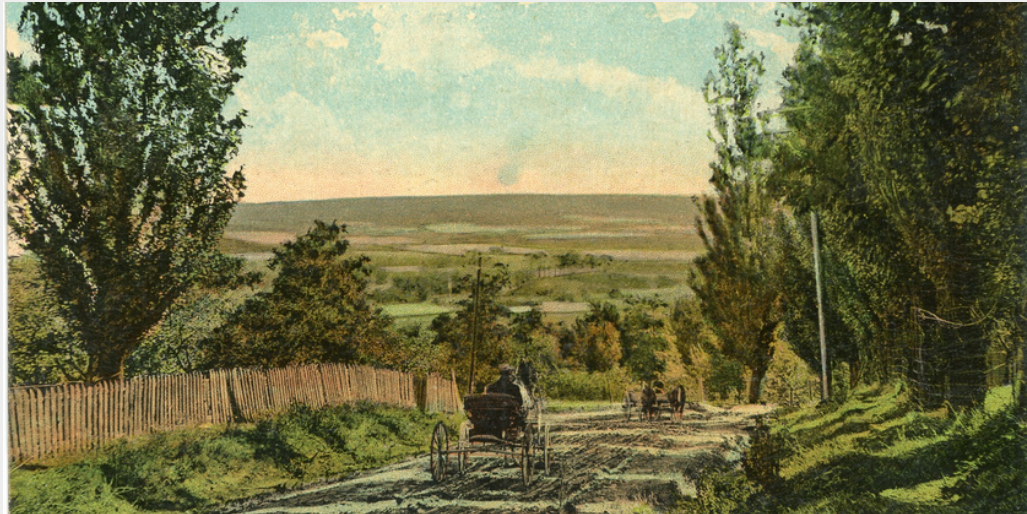


TOWN OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

CULTURAL MAP PROJECT





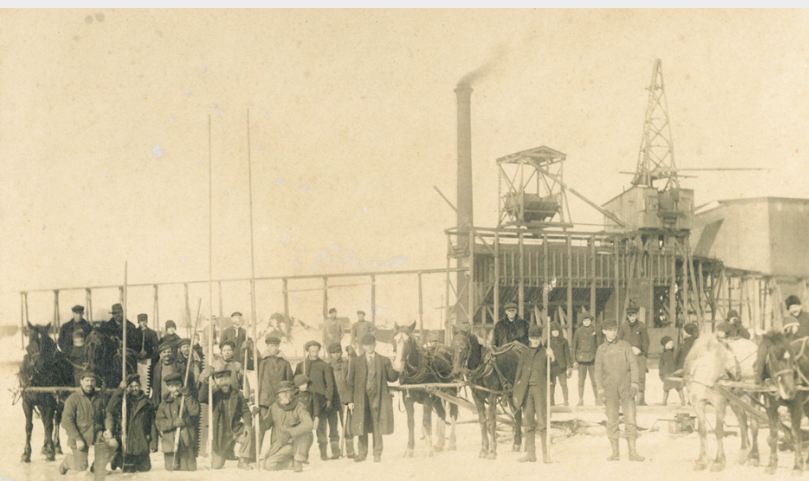
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document introduces the Town of The Blue Mountains Cultural Map (TBMCM) Project. Cultural mapping serves as a sophisticated tool, providing an integrated representation of a specific location's cultural identity, significance, and underlying dynamics. This empowers communities to not only recognize and celebrate their cultural diversity but also leverage it for economic, social, and regional growth.

The TBMCM Project aspires to create a dynamic map that renders visible the various elements that constitute The Blue Mountains' cultural tapestry. This encompasses local cultural resources, narratives, traditions, interconnections, historical recollections, and rituals. By showcasing these elements, the map transforms mere locations into meaningful spaces that resonate deeply with both residents and visitors.

Furthermore, the TBMCM Project functions as a catalyst for discourse. The map will serve as a platform for bringing together a diverse spectrum of stakeholders, fostering dialogue about the cultural dimensions and potential inherent within The Blue Mountains. This collaborative approach will facilitate the gathering, recording, analysis, and synthesis of information obtained from various groups, institutions, and individuals. By weaving together these multifaceted perspectives, the map will create a holistic representation of the cultural, natural, and intangible characteristics that define The Blue Mountains.

This project promises to be a transformative undertaking, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the unique cultural landscape that defines The Blue Mountains.





PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The Town of The Blue Mountains Cultural Map (TBMCM) Project embarks on a multi-faceted mission:

- **Documenting a Rich Tapestry:** The project aims to create a comprehensive record of the cultural, natural, and intangible features that define The Blue Mountains, encompassing both their historical significance and contemporary vibrancy.
- **Empowering Resident Voices:** The TBMCM Project prioritizes resident participation. This initiative empowers residents to self-identify and document the people, places, and resources that shape their community's unique identity. By sharing stories and narratives, residents become active contributors in creating a vibrant cultural map.
- **Bridging Communities:** The project aspires to foster connections between diverse communities within The Blue Mountains. By raising awareness of historical resources, the map can bridge the gap between residents and their local heritage, fostering a sense of shared identity.
- **Sustainable Tourism Development:** The TBMCM Project envisions promoting tourism throughout the entire town. By identifying and potentially creating cultural districts, the project aims to stimulate sustainable economic development that benefits all areas of the community.

This project promises to be a transformative journey, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for the multifaceted cultural landscape of The Blue Mountains.



DOCUMENT BREAKDOWN

IDENTIFYING CULTURAL, NATURAL AND INTANGIBLE FEATURES

This section describes the thought process and guidelines used to begin mapping TBM cultural, natural, and intangible features.

MAKING MAPS AND OTHER VISUAL TOOLS

This section demonstrates the use of TBM GIS to establish an interactive Cultural Map.

BUILDING AND MAINTAINING THE CULTURAL MAP DATABASE

This section covers the establishment of the database, its use, and guidelines for documenting features within the database.

BUILDING SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS

Cultural Mapping is a collaborative activity and depends on committed partners with common objectives. This section looks at the partnerships that have been established for the creation and publication of the cultural map. As well as how a group or person may get involved.

APPLICATIONS TO MUNICIPAL POLICY AND PLANNING

This section provides examples on how the TBMCM can be used by the Municipal Planning department, and as an ongoing decision support tool for a range of policy objectives. It can identify and describe cultural resources; promote and protect concentrations of cultural resources; strengthen cultural resource management; support economic development, cultural tourism, and branding efforts; target investments in the public realm; provide public information and awareness; and serve as the basis for benchmarking to assess whether progress is being made toward strategic objectives.

BENEFITS OF CULTURAL MAPPING

- Identifies clusters, hubs, opportunities
- Leads to new ways of thinking and working
- Crystallizes community identity
- Makes the invisible visible
- Is a great visual tool
- Identifies connections to city planning
- Creates baseline for benchmarking
- Supports Municipal Cultural Planning



INTRODUCTION

There is growing understanding that cultural vitality is critical to prosperous and sustainable local economies and communities. Just as municipalities identify and map other valued community resources and integrate them into their plans, The Blue Mountains Cultural Map enables cultural resources to be identified for the community, tourism and can be integrated into municipal planning and decision-making.

Staff at the Craigeleith Heritage Depot, the local community museum and archive, used staff knowledge and experience as well as researching local, national, and international policies, procedures, and guidelines to help establish the foundation of TBMCM. Museum staff partnered with The Town of The Blue Mountains GIS department to create a cultural map that could be used by local community members, visitors, and by Town Staff.



FOCUS OF DOCUMENT

This document looks to provide a detailed over view of the project and will include guidelines, procedures, examples, and resources.

If further information is desired please contact the Craigeleith Heritage Depot (email: museum@thebluemountains.ca or call 519-599-3681 ext. 6).

WHY IS CULTURE IMPORTANT?

SUPPORTS A THRIVING ECONOMY

Culture strengthens the economy by revitalizing downtowns, attracting tourists and businesses, and creating jobs.

ENCOURAGES SOCIAL COHESION

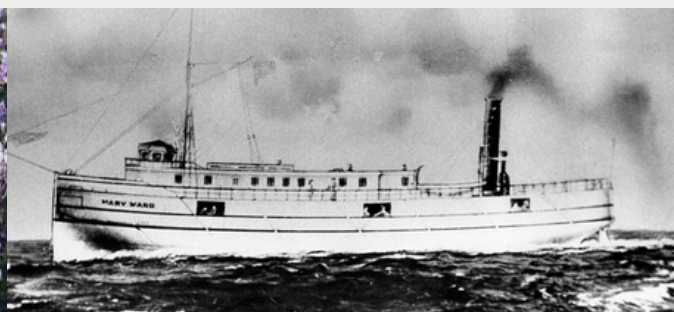
Culture engages citizens in activities that help build a sense of community. It celebrates different cultures and helps newcomers feel welcome.

ENHANCES OUR QUALITY OF LIFE

Culture gives meaning and context to people's lives. It engages our minds, improves our health and enriches the education of our children and lifelong learning.

CREATES A SENSE OF PRIDE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Culture helps define the character of a community. Residents feel a sense of pride in their unique local landmarks and history. Culture attracts new residents and keeps current residents in the community.



