



Lakeshore Grounds
Interpretive Centre

Two Perspectives on the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Video Transcript

Pre-Movement: Introduction

- SOUND *Upbeat instrumental music fades in and continues throughout the introduction.*
- VIDEO *A card with the title "Two Perspectives on the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital," and the logo of the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre fades in for a moment, replaced by a contemporary image of the Assembly Hall.*
- NARRATOR Welcome. If you are following this path in person, you should be standing right outside the Assembly Hall on its west side, on the sidewalk. My name is Maranda and for the next thirty minutes I will be your guide. As we move together through this experience I will narrate your path, indicating where to go, when to stop, and helping you to visualize the area as it was in 1893.
- VIDEO *The image of the Assembly Hall fades out, replaced by a historical photo of the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital, viewed from above.*
- NARRATOR You will walk this path as fictional patients at the former Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital - or what was then called the Mimico Branch Asylum. This experience will discuss the hospital's history including treatments administered, details of patient labour, and confinement. Some of the terms I will use to refer to patients and treatment facilities will be those appropriate to the time period, for historical accuracy. For the first half of the experience, you will walk as Anthony, a male patient, and for the second half you will walk as Jean, a female patient. The encounters they have with people along this path today are also fictionalized. You will hear other voices which will be Anthony and Jean's internal thoughts, respectively. Throughout the experience I will be describing what they see, hear, and the various actions they take such as stretching out their arms. I encourage you to follow along with these directions to further embody the experience, but when you follow any of my directions, please be mindful of your surroundings, and travel where it is safe.



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- VIDEO *The image of the hospital fades out, replaced by another contemporary photo of the Assembly Hall.*
- SOUND *The opening music fades out and as gardening is mentioned, the sound of someone digging in the dirt can be heard,*
- NARRATOR Let us now step back in time together. Imagine it is 1893 and you have just finished a labour intensive afternoon of gardening in this area. You should be facing the Assembly Hall to start. The next voice you will hear is Anthony's internal thoughts.
- SOUND *The sounds of men talking to each other begin to fade in. Nature sounds like birds and squirrels can be heard intermittently throughout the experience.*

ANTHONY

Movement #1: Assembly Hall to C Building

Walking Time: 1 Minute

- ANTHONY Phew! Another long afternoon finally over. The radishes are coming in nicely but I don't know why the tomatoes aren't doing very well.
- NARRATOR Working in the fields every day is hard on the body. Before we get moving, take a few moments to stretch out. Stretch your back, for all the leaning over to tend to the crops. Stretch your arms, for carrying heavy bags of seeds and other equipment. Finally, stretch your legs for all the bending and straightening you did to reach the plants. Come to a neutral position facing the Assembly Hall. Today it is operated by the City of Toronto and used primarily for arts and cultural programming, but as it wasn't built until 1898 - at this point in 1893, it did not yet exist. Replace in your mind's eye this building with an open field. This was the area where gardening took place. Turn right and begin heading south, down the path. Stop when you get to the crosswalk just beyond the parking lot.
- VIDEO *The image of the Assembly Hall fades out, replaced by a contemporary image of the sidewalk leading south to the crosswalk.*
- SOUND *The sounds of footsteps walking through grass fade in and continue throughout this section.*



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- ANTHONY It's really not fair to get all of us to put in the work in the gardens. No pay, with the sun beating down on us all afternoon.
- NARRATOR When the psychiatric hospital first opened here in 1890 under the name "Mimico Branch Asylum," patients were treated under the philosophy known as "Moral Treatment." This philosophy originated in England, France, and Italy prior to its integration in North American hospitals.
- VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the shoreline of Lake Ontario.*
- NARRATOR Moral treatment was built upon the concept that patients needed a change in their environment in order to heal. They were taken out of their communities and placed in institutions built within beautiful environments outside of the city. At the Mimico Branch Asylum, walking paths would have also been constructed to provide access to the Lake - a crucial resource as well as being part of the therapeutic view. Moral treatment required the days to be highly structured, and labour was the primary focus. Different projects were assigned to male and female patients, but the focus was on those that contributed to the operations of the hospital. Recreation was also part of this highly structured schedule, and their diets were regulated as well.
- ANTHONY Just for one day I wish we could get a project indoors. I heard the women get to do all their chores inside. It must be better than burning up in the sun like this.
- VIDEO *The image of Lake Ontario fades out, replaced by a contemporary image of the apple trees that are across the street.*
- NARRATOR To your right across what is currently Colonel Samuel Smith Park Drive you will see a handful of apple trees - picture a full orchard in front of your eyes, surrounded by acres of crops. Imagine you can see them swaying in the breeze.
- VIDEO *The photo of the trees fades out, replaced by an image showing a closer view of the apples on the trees.*
- NARRATOR At this point in time, they are part of the McNeil farm, though they would eventually become part of the hospital grounds in 1903, providing more work for the patients and more resources for the institution.



