SOUTHAM PARK

Master Plan Report

Hamilton

ALEXANDER BUDREVICS
& ASSOCIATES LIMITED
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Prepared by: **Alexander Budrevics and Associates Limited, Landscape Architects**

Prepared on behalf of: **City of Hamilton, Landscape Architectural Services**

Cover Images: (T-B, Modified by Author): (1) Mountain View Hotel; Local History & Archives Hamilton Public Library [Online] , (2) Stone Structure with Wooden Pergola; Author's Photo (2020); (3) Hamilton Barton Incline Railway; Train Web: Hamilton Transit History [Online] – Refer to Image References on pg. 45.

Table of Contents

1.0 Introduction **1**
1.1 Overview 2
1.2 Vision, Goals and Objectives 2
1.3 Evaluation and Decision-Making Framework 4
1.4 Methodology 5
1.5 Project Timeline 8

2.0 Site Inventory + Analysis **9**
2.1 Site Inventory + Analysis 11
2.2 Study Area 11
2.3 Existing Conditions 12
2.4 Site History 16
2.5 Related Projects 17

3.0 Site Opportunities + Constraints **18**
3.1 Site Opportunities + Constraints 19
3.2 Site Opportunities 19
3.3 Site Constraints 20

4.0 Stakeholder + Public Consultation **22**
4.1 Stakeholder + Public Consultation 23
4.2 Public Information Center 24
4.3 Park User Survey 25
4.4 Park User Survey Results 26
4.5 Stakeholder Survey 28
4.6 Stakeholder Survey Results 29

5.0 Design Concept Development **30**
5.1 Design Concept Development 32
5.2 Design Concepts Survey 36
5.3 Design Concepts Survey Results 37

6.0 Final Master Plan Design **39**
6.1 Final Master Plan Design 41
6.2 Stakeholder Feedback 44

Image References **48**

Executive Summary

Southam Park is an existing park atop the mountain brow in the City of Hamilton. It has a rich history as the former location of the Mountain View Hotel, adjacent to the former Hamilton Barton Incline Railway, and was identified in the City's Cultural Heritage Landscape Inventory in 2002.

Presently, the park is located at the intersection of the Bruce Trail, Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail, James Street Stairs and top of the Claremont Access.

In order to guide decision-making about future development and management plans for the park, Alexander Budrevics and Associates Limited (ABAL) was retained by the City of Hamilton Landscape Architectural Services to prepare a master plan.

The master plan process was guided by a comprehensive approach that was informed by a site inventory and analysis, site context and background review, and consultation with stakeholders and the public.

COVID-19 restrictions required that public and stakeholder outreach be completed virtually. Information about project updates, and the public information center and surveys were posted on the Engage Hamilton and City of Hamilton websites. Outreach also included hard copy flyers delivered to local residents and notices via social media and newspaper outlets. Survey results and feedback were collected using the Engage Hamilton website and by email.

