In the medical thought of the day, for example, mental illness was often believed to stem from *moral* deficiencies.<sup>60</sup> Gender and class appear to have played a role in the diagnosis and/or confinement of the mentally ill: an unscientific examination of a series of tables "Shewing Trades, Callings and Occupations of Patients Admitted into the Asylum" reveals that the vast majority of patients during the period of primary significance fell into the following categories: housewives, domestic servants, farmers, labourers, and the unemployed.<sup>61</sup>

Then as now, there were failures in the delivery of mental health services. A detailed study of the "Annual Statistical Reports" appended to the superintendents' Annual Reports, may show how few patients actually "recovered" sufficiently to be discharged from the hospital. And sometimes, despite the appearance of progress, patients relapsed for no apparent reason. In 1898 Dr. Beemer reported the tragic suicide of a female patient:

...a woman who had practically enjoyed the freedom of the institution for nearly a year, and who was apparently happy in her daily occupation in the kitchen, suddenly and with no warning decided to end her life and did so with the aid of a small cord.<sup>62</sup>

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<sup>57</sup>Annual Reports, 1895, p. 156. Beemer also thought a change of name would be appropriate for geographic reasons: the hospital was significantly closer to New Toronto than to Mimico.

<sup>58</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 8-5-A1, File labelled "H.E. Willmott", letter dated 22 September, 1919. Viewed copy in personal files of Pleasance Crawford, Landscape Historian.

<sup>59</sup>Annual Reports, 1893, p. 134

<sup>60</sup>Included in the "Annual Statistical Reports" are tables "Shewing Causes of Insanity" grouped by moral, physical, and hereditary causes. Annual Reports, *passim*.

<sup>61</sup>"Annual Statistical Reports", Annual Reports, *passim*.

<sup>62</sup>Annual Reports, 1898, p. 192



Such a suicide could likely not have been prevented. But, as is also the case today, there were also occasional cases of abuse. Among the records of the Inspector of Asylums, Prisons and Public Charities subject to 100-year closure under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, is a file rather bluntly labeled "Abuse of Lunatic by Attendant".<sup>63</sup>

Finally, there is the controversial issue of electric shock therapy. Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital had the dubious honour of being the first medical facility in Ontario to use this very controversial treatment.<sup>64</sup> After the closure of Lakeshore in 1979, heritage conservationists argued in favour of the preservation of the site. But some former patients felt differently. Fifty former Lakeshore patients, members of the Ontario Coalition to Stop Electroshock Therapy, rallied at City Hall and at Queen's Park on November 6, 1983.<sup>65</sup>

#### Dr. Nelson Henry Beemer, Superintendent 1894-1928

Dr. Beemer, the hospital's longest-serving medical superintendent, is a figure of great importance in Lakeshore's history. Several photographs of him are extant (see Appendix B, "People"). S.J. Gamester, the patient who wrote the 1961 history of Lakeshore in the hospital's newsletter, describes Beemer as follows:

...the powerfully austere countenance is misleading — Mr. Sutherland [John M. Sutherland, Chief Attendant in 1961] informs me that although his eyes had a cold and forbidding expression — the man radiated a kindly warmth of spirit — his mission in life was to do the greatest possible good for his patients and staff members.<sup>66</sup>

Beemer was absolutely dedicated to the material and therapeutic improvement of the hospital. He advanced ideas about mental health care which were remarkable for the time. When the Ontario Neurasthenic Association met at Assembly Hall in September 1921, the Toronto papers reported some of Beemer's ideas. According to these reports, Beemer wanted to expand the therapeutic concept then in practice at Lakeshore so that patients who worked in various capacities at the hospital (farming, building, sewing, etc.) would be compensated financially for their labour.

The sufferers from mental disease, he [Beemer] stated, should be surrounded with all possible influences that would restore their mental activity to normal. Towards this end, he knew of no expedient so valuable as that of allowing the patients to work as closely as possible at their accustomed employment, to receive payment, and to be allowed to spend their earnings upon objects they should desire. Thus the motive would be supplied for a continued and rational line of conduct...<sup>67</sup>

Beemer also argued in favour of the establishment of an independent board of physicians to determine insanity in criminal cases,<sup>68</sup> and he wanted a speedier admission process for patients

<sup>63</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 63, Sub-series A-1, vol. 122, File no. 4430, 1899-1901.