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- ANTHONY It'll be great to get back to the cottages - I'd like a chance to get off my feet for a bit.
- VIDEO *The image of the apples fades out, replaced by an image of the crosswalk.*
- NARRATOR At this point you should be standing at the crosswalk.
- VIDEO *The image of the crosswalk fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the sidewalk leading east along the cottages.*
- NARRATOR Turn to face the red brick College buildings. These were originally cottage buildings where the patients lived at the hospital.
- SOUND *The sounds of people walking in the grass fade out.*

Movement #2: C Building to F Building
Walking Time: 2 Minutes

- SOUND *The sounds of people walking on rocky terrain fade in and continue through this section.*
- NARRATOR Start moving down this sidewalk to follow the cottage buildings towards the east. If you get to the end of these three cottages before I do, wait up for me! You should be stopped right before the sidewalk curves to the right.
- VIDEO *The photo of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a historical image of the cottages at the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital.*
- NARRATOR Cottages, like pretty much everything else at the hospital, were divided by gender, to align with societal norms. These three cottages, which are now known at Humber as Buildings C, D, and E, were designated for male patients. Increasingly over time patients would be separated more by their diagnosis, allowing for men and women to be in the same group, but they would still sleep in separate buildings until the final years of the institution's history.
- VIDEO *The image of the hospital fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the view from further east down the sidewalk.*



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- ANTHONY It feels like ages since I've been at my cottage. First thing this morning I was up and brought down to the gazebo for our "recreation" along the shoreline, then after lunch this afternoon was all gardening. I'm tired.
- NARRATOR Male patients were typically assigned outdoor labour projects, but they could also be assigned indoor projects as well. In 1893, the male patients were mainly assigned to projects such as gardening, construction, cleaning or repairing the wards, assisting with the laundry, and farming. The construction projects they were involved in helped to shape the hospital as a whole. They built the Superintendent's Residence, Assembly Hall, and the tunnels that helped to transport items between the cottages, in addition to laying down pipes, working on the sewers, and digging gardens.
- VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a photo of the tunnels that are still visible between the cottage buildings.*
- NARRATOR Female patients, on the other hand, were given primarily indoor projects such as washing laundry, cleaning the wards, preparing meals, and sewing and mending items such as aprons, sheets, and dressing gowns.
- VIDEO *The image of the tunnels fades out, replaced by a photo of the cricket pitch, with the Power House visible in the background.*
- ANTHONY I've heard the attendants talking about some new project in the works. Something about turning that bit of land to the south of the property into an area we can use during our recreation time. I think it should be used as a baseball diamond!
- SOUND *The sound of a bird flapping its wings fades in and continues. The chirp of a European Starling bird can also be heard intermittently.*
- VIDEO *The image of the cricket pitch fades out, replaced by a photo of a European Starling perched on a branch.*
- NARRATOR You catch a glimpse of a bird flying ahead of you. It is dark and gleaming, with a shorter tail than most ordinary birds.
- ANTHONY That must be a European Starling! I had heard they've made their way to Ontario now. Those blasted Shakespearean enthusiasts released them in New York and now they're wreaking havoc wherever they go!



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NARRATOR A group of Shakespeare enthusiasts did in fact release European Starlings in New York in 1890. They aimed to introduce all of the birds described in Shakespeare's plays into North America. The birds would eventually make their way across the continent - at the Mimico Branch Asylum they destroyed the local crops and hospital buildings significantly enough that a "war" was waged between 1935 and 1945 to deal with them. You take a look behind you to see the attendants are turned away from you, talking to another patient. You decide to follow the bird as you watch it flit further east down the path. You hurry along, hoping the attendants won't notice you are gone.