WHAT IS CULTURAL MAPPING?

Cultural mapping is simply a systematic approach to identifying, recording and classifying a community's cultural resources. There are two kinds of cultural mapping:

MAPPING TANGIBLE CULTURAL RESOURCES

Identifying and recording physical (or tangible) cultural resources including not-for-profit and for-profit cultural enterprises, natural and cultural heritage, festivals and events, cultural spaces and facilities.

MAPPING INTANGIBLE CULTURAL RESOURCES

Exploring and recording intangible cultural assets – the stories and traditions that contribute to defining a community's unique identity and sense of place.

Together tangible and intangible cultural resources fuel cultural vitality and contribute to defining the unique cultural identity and sense of place of a community. Cultural mapping enables us to understand and share culture; to re-think history; and to promote creativity and development.

CULTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Culture is part of the empowerment, capacity, and identity of communities. By identifying and understanding cultural features it can contribute to a holistic understanding of a place, its actors, and potential points of agency. Residents are experts of living in a place, and have very different memories, and histories connected to a place.

What is important? How is culture defined and intertwined with place? Cultural mapping can reveal how we attach ourselves, understand, use, and are inspired (or troubled) by the places we live – and identify issues within these storied landscapes. It can provoke and support collective discussions of the cultural dimensions of a community – histories, memories, symbolic touchstones, other important aspects. Cultural maps have the ability to identify what is important, from plural perspectives.



IDENTIFYING CULTURAL, NATURAL, AND INTANGIBLE FEATURES

A 'Cultural Resource Framework' was established to identify a broad set of assets in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors that are understood as being cultural resources or features and can be included in TBMCM. The listing created can further be used in a culture asset database - at a later date.

The framework that was established paints a broad picture of cultural resources, it is not necessarily comprehensive. Suggestions and public submissions may find features and resources that are equally important to the community's culture, history, and heritage. If they fit under the criteria listing (see below) museum and archive staff will take great effort to incorporate the features and resources into the map.

The illustration of the Cultural Resource Framework shows the 7 categories that help summarize the community's tangible and intangible cultural/natural resources.



Community Cultural Organization

Organizations that represent arts, heritage and ethno-cultural interests in the community. These are usually non-profits and can include arts and heritage advisory committees, ethno-cultural associations, local arts councils, dance schools and library boards.

Facilities and Spaces

Buildings and sites that host cultural activity. These can include spaces in the public, private and non-profit sectors, and include everything from purpose-built facilities to facilities that include cultural programming.





Cultural Heritage

The management and exhibition of objects, buildings, and sites of historical, cultural and educational value. These can include everything from pioneer villages to public art and archive collections. (See UNESCO definition under submission page)

Intangible Heritage

These are assets that do not necessarily manifest in physical form. Traditions or living expressions inherited from our ancestors and passed on to our descendants, such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, festive events, knowledge, and practices concerning nature and the universe or the knowledge and skills to produce traditional crafts.

Creative Cultural Industries

Businesses and non-profit groups involved in the creation, production, manufacturing and distribution of cultural goods or services. It includes everything from theatre costume making to creative software design.

Natural Heritage

Natural wonders and areas of environmental and cultural significance. These can include municipal parks, conservation areas and botanical gardens. (See UNESCO definition under submission page)

Festivals and Events

Festivals and events in your community. These can include performing arts events, tours of culturally significant places, seasonal celebrations, and many others.



MAKING MAPS AND OTHER VISUAL TOOLS

GIS, or Geographic Information Systems, is the technology that will be used to create the interactive cultural map. The identified historical locations will be converted into spatial data and stored in a GIS database.

GIS provides users the ability to capture, analyze and present geographic information. GIS is a powerful tool used for problem solving, decision making processes and presenting information through maps.

GIS technology is used in the Town of The Blue Mountains in land use planning, transportation plans, water and wastewater servicing infrastructure, emergency services response, recreational trails design, property information, civic addressing, by-law enforcement and asset management.

TBM GIS tools will be used to create the interactive map. Unlike static maps, the interactive map allows users to interact with spatial data in real time while offering a captivating journey through historical locations and photographs.