<sup>64</sup>Dr. Ian Bond, "History of Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital", p. 3, Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, Griffin-Greenland Collection, File no. 741

<sup>65</sup>"A new fight over another old asylum", *Toronto Star*, Nov. 6, 1983 (Toronto Reference Library, Special Collections, clippings filed under Toronto — Buildings — Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital).

<sup>66</sup>Gamester, p. 4

<sup>67</sup>*The Mail and Empire*, Sept. 17, 1921, clipping in Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-6, "Scrapbook of newspaper clippings", p. 17

<sup>68</sup>*Ibid.*



to prevent the overflow being committed to gaol.<sup>69</sup> In 1902, Beemer began experimenting with schooling for the patients. One of his patients was a high school teacher and Beemer gave him the charge of a class of 21 male patients. Seven of these men responded so well to this experiment that they were later discharged. The following year Beemer recommended that female patients begin attending this new hospital "school".<sup>70</sup> In his earlier years as Assistant Superintendent at the London Asylum, Beemer had encouraged the Superintendent there (Dr. Richard Maurice Bucke, well-known for his friendship with American poet Walt Whitman) to "discontinue most forms of physical restraint and initiate an open-door policy allowing the majority of patients free access to the hospital grounds".<sup>71</sup>

### Decline and Recovery

With Beemer's retirement, Lakeshore entered a period of decline. The economic failure represented by the Great Depression likely contributed to this decline, but the change in administration at the hospital also played a role. As one doctor described it, "after Dr. Beemer's day the pendulum swung again and patients once more were locked into the wards".<sup>72</sup> A 1937 survey of the Ontario Hospitals system found that,

What was evidently a very attractive hospital plant on the shore of Lake Ontario, surrounded by pleasant grounds that were once available for groups of patients, has now by a process of joining separate buildings and neglecting to provide necessary service units developed into a less attractive place so crowded that it functions poorly...

Too little encouragement is given to the use of the out of doors. Porches are lacking. The kitchen and diningroom [sic] arrangements are poor. The tuberculosis wards are crowded. The power plant is inadequate for further expansion. The amusement hall is a fire hazard.<sup>73</sup>

A Finnish doctor arriving at Lakeshore in 1952 described the hospital as "just medieval":

I could not get over the regimentation, the way patients were treated as I imagined patients were treated before Pinel set them free. There were no pictures. Patients might cut their hands. There were no flowers or plants -- patients might hit each other.<sup>74</sup>

With the arrival of Dr. H.C. Moorhouse in 1959, however, the pendulum swung back again. According to Dr. Ian K. Bond, Moorhouse "dragged the hospital into the Twentieth Century".<sup>75</sup>

Dr. Moorhouse figuratively and literally pulled down the walls of the hospital and it spread its tentacles out into the community. It is now truly a community hospital. The outpatient department developed a community psychiatric service co-operating

<sup>69</sup>Annual Reports, 1897, p. 175. In 1913, Beemer supported the introduction of legislation to legalize "voluntary admissions". Annual Reports, 1913, p. 78.

<sup>70</sup>Annual Reports, 1902, pp. 108-109; Annual Reports, 1903, p. 108

<sup>71</sup>"Richard Maurice Bucke", The Dictionary of Canadian Biography, vol. 13, p. 124

<sup>72</sup>Bond, p. 2

<sup>73</sup>Mental Hospital Survey Committee, p. 55

<sup>74</sup>Dr. Ruth Koeppe Kajander, "Impressions of the Ontario Hospital, New Toronto (Lakeshore) in 1952", April 1980, Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, Griffin-Greenland Collection, File no. 741

<sup>75</sup>Bond, p. 2



in programmes with the schools, public health nurses, social agencies, and general hospitals. Vigorous partial hospitalization and rehabilitation programmes are now the main thrust of the hospital.<sup>76</sup>

In the 1960s, when the Association of Volunteers of Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital raised funds to build a drop-in centre for patients, they named it "The Moorhouse" after this superintendent.