ANTHONY I won't be gone long - I just want to watch it for a few more moments.

SOUND *The sounds of the European Starling fade out. The sounds of the men talking and walking begin to fade out.*

VIDEO *The image of the bird fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the parking lot that sits to the left of the sidewalk.*

NARRATOR You should now be past the three male cottages on this northern edge of the buildings. Instead of a parking lot to your left, you would have been looking at an open field. Later, in 1931, a Nurses' Residence would be constructed here but the building was demolished following the closure of the Hospital.

VIDEO *The image of the parking lot fades out, replaced by a photo of the part of the sidewalk that curves around the final cottage on this strip.*

NARRATOR You should now be at the corner of the path. You see the bird fly down the path to your right.

SOUND *The sound of a bird flying away can be heard.*

Movement #3: F Building to G Building
Walking Time: 1 Minute

VIDEO *The image of the curve in the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a photo of the sidewalk leading south towards G Building.*

NARRATOR Turn right, and follow the curve of the sidewalk south. We will be going to the end of this strip, but for now, pause when you get to the centre building - you'll recognize it for its arched entryway.



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- VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by another image of a European Starling perched on a branch.*
- ANTHONY My brother and I used to love watching birds together. He would be so envious if he knew I had spotted the European Starling before him!
- NARRATOR The bird still in your sights up ahead, you quicken your steps.
- VIDEO *The image of the bird fades out, replaced by a historical image of the main building and cottages of the hospital.*
- NARRATOR Though the hospital opened in the era where Moral Treatment was a predominant theory for mental health care, administrators of the hospital would adopt other approaches for treating patients over the years. Hydrotherapy, for instance, was introduced to Mimico around 1908 - patients were confined in bathtubs for hours at a time while water of a specified temperature ran continuously over their bodies. Depending on the temperature, the “continuous bath” was intended to either calm or excite the individual. Later, beginning around 1937, somatic therapies were also used. These treatments included using chemicals, electricity, and even surgery to dramatically alter the patient’s physical body in order to also affect the mind. Occupational and Recreational therapy, that were initially used to rehabilitate soldiers after World War I, included arts, crafts, and sports, combined with aspects of the earlier moral treatment philosophy. Eventually, the hospital would also adopt medications called psychopharmaceuticals.
- VIDEO *The historical image of the hospital buildings fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of G Building.*
- NARRATOR You should now be stopped outside the centre building in this area. Today, Humber calls this “G Building,” but when the hospital was in operation, it was where the main entrance to the institution was located. When patients were admitted, they came through these doors. There used to be a tower attached to the building, but that has since been removed. Stained glass was also used for the windows in the portico. Facing the building, there would have been a patient-made garden in this roundabout area.

Movement #4: G Building to H Building
Walking Time: 1 Minute



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- NARRATOR As you look at the entrance, you think back on the day you first arrived through those doors, before continuing down the sidewalk.
- VIDEO *The photo of G Building fades out, replaced by an image of the sidewalk leading to the end of this strip.*
- NARRATOR Stop when you get to the corner of the sidewalk.
- ANTHONY I haven't seen my family since I was first admitted. No visits, not even a letter.
- VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a historical image of the hospital buildings viewed from a northern vantage point. In the image, you can see people sitting in chairs on the lawn.*
- NARRATOR At this point in time, public views of mental health were quite negative, so Anthony's experience would not have been uncommon. Once admitted, some patients' families broke communication and didn't acknowledge their existence to others - although visitation was permitted. The hospital made some changes over the years to combat the stigma associated with mental health treatment. Changes they made to the name of the hospital reflected this goal. Though the name changed to the Asylum for Insane, Mimico upon separating from the Toronto Asylum in 1894, it then changed in 1920 to the Ontario Hospital, Mimico to address these stigmas. However, they then realized the name did not accurately reflect the geographical location so they changed it in 1934 to the Ontario Hospital, New Toronto. The final name change happened in 1964 when it became the Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital, a name it held until the closure in 1979.
- VIDEO *The historical image of the hospital fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the sidewalk leading to the end of this strip, viewed from further south down the path.*
- SOUND *The sound of a bird flapping its wings can be heard, as well as the sound of it pecking at the mortar on the building. These sounds continue through the next few sections of text.*
- NARRATOR You see the bird is now flying near the roof of the final building on this side, pecking away at the mortar between the bricks.
- ANTHONY If I'm very careful maybe I can get a closer look when I get over there, then I'll head back to the cottages.



