

Almost every block of Cabbagetown now has what one of the older residents calls "doctors and high-class people," and one of the larger houses on Seaton Street has been converted into a modern, privately-owned day nursery for the children of the new professional couples. Many old-timers remain, but it seems clear that Cabbagetown will never be a modest working-class neighbourhood again.

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### The Annex

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The Annex is a handsome turn-of-the-century neighbourhood next to the University of Toronto — wide, substantial houses with pillars and occasional porches and old trees. Some of modern Toronto's founding fathers once lived here. Though it was never rundown, in the 1960s it was in danger of sudden death. A planned intra-city expressway would have cut it in two. The residents — a mix of university students, professors and professional men and women — fought back successfully. When the fight began they thought of the neighbourhood as simply pleasant, but along the way they began to think of it as pleasant and historic. They saved it, and though it is now often referred to as The Historic Annex, it is a neighbourhood, not a shrine.

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### The Ethnic Neighbourhoods

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Not all of Toronto's vital (or revitalized) inner-city neighbourhoods house the affluent, and some have changed their essence without greatly changing their real-estate prices. One of the principal attractions of Cabbagetown and The Annex is their proximity to the excitement of downtown Toronto. To a considerable degree, that excitement is associated with the waves of immigrants who came to the city after World War II. It is estimated that half of Toronto's population is foreign-born, with the Italians the biggest single ethnic group. The post-war immigrants have converted the city from a staid Anglo-Celtic town, which was seldom exuberant and always closed on Sundays, to a lively place with a rich variety of good restaurants, music, laughter and entertainment.

Chinatown stretches along Dundas Street and is authentic, enduring and not hyped up.

The Kensington Market, to the west of Chinatown



and not far from Cabbagetown, was once Jewish. It is now predominantly Portuguese. In the bins along the sidewalks are Greek, Spanish, Italian and West Indian staples and delicacies. The row houses on the side streets off Kensington are brightly painted, and many with Portuguese owners have enamelled holy pictures beside the front door.

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### St. Lawrence Neighbourhood

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Toronto is building a new inner-city neighbourhood beside the old ones. In the early 1970s the city's housing commission decided to replace the sheds, warehouses and vacant lots next to the St. Lawrence Market with homes.

The new neighbourhood is shaped like a submarine with conning tower, thirty blocks long and three to four blocks wide amidships. It is laid out along existing streets, and the traffic flow follows familiar lines in and out. A park through the centre, stretching the full length along Esplanade Street, is under construction. At one end, the old market, a handsome ark built