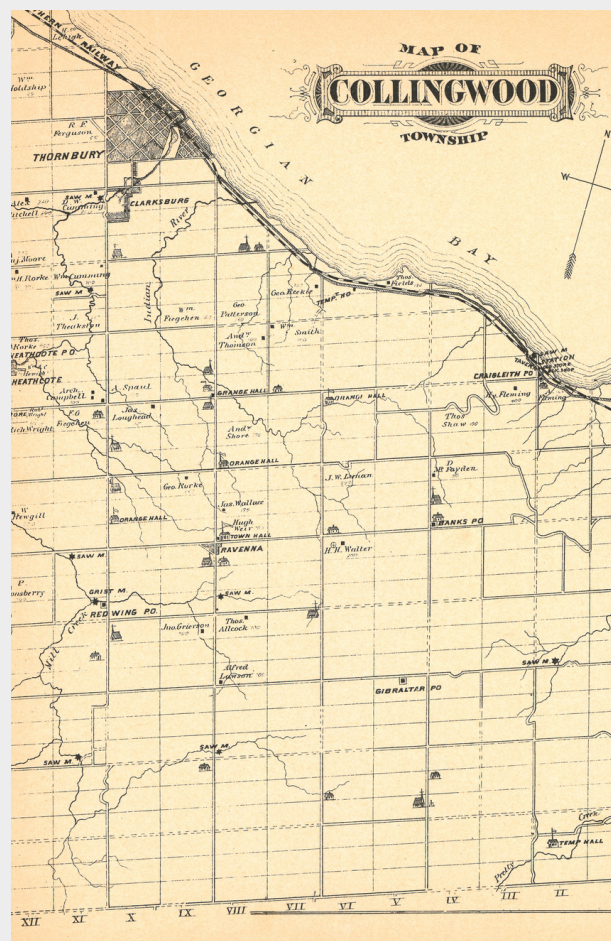
This interactive map will serve as a valuable educational resource, a source of inspiration and wonder, inviting users to connect with the past in a dynamic and engaging way.

GIS (GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEM)

GIS is a computer system for capturing, storing, checking, and displaying data related to positions on Earth's surface. By relating seemingly unrelated data, GIS can help individuals and organizations better understand spatial patterns and relationships.

GIS can use any information that includes location. The location can be expressed in many different ways, such as latitude and longitude, address, or ZIP code.

Many different types of information can be compared and contrasted using GIS. The system can include data about people, such as population, income, or education level. It can include information about the landscape, such as the location of streams, different kinds of vegetation, and different kinds of soil. It can include information about the sites of factories, farms, and schools, or storm drains, roads, and electric power lines.



SPATIAL DATA

Spatial Data is information used to pose, analyze, and resolve problems about the Earth's surface that reflect environmental and human processes.



THE KEY FEATURES AND ADVANTAGES OF GIS MAPPING IN CULTURAL MAPPING

Data Integration: GIS mapping allows us to integrate diverse datasets into a unified system, creating a better understanding of our communities past. By combining archaeological records, historical maps, aerial photographs, and satellite imagery, our community can gain a cultural resource that can be used by all.

Visualization: GIS mapping tools offer powerful visualization capabilities, enabling staff to create detailed interactive digital maps. These visuals help communicate the cultural resources effectively and allows us to engage a wider audience.

Site Management: It aids in monitoring site conditions, tracking changes over time, and implementing effective preservation strategies. If buildings, sites, or areas change the map can act as a repository to collect the community's history and heritage.

THE POWER OF GIS MAPPING TECHNOLOGIES

GIS mapping technologies provide a unique and comprehensive way to collect, analyze, and interpret geographical data. By merging this technology with cultural preservation efforts, we can gain valuable insights into the history, traditions, and artifacts of various periods in our communities history.

Virtual Representation: With GIS mapping, cultural heritage sites and artifacts can be digitally preserved, allowing individuals to explore and experience them in a virtual environment. This opens up opportunities for local residents as well as those who visit our community to engage with our communities' past, even if they cannot physically visit the sites.