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- VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of Cumberland House.*
- NARRATOR To your left, you should be able to see Cumberland House, originally built as the residence building for superintendents of the hospital. It was named after Doctor Thomas Daly Cumberland, the final superintendent to live in the house, who served as superintendent from 1936 to 1959.
- NARRATOR You should now be nearing the corner of the sidewalk. You see the Starling fly down from the building to sit on the sidewalk.
- SOUND *The sound of the bird flying down to the ground can be heard, as the pecking sounds stop.*
- VIDEO *The image of Cumberland House fades out, replaced by a final image of a European Starling perched on a branch, this time with its beak open.*
- NARRATOR You cautiously approach and watch the bird.
- SOUND *The sound of a twig snapping can be heard.*
- NARRATOR You step on a twig and it turns toward you. It tilts its head, as if studying you, then it flies off, heading south towards the lake.
- SOUND *The sound of the bird flying away can be heard.*
- ANTHONY I suppose that means I must head back now.

Movement #5: H Building to I Building
Walking Time: 53 Seconds

- NARRATOR Anthony may have to head back to the male cottages, but our journey isn't over yet.
- VIDEO *The image of the bird fades out, replaced by a photo of the curve in the sidewalk that leads to the southern edge of the cottages.*



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- NARRATOR We are going to continue following the sidewalk by turning right and heading around the corner before stopping in front of the first cottage building on the south side of the campus.
- SOUND *The sounds of women talking begin to fade in and continue throughout the remainder of the experience.*
- NARRATOR As you move, remember that we are changing perspectives. We are now at the end of the work period for Jean, a female patient, whom we will follow next. Jean spent the morning washing laundry, her prescribed labour activity.
- SOUND *The sound of steam from an iron can be heard.*
- NARRATOR Washing laundry at the hospital was a dangerous task involving large industrial washing machines and much heavy lifting. The original laundry room would have been housed in the inner courtyard behind today's "G Building" in what was known as the Centre Building - it was demolished in the later years of the Hospital's operations. Imagine you have finished this intense morning and have made it back to the cottages to prepare for your afternoon. You are with a large group of female patients who will be heading down together to the lake shore for your recreation time. There are a few attendants with your group, identifiable with their white aprons and matching caps, trying to hurry everyone along in order to keep to your schedule.
- VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of I Building.*
- NARRATOR You should now be approaching the first cottage building on this side. Today it is called "I Building." The next voice you will hear is Jean's internal thoughts.

JEAN

Movement #6: I Building to K Building

Walking Time: 1 Minute

- JEAN Another morning of laundry done. I suppose it's alright to have something to occupy the time, but I wish I could be on one of the other crews. Sweeping the floors would even be better than this.



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- NARRATOR Washing laundry in 1893 would have been hard on the patients' bodies, so before we continue, let's take another moment to stretch out. Your hands would be particularly tight and sore after wringing out the piles of laundry so start by stretching them. Lifting up large piles of laundry would also be hard on the back and arms, so take a moment to stretch them as well. After spending all morning inside, your eyes strain in the sunlight, but as they adjust they focus on the group of women that surround you. You are all facing in the direction of the lead attendant who is doing a headcount. Attendants would have been strict in keeping their patients together and following the schedule assigned to them for their prescribed labour and recreational activities.
- JEAN It will be lovely to walk along the lake shore after this morning's work - I'm so tired of being cooped up in the humid, stale air of the laundry. Though I'm glad I'm not in the sewing gang - I heard from Susan that they work above the boiler room and the heat is absolutely unbearable.
- NARRATOR Satisfied that all the female patients are accounted for, the lead attendant turns on her heel and gestures for you to follow.
- VIDEO *The image of I Building fades out, replaced by a contemporary image of the sidewalk leading further west.*
- SOUND *The sounds of people walking on rocky terrain begin to fade in and continue.*
- NARRATOR Follow her west along the sidewalk until you get to the end of the three cottages on this southern edge - you will see Colonel Samuel Smith Park Drive.
- JEAN I heard the men get to work outside all day. I wish we could get outdoor tasks like them - spending all morning in a stuffy room makes me feel too constricted. I'd love to feel the sun on my face as I work.
- VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a historical image of the interior of a hospital cottage.*
- NARRATOR You are passing by the cottages that were reserved for female patients. The hospital was constructed according to an architectural design known as "the cottage plan." In other asylums at the time, the buildings were large, imposing structures. The objective of this hospital's buildings was to be smaller, and feel welcoming. The