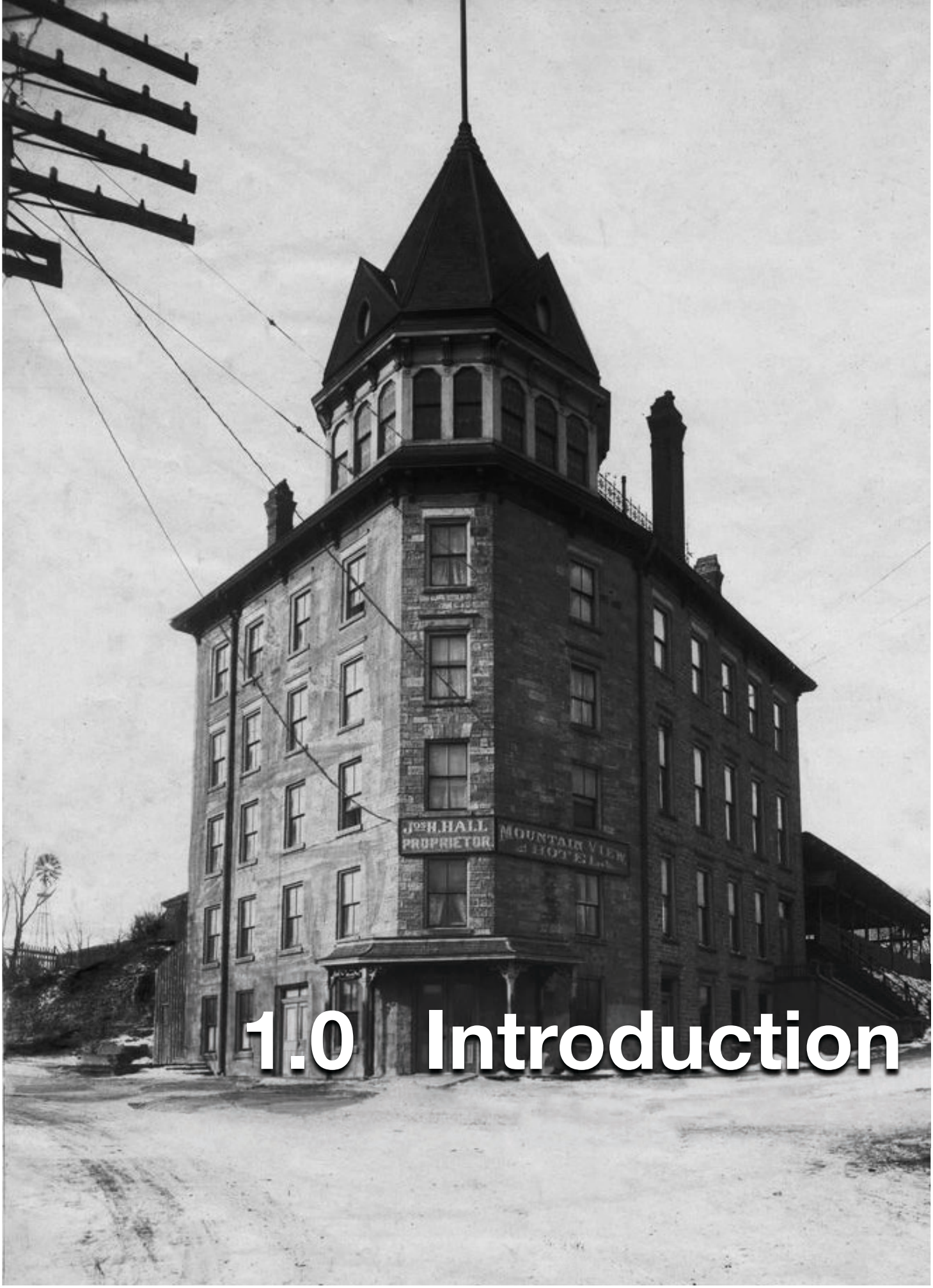
Based on the initial findings from these resources, two concept options were prepared with precedent imagery that explored the potential opportunities for park. The concepts were posted online for public review and feedback.

Public feedback about each of the concept options was collected using a brief online survey. The results of the feedback were synthesized into a consolidated master plan concept that contained elements from both options. Some of the upgrades shown in the master plan support an active transportation hub and gathering place for cyclists and Bruce Trail users. Other proposed upgrades provide passive and active recreation opportunities for all ages including a variety of seating, native planting, and nature play/exercise opportunities.

The details of the final master plan and the process are described herein.

"This is such a lovely little park area and I am very happy that there are plans for its refurbishment and increased usage"

- park user survey participant



1.0 Introduction

(4) Mountain View Hotel.

1.1 Overview

In the spring of 2020, the City of Hamilton Landscape Architectural Services (LAS) retained Alexander Budrevics and Associates Landscape Architects Limited (ABAL) to prepare a Master Plan for Southam Park in order to identify potential improvements and to coordinate with the work underway on the adjacent Claremont Access and Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail.

This master plan process involved:

- developing a vision, goals and objectives,
- developing an evaluation and decision-making framework,
- site inventory and analysis,
- stakeholder and public consultation,
- preparing optional concept plans and,
- a final master concept plan and report.

This master plan contains a concept plan and report that will guide City Staff who make decisions about the future short and long-term development and management plans for Southam Park.

1.2 Vision, Goals and Objectives

In order to ensure a successful master plan process, a vision, goals and objectives were developed.

The vision, goals and objectives serve to guide the process, enabling the development of a desirable final master plan for the park.

Vision
What we are trying to ***accomplish***.

Goals
What we ***need*** to include in the process to achieve our vision.

Objectives
What we will ***do*** to achieve our goals.