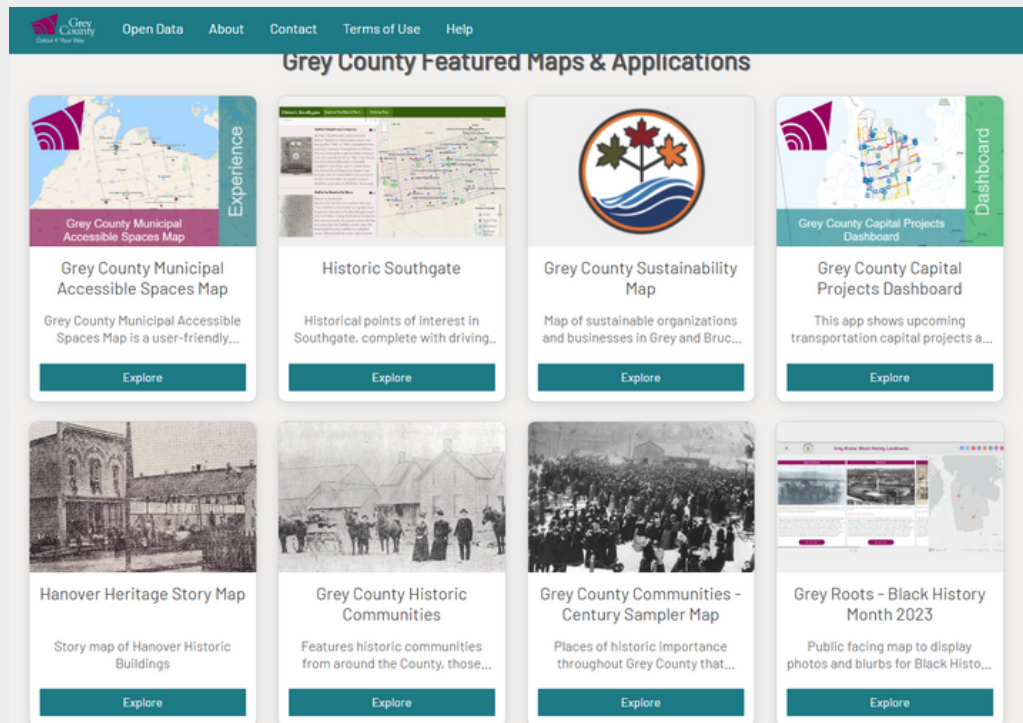
Mapping Cultural Landscapes:

GIS technology allows the mapping of entire cultural landscapes, including physical features, historical routes, and cultural heritage sites. This holistic representation helps in identifying significant areas and promoting sustainable tourism, ensuring minimal impact on cultural heritage.

Documentation and Inventory: GIS mapping enables the creation of detailed databases and inventories of cultural artifacts, historic buildings, and archaeological sites. This data is essential for cataloging and tracking the condition of these assets, aiding in their preservation and maintenance.

It is a very intuitive and user-friendly technology, which allows the researchers to effectively collect their data on a georeferenced database and to share it with the public.

The benefits of a GIS include more accurate and accessible documentation of sites, and improved monitoring, maintenance, and planning of sites.



Other Grey County historical maps were examined to get a better understanding of what other local institutions had done. These other GIS based maps helped to form a better understanding of image size, information size, and what was added and what was omitted.

The objective is to create an easy to navigate map.

To learn more about other local historical maps from Grey County please visit:

<https://maps.grey.ca/#featured>





BUILDING AND MAINTAINING THE CULTURAL MAP DATABASE

Database Management Plan:

The Database Management plan was created to help all facilitators to better understand the workflow of the project. The plan essentially consists of the following elements for each dataset: Data Set, Source, Responsibility for Updating, Updating Method, and Update Frequency.

DATASET

What is the data in question?

The dataset for this project includes documenting the cultural, natural, and intangible features both historical and present that can be/were found in The Blue Mountains.

UPDATE FREQUENCY

When will updates happen?

Update of the excel database will happen weekly. Museum staff and TBMHS members will be entering information weekly.

The GIS map will be updated monthly with new features.

SOURCE

What organization/department provided the data? From what survey or what listing?

Sources vary from local history books, local knowledge, and municipal records. Documenting the sources of descriptions, stories, and images is key to remaining transparent, promote local authors, and assist those who want to learn more.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR UPDATING

Who/what organizations will be responsible for making updates?

Updating of the excel database will be done by museum/archive staff. Updating of the GIS map will be done by museum/archive staff and TBM GIS staff.

UPDATE METHOD

Will new dataset(s) be sent to the lead partner, or will another partner upload it directly into the database?

The database excel will be updated by museum staff. Museum staff will input resources, gathered information, and submitted resources into the excel sheet in a joint folder that is accessible by GIS staff and Museum/Archive staff.



ENGAGING COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE

Community engagement is a tremendously useful way to build knowledge, momentum, and a shared understanding for TBMCM. Cultural mapping can facilitate a platform for engagement and discussion. The project looks to allow residents to self-identify and digitally map /document the people, places, and resources that define their community identity and to share the stories and narratives that go with them.

There are two ways that the public can submit features to the TBMCM:

SUBMISSION FORM (PHYSICAL)

A submission form was created to allow the public to give their input into the features they would like to see on the TBMCM.

The form includes a brief description of the project, what is cultural, natural, and intangible heritage (UNESCO definition), title, location, type of mappable feature, description of photograph (if donated), and description of feature.

You can view the submission form in the appendix of this document.

ONLINE EXHIBIT PLATFORM (DIGITAL)

The museum and archive use an online platform, Biblioboard, to create online exhibits. This platform is open sourced and allows for public submissions. A submission portal has been set up: <https://library.biblioboard.com/anthology/67337937-6231-4e13-a841-184a3c325f16> - all you have to do is hit the submit to project button to upload the feature you would like added to the Cultural Map.