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cottages had a dorm style interior, with multiple patients in the same room, intended to make patients feel more connected to each other and the hospital community as a whole.

JEAN I'd get much better sleep if we weren't sharing rooms. Some of the other women snore loudly when they sleep. Though I am enjoying the newly painted walls.

NARRATOR In 1893, patients and attendants worked together to paint the walls of the cottages. The cottages would also be decorated in this year with paintings, and furniture was replaced in an attempt to make it a more comfortable environment.

VIDEO *The image of the cottage interior fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the part of the sidewalk that leads to a crosswalk.*

NARRATOR You should now be nearing the end of the cottages on this side. You turn left and see the group has begun moving south down the path.

Movement #7: Crossing the Street
Walking Time: 6 Seconds

NARRATOR You should now be right outside of the final building on this strip, which today is called "K Building."

VIDEO *The image of the sidewalk fades out, replaced by a photo of the crosswalk.*

NARRATOR You are about to cross the ring road south, towards the park. When it is safe to do so, cross the street and head towards the path in between the trees.

VIDEO *The image of the crosswalk fades out, replaced by a photo of the path that exists along the edge of the ring road.*

Movement #8: Crosswalk to Power House
Walking Time: 1 Minute

NARRATOR Now that you are on the paved path, follow the group south in the direction of the Power House.



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- VIDEO *The image of the ring road fades out, replaced by an image of the path leading south towards the Power House.*
- NARRATOR The Power House was originally built in 1938 for use at the Hospital, so at this point in 1893 it would not be in existence. To your left you would have seen trees, like you can today.
- VIDEO *The image of the path fades out, replaced by an image of trees.*
- NARRATORA In 1893 lots of work was being done to improve the appearance of the still newly opened hospital, including planting many trees across what had been cleared farmland. According to a report on the hospital's activities this year, trees were planted to line the main drive at the entrance of the hospital, as well as throughout the grounds. The objective was to create an ornamental park larger than others in Ontario at the time.
- VIDEO *The image of the trees fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the path leading south, viewed from a spot closer to the Power House.*
- JEAN Though we have a lovely view here I am so looking forward to our trip to Long Branch next week - I heard we'll get to go on a steamer!
- NARRATOR In 1893, patients at the hospital enjoyed a trip to Long Branch aboard the steamer, Greyhound. They made quite an impression on the captain of the boat who described the patients as some of the most orderly passengers he had had that season.
- SOUND *A few women chatting to each other can be heard above the other ambient sounds.*
- NARRATOR You glance over your shoulder to see a few patients have fallen behind, chatting to each other. You jump as the lead attendant yells for them to keep up.
- ATTENDANT Oi!
- JEAN They'd better hurry up - I don't want to lose any of my time at the lake because they can't stay with the group!
- NARRATOR You turn around and nearly bump right into another patient. The attendant has stopped the group waiting for the trailing women. You should be right outside the Power House now.



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- VIDEO *The image of the path fades out, replaced by a photo of the Power House.*
- SOUND *The sound of the women running to catch up to the group can be heard.*
- NARRATOR The women catch up with the rest of the group. The attendant turns around and gestures for you all to continue moving.