When Lakeshore was closed in 1979 it was done the against the advice of independent consultants hired by the government.<sup>77</sup> Three years later, in 1982, a public inquiry into mental health care in Ontario found that overcrowding in facilities like 1001 Queen St. W. was being "compounded by the budget-cut closing of the highly-praised Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital in September, 1979".<sup>78</sup>

### Recreation and Therapeutic Practice at Lakeshore

The records contain abundant evidence concerning the program of recreation which was a cornerstone of the therapy offered to patients at Lakeshore in its earliest decades. In a letter of 1910, Dr. Beemer outlined the recreational activities available to patients. In the winter (November to mid-April) there were weekly dances and concerts, skating and hockey games, and indoor games such as billiards, cards, and checkers. In the summer the emphasis was on outdoor sports like cricket, football, lawn tennis, lawn bowling, and croquet.<sup>79</sup> The park-like setting of the hospital was another key element in this recreational therapy. Beemer wrote:

Probably our most useful form of amusement for the patients at all seasons of the year, is walking. Every day when the weather will permit, large parties are taken for long walks about the grounds or along the Lake shore...

During the summer, the female patients derive a great deal of pleasure from little picnics under the trees along the Lake shore. Often a sewing circle is formed and the women take their work and remain outside for a half day doing their work...<sup>80</sup>

Care was also taken to ensure that the patients could celebrate on special occasions and holidays. On Boxing Day 1922 the Mail and Empire reported that Christmas at Mimico Asylum had seen "more than 800 parcels" distributed, tables "spread with Christmas goodies", and a "dance and entertainment given in the afternoon".<sup>81</sup>

As noted in the main body of this report, the Assembly building and the amusement ground (cricket pitch) were frequently used by various community groups in this period. The I.O.D.E., for example, held a dance in April 1928 which The Evening Telegram declared "A Huge Success".<sup>82</sup> Dr. Bond describes the social life which enlivened the hospital grounds during Beemer's tenure:

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<sup>76</sup>Bond, p. 3

<sup>77</sup>Globe and Mail, Jan. 25, 1979. (Toronto Reference Library, Special Collections, clippings filed under Toronto -- Buildings -- Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital). This article refers to the "McKinsey Report".

<sup>78</sup>John Marshall, *Madness: An Indictment of the Mental Health Care System in Ontario* (Toronto, OPSEU, 1982), p. 111

<sup>79</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-24.6, "Recreation", Beemer to Inspector E.R. Rogers, Feb. 1910.

<sup>80</sup>*Ibid.*

<sup>81</sup>Archives of Ontario, RG 10-20-H-4-6, "Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings", p. 26

<sup>82</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 7



On a summer evening cricket and soccer games took place on extensive and beautiful grounds. Bands played Viennese waltzes and lively marches in the two gazebos while Dr. Beemer's beloved horses were being exercised. Boating was enjoyed from the hospital marina while local gentry took tea in the pavilion while enjoying the cricket matches. After dusk magic lanterns hung in the trees to the accompaniment [sic] of music concerts as all staff had to be proficient in either music or sport. In winter outdoor skating and roast chestnuts were an attraction.<sup>83</sup>

### Agriculture at Lakeshore

The hospital farms were large scale operations for their day as can be seen from a 1920 report of crop and livestock yields (poultry, garden, and orchard yields are not included):

- 60 tons surplus ensilage for cattle (plus full silos)
- 134 tons hay
- 3000 bushels barley and oats
- 2000 bushels potatoes
- 10 tons carrots
- 60 tons turnips
- 30,852 gallons milk
- 67 hogs sold; 59 hogs consumed<sup>84</sup>

The garden and orchard also produced institutional quantities of vegetables and fruit. In 1921, Dr. Beemer announced wrote that "every year the gardener manages to provide all the vegetables required for the whole population of the hospital".<sup>85</sup> The orchard, however, needed to be expanded:

The apple crop has never been equal to the needs of the patients, but this is somewhat due to the mistaken view of a former farm director that the soil and climate at this place are unfavourable to the growth of apples.<sup>86</sup>

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<sup>83</sup>Bond, p. 2

<sup>84</sup>Annual Reports, 1920, p. 77

<sup>85</sup>Annual Reports, 1921, p. 70

<sup>86</sup>Ibid.



## Appendix B: Photographs

The following list of photographs is intended to supplement Pleasance Crawford's "Preliminary Documentation to Support a Cultural Landscape Assessment of the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Grounds", (1996), pp. 1-3. Newly identified photographs are listed here along with \*select photographs previously identified. In the latter case, photographs cited in past research are listed for the purpose of providing additional information about them.