This platform allows for a more indepth description that will be linked to the smaller description found on the Cultural Map.

Both forms were established to help the public to choose and submit their own features in a simple and easy way. If you have any questions feel free to reach out to the Craigeleith Heritage Depot (email: museum@thebluemountains.ca or call 519-599-3681 ext. 6) or if you prefer to submit the old fashioned way, by hand, drop your description, location, and image to the Craigeleith Heritage Depot 113 Lakeshore Rd. E. The Blue Mountains.



DATABASE

An excel was created to compile the information, images, and locations for each TBM feature. This excel workbook is the foundation of the Cultural Maps database. Below you can learn more about the Database Management Plan, the excel workbook, and the perimeters for choosing a feature/image, the description, and the location.

Database Excel:

The Database excel is equipped with 24 tabs. The excel allows for a single living document where Museum staff can update and input information. It allows facilitators to have a choice in the locations they are researching - instead of assigning areas, communities, or features. It also enables facilitators to not overlap or duplicate research. The excel was established to function as a growing document; locations and information will continue to be added as more facilitators dig deep into our community's long history. Below you can see a detailed listing of tab groupings and how they work.

RESOURCE TAB

The resource tab includes resources for architect designation/history, links to local, provincial, national and international maps, and links to Cultural Mapping documents created by other municipalities or groups.

COMMUNITY TABS

The designated community tabs are to establish a clean and workable excel to add locations, information, and images.

Each community, some have been grouped together due to location, has a tab where information gathered can be documented and used for GIS upload.

NATURAL HERITAGE TAB

Natural Heritage tab is where any natural features can be added. As natural features may spread over into other communities it was best to document them in their own database.

UNKNOWN LOCATION TAB

The unknown location tab is houses, or areas that the exact location is unknown and that if members of the community may assist the museum in establishing a correct location.



Feature Descriptions for Cultural Map:

The feature descriptions are what viewers will read when using the interactive cultural map. The descriptions are structured to be as short as possible - studies show long paragraphs will lose readers. The Blue Mountains is a high tourism town, many of the visitors to the area have a variety of language and reading skills - facilitators took this into account when writing, often refraining from using academic writing styles and language.

When establishing the map and its parameters museum staff sought to structure the feature descriptions in a fun and engaging way - knowing unique stories or fun footnotes would go a long way.

Many of the locations or structures in The Blue Mountains area have lengthy histories - staff and facilitators were instructed to break up the history based on the different business, architectural changes, or by significant periods of time. The museum also has the added vantage of having an online exhibit platform that will be connected to the GIS map. This link between the two sites will allow additional information and images to be viewed by visitors through the online exhibit platform.

Images for the Cultural Map:

Historical images are an important part of the Cultural Mapping project! Whether the photographs can be found in the museum/archive repository or from public submission the project depends on adding historic photographs to go with the featured points on the map. Images can vary by decade, even images from the early 2000s will be considered.

One of two forms need to be filled out to allow images to be uploaded to the Cultural Map:

DIGITAL DONATION:

This form allows the museum to keep a copy to preserve the image in our digital collection, share with the community through exhibits, and for researchers to have access to. (See appendices for a copy).

CULTURAL MAP IMAGE RELEASE FORM:

This form only allows the image to be used for the Cultural Map project. (See appendices for a copy).





Cultural Map Examples:

The images and descriptions below give an idea of the type of information and images the map will include. This map at its base is a cultural tourism tool. It is the foundation of a cultural inventory, but it is primarily an interactive tool to help those visiting The Blue Mountains, those new to the area, and a nice trip down memory lane for others.

CULTURAL FEATURES EXAMPLES

Long History/Varying time periods: If a location or building has a long history with varying uses, owners or time periods, the information was broken up into set periods. Whether it is the time period specific (example: Northern Railway, Grand Trunk Railway, CNR, etc.), by the physical changes in the building (example 187 Marsh Street - which had been the Queen's Hotel, Community Center, Military Museum) feel free to break it up as much as possible so that it is easier for people to read.



In 1872 Andrew Fleming and Elizabeth Fleming sold a portion of their property to the Northern Railway company. Their son Sandford Fleming had purchased the land while surveying the Collingwood area for the North Grey Rail line. The Flemings hoped to establish a train station to serve the growing community of Craigleith.

During much of its time under the Northern Railway Company the Craigleith Station was nothing more than a platform. Between 1878-1881 the station platform saw the construction of a physical station building.

The building was constructed with local timber, and included the most modern features in railway design, including the round turret.



In 1887 the Grand Trunk Railway (GTR) gained a controlling interest in Northern Railway, and the takeover was formalized on January 24th, 1888.