Movement #9: Power House to Intersection of Pathways
Walking Time: 2 Minutes

- VIDEO *The image of the Power House fades out, replaced by a photo of the path leading further south.*
- NARRATOR Continuing south towards the end of the pathway, you feel the wind tousle the stray hairs that have fallen out of your braid. You instantly release the remaining tension in your shoulders as you focus on the shoreline coming more into view in front of you. Though in our current year the lake's edge is much further south, in 1893 it began at the edge of this path. When we get there, you will see a parking lot and Swallow Field are now where the lake's edge was. Let's stop when we get to the original shoreline and listen to the waves together.
- SOUND *The sound of waves rising and falling begins to fade in and continues throughout the remainder of the experience.*
- VIDEO *The image of the path fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of Lake Ontario, viewed from the shoreline. You can see sand and a few rocks along the edge of the water.*
- JEAN The lake reminds me of the summers I spent at the beach. Running barefoot along the water, feeling the sand in my toes and the cool water splashing as I ran.
- NARRATOR The lake was part of the reason why this area was chosen for the Psychiatric Hospital - the original site was deemed to be too far from the water's edge and therefore too difficult to transport the necessary water for the institution's operations. The patients would lay and repair pipes for both the institution's drinking water and refuge. An added



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bonus of the shoreline location was, of course, that it added to the picturesque view thought to be integral to healing the patients.

- NARRATOR As you move, your gaze is focused on watching the waves rise and fall, the entire surface shimmering with the movement.
- SOUND *The sound of a woman laughing can be heard above the other ambient sounds.*
- NARRATOR You look around you at the other patients who are talking with each other. You can hear some of them complaining that they just want to go back to the cottages and lie down. Watching them huddled together talking, it reminds you of days you've spent arm in arm with your sister, chatting just like that.
- JEAN My sister was especially fond of going to the waterfront in Brockville. I still remember the one day our mother said we couldn't go as planned because the rain was too heavy and she threw such a fit!
- VIDEO *The image of the Lake fades out, replaced by a historical aerial view of Brockville.*
- NARRATOR Patients that were admitted to the Mimico Branch Asylum were not restricted to the New Toronto area. Prior to this hospital's opening, Ontario had opened five asylums in Toronto, London, Orillia, Kingston and Hamilton, but by the 1880s they were dealing with a significant overcrowding issue. The Mimico Branch Asylum was posed as a solution to this so once it was in operation, patients were brought in from all over Ontario. Initially, the patients brought to the Mimico hospital were those dubbed "chronically insane" which at the time meant that they had been in treatment for so long that physicians did not anticipate they would ever fully recover.
- JEAN I wish my sister would come to visit. I receive letters from her all the time, but I would love to see her face. I know it's quite a distance but that wouldn't stop her - I'm sure our parents are the ones preventing her from coming.
- VIDEO *The image of Brockville fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the intersection of pathways in front of Swallow Field.*



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NARRATOR At this point you should be at the intersection of pathways. You are now right on what would have been the edge of the lake. Too soon you see the group turn left and continue along the path, heading east.

VIDEO *The image of the pathways fades out, replaced by a photo of the Waterfront Trail sign.*

NARRATOR When you turn left, today you can see the Waterfront Trail sign for Toronto West-Centre.

Movement #10: Intersection of Pathways to Gazebo
Waking Time: 3 Minutes

VIDEO *The image of the sign fades out, replaced by a photo of the path leading east.*

NARRATOR You follow the group east down the path.

SOUND *The sounds of a creek begin to fade in.*

VIDEO *The image of the path fades out, replaced by a photo of the trees to the left of the path.*

NARRATOR To your left you would have seen trees and you probably would have had a better view of the small creek that still cuts across the property here. As you watch the water snake its way over the grass and rocks, you find yourself stumbling.

SOUND *The sound of feet stumbling on the path can be heard.*

NARRATOR You are able to catch yourself before you fall head first onto the ground.

JEAN They really need to work on this path. It's far too rocky.

NARRATOR Though in our present year you are moving along a paved pathway, in 1893 you would have been walking along rather bumpy, uneven ground.

