

# Study Area – Western Counties Cultural Heritage Landscape






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# Western Counties



-  Lands Owned by London Health Sciences Centre
-  Lands Owned by City of London
-  Study Area

## Study Purpose:

To develop a Cultural Heritage Plan for the Western Counties Health and Occupational Centre Grounds

## Goals and objectives of the Cultural Heritage Plan:

### *Natural Connections*

Recognize and respect the natural features and topography of the surrounding lands.

### *Historic Connections*

Maintain and preserve historical site features, conserve and enhance the features associated with the mid 1940s landscape design, and ensure they are a prominent element of the Plan.

### *Physical Connections*

Maintain active and passive recreation opportunities and promote site circulation and connectivity to adjacent lands.

### *Personal Connections*

Consult with the community to prepare a plan that meets the needs and objectives of the community.



# Heritage Value and Interest

## Design or physical value

Ornamental plantings are representative of “therapy through landscape” approach to health care in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and of early occupational therapy principles of the healing benefits of landscape

## Historical or associative value

Direct association with Veterans’ Affairs and the veterans of both the First and Second World Wars plus the work towards returning them to civilian life.

The facility was one of 7 located in Canada to treat injured veterans and is directly related to the therapeutic use of landscape

## Contextual value

The site is physically, functionally and visually linked to the surrounding natural area

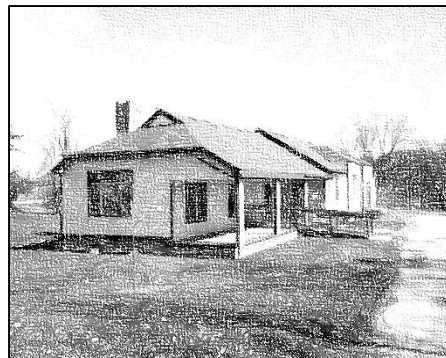
The site is an integral part of the hospital campus



Waterloo Pavillion Pool, Grand Opening  
Source: The London Free Press Collection of Photographic Negatives, Western Collection, 2012



Occupational Therapy Evolution  
Source: Friedland et al., 2010



Middlesex Pavillion Print Shop  
Source: The London Free Press Collection of Photographic Negatives, Western Collection, 2012

# Cultural Heritage Plan



## Moderate infrastructure

- Interpretative signage at ruins
- Benches and trash receptacles
- Parking at former Waterloo building
- Washrooms
- Orientation signage at entrance and trailheads
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- Invasive species removal to open views
- Picnic shelter at “Catalpa trail head”
- Parking and vehicle turnaround at “Catalpa trail head”