For over three decades the GTR trains would carry passengers and cargo through Collingwood Township. There were 5 trains coming through each day, making stops at Craigleith and at many of the whistle stops along the route to Meaford.

The station would have acted as a home to the station master and his family. Passengers would have a waiting area, the room included the turret where passengers could look down the track for the oncoming train and a stove to keep the room warm in the winter.

The colour of that station, a two toned cream and green, were standard colours used by the GTR. Each GTR station would have had its own shade of green and cream, as paint would have been locally sourced and not standardized like it is today. It is unknown what colour was initially used in the building's construction (1878-1881).



The Craigleith Station became a part of the Canadian National Railway in 1923. The small rural station would remain under the ownership of the CNR until passenger rail services ended in the area in 1960.

At the turn of the 20th century the station was busy, but over time it was gradually reduced to a whistle or flag stop, meaning no tickets were sold at the Craigleith Station.

The facade with the one tone red colouring, or CN "railway red", and green shingled roof replaced the white and green colours and oak shingled roof used by the Grand Trunk Railway. The turret shingles remained untouched - you can still see the original oak shingles today!

School Houses: Sometimes it is hard to find the image of the school building – class images will be used instead. When describing the history focus will be put on the building rather than naming all the individuals. Information such as the buildings construction, original vs rebuild, neat facts about the school (electricity, or maybe a piano), is it still standing will be focused on. A detailed listing of the school students can be made – it would be featured on the museum online exhibit database and linked to the map.



The first Banks school house was located between Banks and Ravenna, a quarter mile from 4th Line. For rural communities walking, biking, snowshoeing, or cross-country skiing were common modes of transportation for students. Due to the school's westerly position many students attended the Sixth Line or Loree schools – it all depended on which was closer to home.

The second schoolhouse was built by Richard Carroll, a respected Thornbury contractor. Carroll helped build many of Collingwood Township's rural schoolhouses. In 1908 a bell was purchased and installed, costing the community \$22.50. In 1919 a kitchen was installed in the schoolhouse to provide hot lunches for its pupils. This was the first of the schools' big updates. In 1938 electric lights were installed and three years later a piano was bought. The Banks school house was closed down in 1967 when children who attended rural schools were incorporated into the new centralized education system.

Few Images: If images are scarce, artist renditions, ads from the local newspaper or simply the modern image of the building will be used. By letting the community know that an image is missing they may be able to assist us with filling in that gap.



In 1860 the Beaver Valley Inn was built by W.A. Clark as a boarding house for the builders and later workers at his woolen mill. The building is believed to be the oldest in the village.

The building was bought in 1921 by Mr. and Mrs. Harkie Henderson. The couple served gourmet meals for 41 years.

In the 1950's the building was owned by Herb and Ellen McMullen. Ellen ran a restaurant while her husband ran a garage next door.

The building changed hands and moved from a business to private residence. It was originally made of a log construction, it is now hidden under numerous alterations and refurbishing over the decades.

NATURAL FEATURES EXAMPLES



Niagara Escarpment: The Niagara Escarpment in Ontario stretches almost 900 km from the Niagara River to Tobermory and Manitoulin Island. It rises up in places more than half a kilometre above sea level.

The most spectacular sections – those recognized by UNESCO in the Biosphere designation – are covered by the Niagara Escarpment Plan (from Niagara Region to Bruce County).

The Niagara Escarpment we know today is the result of geological processes that began more than 400 million years ago when the limestones, dolostones, shales, and sandstones of the Escarpment's bedrock were formed.

It once the bottom of ancient sea that has long since disappeared.

INTANGIBLE FEATURES EXAMPLES



Edith Marsh: A naturalist, historian, and journalist, she wrote many non-fiction books on natural and cultural history of the Town of The Blue Mountains area. As a journalist she contributed to the Toronto Mail and Empire. She was born Oct 21, 1871, the daughter of Benjamin Marsh and Hannah Pease. She was born in Clarksburg, Ontario, and grew up on the Peasemarth Farm which she inherited. Peasemarth Conservation Area was part of her property which she had willed to the community after her death July 9, 1960.



Beaver River Rat Race: In the spring of 1957, in what was then Collingwood Township, the community saw two or three peculiar home-made looking "vessels" launched on the Beaver River in Heathcote. When the "captains" of these boats completed their journey in Clarksburg, they emerged looking like drowned rats. This adventure gave life to the Beaver River Rat Race, which would continue for over two more decades.

Competitors built their "vessels" from a wide range of materials, and in a variety of entertaining styles. Crowds would gather along the shores of Heathcote and Slabtown to watch the floating creations take on the riverbends, dips and currents. Over time the risks became too much, and the races stopped. Yet many memories were made, and stories cherished of a "different time".



