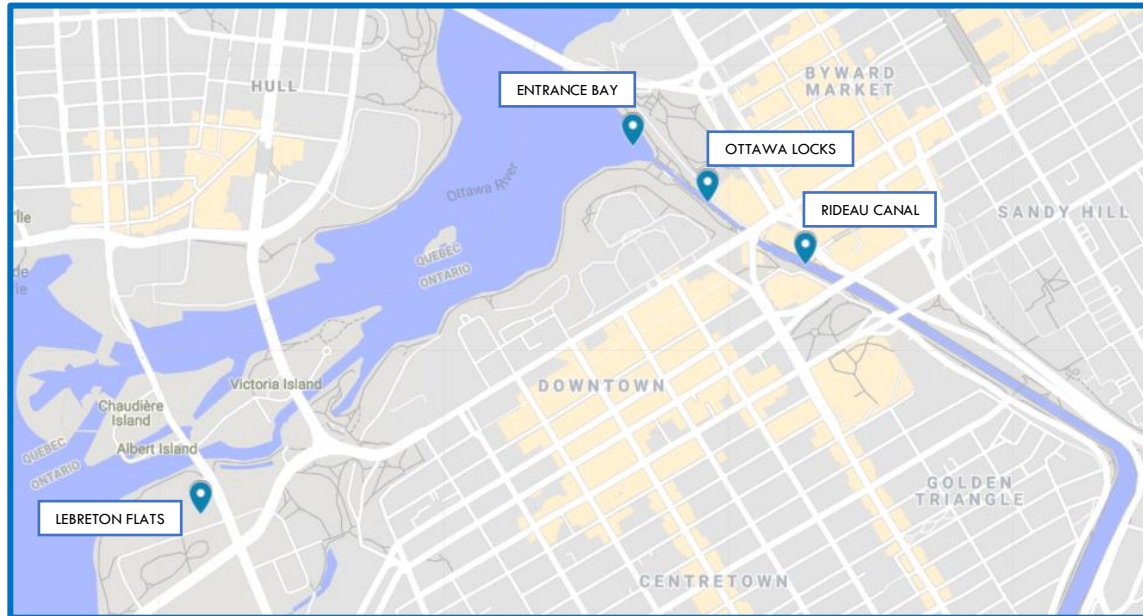
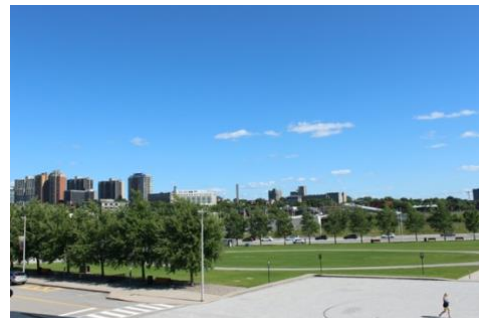


## City History Hunt: The Rideau Canal



### LeBreton Flats

This area was the second choice for the start of the Rideau Canal due to its flat landscape. The first choice was the parcel of land we know of as LeBreton Flats. However, Captain LeBreton, who had previously purchased the land for £499, tried selling the land to Lieutenant Colonel John By for £3000. John By decided this was too much money to spend on a plot of land and decided to look elsewhere.



### Entrance Bay



John By ended up purchasing this plot of land for the beginning of the Rideau Canal. There have been many names for this part of the Ottawa River, but it is now referred to as Entrance Bay due to its location at the entrance of the Rideau Canal. It has also been named Sleigh's Bay after the wedding of Philemon Wright's son, during which guests watched the ceremony from their sleighs on the frozen Ottawa River. Philemon Wright was the founder of Wrightsville, now Gatineau.

### Rideau Canal

The Rideau Canal was built between 1826 and 1832. It was intended to be a secure military route to the Great Lakes that bypassed the St Lawrence River. It is now simply used for pleasure. The Rideau Canal is a total of 202 kilometers between Ottawa and Kingston and uses both man-made canals and natural waterways.



### Ottawa Locks

The locks along the Rideau Canal use four different mechanisms to control them. All except three locks are operated solely by man-power. Those locks are run using hydraulics and are located at Black Rapids, Smith Falls, and Newboro. All the other locks operate using a swing bar, endless chair, or push bar mechanism.



Tag us in photos of your history hunt!  
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