VIDEO *The image of the trees fades out, replaced by a photo of the shoreline of Lake Ontario. This time, you can see many large rocks and debris along the edge.*



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- NARRATOR I expect many would have stumbled like Jean walking this path in that day - just picture how rocky much of the shoreline of Lake Ontario is to this day!
- VIDEO *The image of the Lake fades out, replaced by a photo of cement steps.*
- NARRATOR Beyond the trees to your left there also would have been a pump house in operation. In the early twentieth century it would be joined by a house where one of the physicians lived with his family. Today if you wander through this section all you are able to see remaining of the building are the original cement steps.
- VIDEO *The image of the steps fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the cricket pitch, viewed from this path.*
- NARRATOR As you continue along, the view between the trees begins to open up.
- JEAN What are they doing over there in the field?
- NARRATOR To your left, you can now see three men walking around the grassy area. You recognize one man as the hospital's superintendent. Another is one of the attendants. The final man is unfamiliar to you. Every so often you see the stranger bend down, examining the ground. He calls out to the superintendent and he gestures for the attendant to jot something down on a piece of paper.
- SOUND *The sound of a man speaking indistinctly to another can be heard.*
- JEAN I wonder if they are going to turn that field into something. It'd be nice to have another area for recreation but it would be better if we could just have more time to ourselves. Though it's nice to walk down to the shoreline, I would rather come and go down here when I choose.
- NARRATOR The man Jean doesn't recognize would have been the Provincial Architect of the time who was the designer of the hospital. At this point in time, plans were in the works to turn this land into a cricket pitch, plans which would be executed by patients as part of their labour requirement. The project began officially in 1895, taking two years for the ground to be levelled enough to be useable for recreation - a significant task according to all reports. In 1899 the pitch was enhanced by lining it with elm and maple trees. By 1900 it was fully operational. Though it was originally created to be used as a cricket



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pitch, over the years it has also been host to games of baseball, soccer, and many other sports. When it was used as a cricket pitch for the hospital, games were not only played by the patients but external community teams also played here regularly.

VIDEO *The image of the cricket pitch fades out, replaced by an image of the path leading to the gazebo.*

NARRATOR Up ahead you can start to see the gazebo. This was another early project given to patients. When the hospital was in operation, they had three styles of pavilions constructed along the shoreline. The only remaining gazebo was also the first of these to be constructed. It was built at least as early as 1893, possibly earlier. As they wanted to keep male and female patients separate, patients' recreation time at the gazebo was scheduled so there would be no opportunity for mingling between the groups. However, once additional structures had been built, male and female patients were assigned separate gazebos entirely. As you pass you should still be able to see the cement pad from one of the later gazebos.

JEAN Ah, finally we've made it!

VIDEO *The image of the path fades out, replaced by a closer view of the gazebo.*

NARRATOR You should now be close to the gazebo. As we approach it, we will be leaving Jean to enjoy the sights of the Lake. I invite you to bring yourself back to the present year as I bring you to our conclusion.

VIDEO *The image of the gazebo fades out, replaced by a historical image of people dressed in white playing on the cricket pitch.*

NARRATOR The Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital was open between 1890 and 1979, adapting its practices throughout its history. The buildings were maintained by the province throughout its history and after it was closed. The central cottage buildings are now leased by Humber College and used for classes while the surrounding buildings are primarily leased by the City of Toronto. If you are going to head back to where we came from to start this experience, you can retrace our steps, heading back west along this path and then north past the Power House to get back to the College buildings.



Lakeshore Grounds
Interpretive Centre

- VIDEO *The historical image of the cricket pitch fades out, replaced by a contemporary photo of the path leading further east, past the gazebo.*
- NARRATOR If you would like to explore the Park a little more, you can either continue along your current path or head back towards the parking lot and make your way to where the shoreline is today.
- SOUND *All ambient sounds fade out, replaced by the music from the introduction.*
- NARRATOR Thank you for joining me in this journey through time, I hope you had fun on the trip! If you enjoyed this experience, you can explore more of the Lakeshore Grounds Interpretive Centre's offerings, including additional guided journeys through time, at our website lakeshoregrounds dot c a. Narration for this experience has been provided by Maranda Tippins, the voice of Anthony has been provided by Phillip Goodchild, and the voice of Jean has been provided by Tiana Kralj.
- VIDEO *The image of the path fades out, replaced by an end card detailing credits for the video. The card remains for a moment, and then fades out.*
- SOUND *As the card fades out, so does the music.*