CONSIDERING POTENTIAL PARTNERS

TBMCM project is open for potential partners, whether a group or society or even with just an individual!

Museum institutions recognize the challenges to democratizing cultural heritage and making it more accessible to wider audiences, more socially relevant and responsive to their publics' changing needs and interests. Craigleith Heritage Depot has been increasingly engaged in providing accessible, friendly, and inspiring places for local communities' involvement. The Blue Mountains Cultural Map is the first project launched to start the process to reinforce the role of the museum, within The Blue Mountains, as a public space, lifelong learning institution that is able to offer education, cultural and social opportunities for all.

TBMCM project has always been a joint venture between the Museum and TBM. While planning out the process and understanding the technological platforms available to the Museum it was always the end goal to have the public be involved in sharing, researching, and submitting local history documents, photographs, and stories.

Groups or societies are encouraged to contact or visit The Craigleith Heritage Depot to learn more about the process of donation, the opportunities for assistance/collaboration, and how their group/society can assist in the project.

Individuals are encouraged to contact or visit The Craigleith Heritage Depot to learn more about the process of donation, the opportunities for assistance/collaboration, and how they can assist in the project.

TBMCM is foremost a community map - its goal is allowing residents to self-identify and digitally map /document the people, places, and resources that define their community identity (and to share the stories and narratives that go with them). A community museum is only as good as what its community will share with it - the Craigleith Heritage Depot has been fortunate to have had decades of community support, and donations of local historical objects, photographs, and documents. The map will further assist the Museum's goal in providing an open and accessible platform to share and protect local history and heritage.

Current Partners:

Municipal Partners: TBM GIS (falling under Finance & IT Services)

Community/Private Partners - The Blue Mountains Historical Society

If you or your group would like to partner in this mapping project, please reach out to the Craigleith Heritage Depot (email: museum@thebluemountains.ca or call 519-599-3681 ext. 6) TBMCM depends on sharing data and sharing insights with partners but also with the community. We want to build successful partnerships with community groups as we all share a common goal to help our town grow and prosper!



CONSIDERING POTENTIAL PARTNERS

TBMCM project is open for potential partners, whether a group or society or even with just an individual!

Museums across the globe acknowledge the challenge of democratizing cultural heritage. The Craigleith Heritage Depot, a cornerstone of The Blue Mountains, is actively addressing this by creating a more accessible, socially relevant, and engaging experience for the community.

The TBMCM Project serves as a launching point for this initiative. This innovative project aims to solidify the Craigleith Heritage Depot's role as a public space, a lifelong learning institution, and a vibrant hub offering educational, cultural, and social opportunities for all.

A Collaborative Spirit:

From its inception, the TBMCM project has been a collaborative effort between the Craigleith Heritage Depot and The Town of The Blue Mountains. While technology played a part in the planning process, the ultimate goal has always been to empower the public. We envision a map enriched by the contributions of local residents, actively involved in sharing, researching, and submitting local history in the form of documents, photographs, and personal stories.

Community Involvement - A Call to Action:

- **Groups and Societies:** We encourage historical societies and community groups to contact the Craigleith Heritage Depot. We'd be happy to discuss the donation process, explore opportunities for collaboration, and outline how your group can contribute to this project.
- **Individuals:** Whether you have a cherished family photograph or a captivating story about a local landmark, the Craigleith Heritage Depot wants to hear from you! Learn more about donating, collaborating, and becoming part of the TBMCM project by contacting or visiting the museum.

A Community Tapestry:

The TBMCM project prioritizes the community. Its core objective is to empower residents to self-identify and document the people, places, and resources that define their unique sense of community, weaving stories and narratives into the digital map. The Craigleith Heritage Depot recognizes that a community museum thrives on community support. For decades, the museum has benefited from the generosity of residents who have donated historical objects, photographs, and documents. The TBMCM project builds upon this foundation, providing an open and accessible platform to share and safeguard local history and heritage for generations to come.

By fostering collaboration and empowering residents, the TBMCM project promises to be a transformative journey, creating a vibrant tapestry of the Blue Mountains' cultural heritage.

Current Partners:

Municipal Partners: TBM GIS (falling under Finance & IT Services)

Community/Private Partners - The Blue Mountains Historical Society

If you or your group would like to partner in this mapping project, please reach out to the Craigleith Heritage Depot (email: museum@thebluemountains.ca or call 519-599-3681 ext. 6) TBMCM depends on sharing data and sharing insights with partners but also with the community. We want to build successful partnerships with community groups as we all share a common goal to help our town grow and prosper!