### Aerial shots

#### *City of Toronto Archives*

Series 12, Aerial Photos, 1947, 1950, 1953, 1957, 1963, 1965. These aerial photographs reveal the phases in which paved parking lots were introduced to the site. They also show the hospital farm, farm buildings and their demolition ca. 1957-1963. Black and white.

### Grounds and buildings

#### *Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health, 1001 Queen St. W.*

Griffin-Greenland Collection, file labeled "Unprocessed: Lakeshore", Range 8, Bay 2. View of south (women's) cottages and Administration Building taken from the south-east. Non-extant features visible: wooden verandahs, chimneys, tower of Administration Building. Patients and/or staff gathered on steps leading into cottages. Taken prior to plantings east of quadrangle. Black and white. ca. 1900. \*Another copy held by the Archives of Ontario, Special Collections (see below) and cited by Crawford.

Gunn Collection, black binder labeled "Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital". "Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital - 1969". View of Administration Building (tower has been removed), Cottage 1, and circular drive with floral displays. Color.

Gunn Collection, black binder labeled "Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital". "Centennial Floral Display". Color. [1967].

#### *Archives of Ontario, Special Collections*

\*No. 13172-14. View of south (women's) cottages and Administration Building taken from the south-east. Non-extant features visible: wooden verandahs, chimneys, tower of Administration Building. Patients and/or staff gathered on steps leading into cottages. Taken prior to plantings east of quadrangle. Undated, but copy held by Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health, Griffin-Greenland Collection is dated ca. 1900. Black and white. Cited by Pleasance Crawford.

No. 13172-15. View of east-facing cottages and Administration Building. Slightly oblique angle of photograph provides partial view of central building behind the Administration Building. Taken prior to plantings east of quadrangle. Undated [ca. 1900?]. Black and white.

#### *City of Toronto Archives*



Former Works Library, Series 4, Sub-series 2, Small Photographs, Water Supply, Box 48198, No. 2785 "Looking North showing chicken coop to be destroyed", April 16, 1963 and No. 2786 "Looking North toward Lakeshore Rd., showing posts for temporary fence" (and trees in orchard), April 16, 1963.

*Etobicoke Historical Board, Files in the care of Molly Sutherland, Secretary to the Etobicoke Historical Board.*

Hexagonal gazebo, Spring 1983. Color.

Photocopies of Mr. William Cumberland's personal photo album showing the shoreline, pavilions and other buildings in the 1940s. Mr. Cumberland is the son of T.D. Cumberland, Superintendent from 1936-1959. Black and white.

MacLean's Magazine, March 15, 1923

"A pleasant vista in the well-kept grounds at Mimico", showing the stone bridge over the ravine and hospital buildings beyond. This illustration, like the others in this feature article, was viewed on microfilm. The quality appears very good. These illustrations may be reproduced for display purposes providing MacLean's Magazine is credited. Contact Photo Editor, Peter Bregg. p. 15

"One of the many beauty spots that add to the comfort and happiness of the patients at the Mimico hospital", showing a wooden bridge at an unidentified location on the grounds. p. 17.

*Montgomery's Inn*

Postcard view, "Mimico Asylum Grounds" showing stone bridge over ravine, trees and ornamental plantings. [ca. 1910? Did not view original which may be postmarked].

Postcard view showing cricket oval and players with cottages behind. \*Another copy is held by the Toronto Reference Library, Baldwin Room, PC 1097; cited by Crawford.

Postcard view, "Grounds and Office Building, Mimico Asylum, Toronto, Canada", showing Administration Building, trees and ornamental plantings. \*One copy is held by the Toronto Reference Library, Baldwin Room, PC 1096 and another by the Archives of Ontario, Special Collections, No. 10527/S16254; cited by Crawford.

## People

*Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health, 1001 Queen St. W.*

"1927 & 8 Cott. 5 Staff", Griffin-Greenland Collection, file labelled "Unprocessed: Lakeshore", Range 8, Bay 2. Shows a group of nurses in uniform standing outside one of the hospital buildings.

*Archives of Ontario, Special Collections*



No. 13172-1. N.H. Beemer, M.D., Superintendent, 1894-1928. Black and white portrait. Same as photo held by Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health.

