

# Just Passing Through

Before the Brighton area was settled, this portage was part of a trading route between York (Toronto) and Kingston. Traders would move through the area, their large canoes filled with trade goods including furs collected throughout the country. The furs were destined for the European fur market via Quebec.

Traders would cross the Presqu'île peninsula near where the present day Park office is located. This crossing reduced the total distance traveled and minimized the amount of time spent in the potentially treacherous waters of Lake Ontario.

*Fur traders harvested beaver, muskrat, raccoon and other animals for their furs which were shipped to European consumers.*



*Fur traders spent months paddling across the Canadian interior to trade with hunters of the First Nations.*



*Oil by Frances Anne Hopkins*