No. 13172-2. Hugh A. McKay, M.B., Superintendent, 1930-1936. Black and white portrait.

No. 13172-3. F.S. Vrooman, M.D., Superintendent, 1928-1929. Black and white portrait.

No. 13172-4. J.B. Murphy, M.B., Superintendent, 1890-1894. Black and white portrait. Same as photo held by Archives of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health.

No. 13172-5. Herbert C. Moorhouse, M.D., Superintendent, 1959-67. Black and white portrait.

No. 13172-6. Dr. Gunn, MBE, M.D., Superintendent, 1967-1972. Black and white portrait.

No. 13172-7. R.C. Hansen, M.Ph., Administrator, 1972-1974. Black and white portrait.

No. 13172-8. F.F. Morin, B.A., Administrator, 1974-75. Black and white portrait.

No. 13172-9. C.W. McKinnon, B.Sc.Ph., Administrator, 1975-1978. Black and white portrait.

No. 13172-10. Thos. D. Cumberland, OBE, M.B., Superintendent, 1936-1959. Black and white portrait.

\*No. 13172-11. Mimico Asylum Football Club, 1905. Staff team members assembled with Dr. Beemer on the front steps of the Administration Building. Cited by Pleasance Crawford.

\*No. 13172-12. Mimico Asylum Cricket Club, 1903. Staff team members assembled with Dr. Beemer on the front steps of the Administration Building. Cited by Pleasance Crawford.

\*No. 13172-13. Mimico Asylum Cricket Club, 1905. Staff team members assembled with Dr. Beemer on the front steps of the Administration Building. Cited by Pleasance Crawford.

MacLean's Magazine, March 15, 1923

"Dr. N.H. Beemer, Superintendent of the Mimico Hospital". Portrait photo. This illustration, like the others in this feature article, was viewed on microfilm. Contact Photo Editor, Peter Bregg. Black and white. p. 15

"Dr. Beemer is an ardent fisherman, and gets his relaxation from this favorite spot", showing Dr. Beemer as a sporting gentleman. Black and white. p. 16.

"Dr. Claude MacLennahan, Assistant Medical Superintendent", showing the doctor standing in front of a wooden bench near one of the cottages. Black and white. p. 16

"Dr. Harry B. Moyle, Assistant physician at Mimico", showing the doctor in military uniform with a walking stick. Black and white. p. 55



## Appendix C: Interview candidates for oral histories

### *Recommended by Molly Sutherland:*

Mr. William Cumberland (son of Superintendent Dr. T.D. Cumberland)  
1407 Crescent Rd.  
Mississauga, ON  
L5H 1P5  
(905) 278-7687

Mrs. Nora Pownall (William Cumberland's sister)  
2591 Lake Shore Blvd. W.  
Toronto, ON  
M8V 1G5  
(416) 259-8154

Mr. John Easton (son of Dr. Easton)  
258 Lake Promenade  
Toronto, ON  
M8W 1B3  
(416) 251-1511

Frank Longstaff (local history buff; his father was Town Clerk of New Toronto)  
15 La Rose Ave. Apt. 711  
Toronto, ON  
M9P 1A7  
(416) 249-7356

### *Recommended by Councillor Irene Jones:*

Flora Voisey (longstanding resident)  
(416) 259-0663

David Donset (long-standing resident)  
(416) 253-1658

### *Recommended by Dr. Cyril Greenland:*

Bob Symons (former maintenance worker at Lakeshore)  
(416) 535-8501 Ext. 3114 (1001 Queen St. W.)

[Dr. Greenland's number is 925-6166]

### *Recommended by Pleasance Crawford:*

Former Lakeshore nurse (contact Crawford 922-7997 for name and number)



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### Primary sources

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[Archives of Ontario. RG 63. Records of the Inspector of Asylums, Prisons, and Public Charities. Restricted under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. May be viewed after submitting an access request which may take several weeks, even months, to process.]

Archives of Ontario. Special Collections. Accession no. 13172 (15 photographs).

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Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, 1001 Queen St. W. Griffin-Greenland Collection.

Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, 1001 Queen St. W. Gunn Collection.

Canadian Psychiatric and Mental Health Services Archives, 1001 Queen St. W. Unprocessed: Lakeshore. Range 8, Bay 2.

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