(5) Stone Structure with Wooden Pergola

1.2 Vision, Goals and Objectives

Master Plan Vision

To develop an informed design solution for Southam Park that improves the quality of life for local residents and contributes to the resilience of the City's trail and park networks.

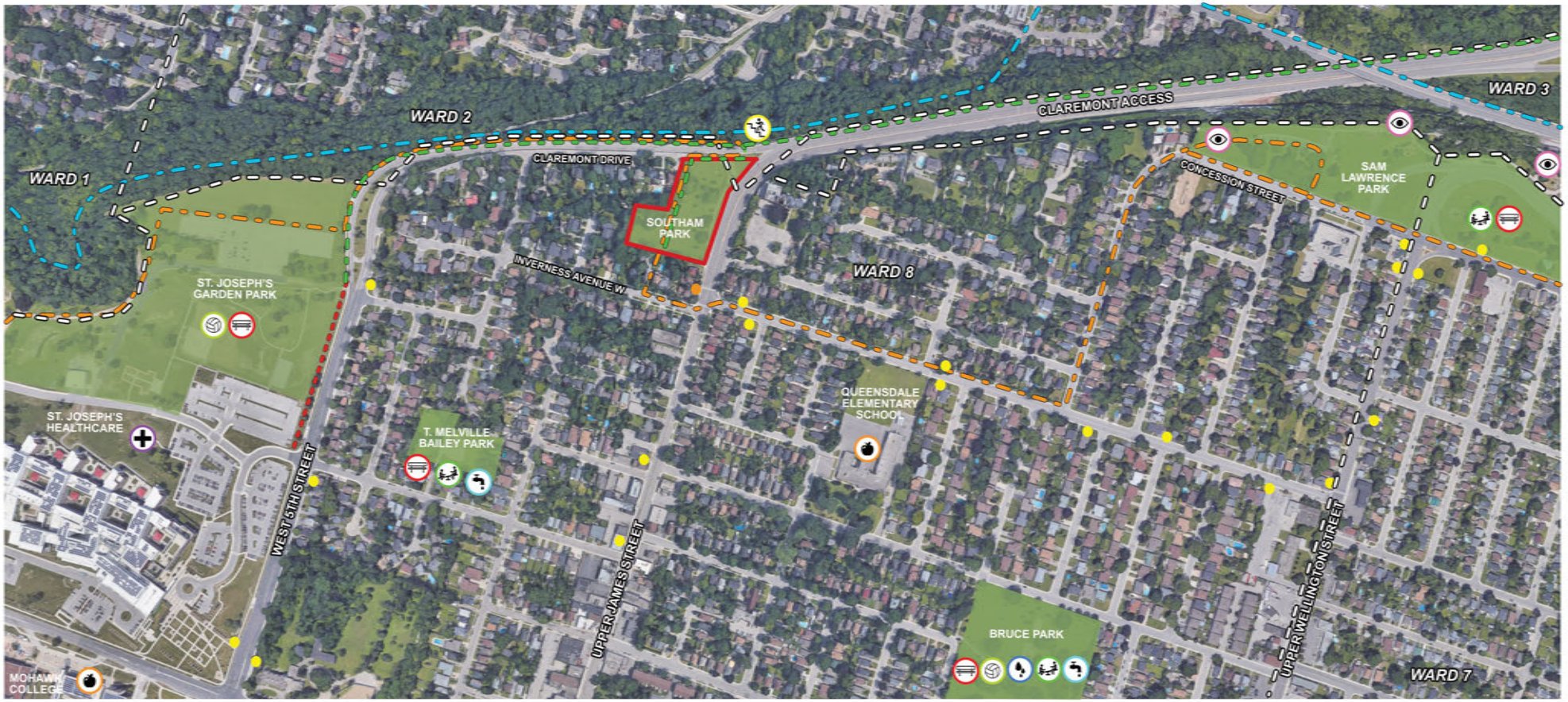
Master Plan Goals

Prepare a comprehensive plan cons

SOUTHAM PARK

SITE CONTEXT PLAN

Hamilton



EXISTING FEATURES

- SITE BOUNDARY
- WARD BOUNDARY
- BRUCE TRAIL
- KEDDY ACCESS TRAIL *(existing segment)*
- JAMES ST. STAIRS
- SEATING
- VIEWS/VISTAS
- SCHOOL
- HOSPITAL
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- SPLASH PAD
- SPORTS EQUIPMENT
- PLAY EQUIPMENT
- TRANSIT STOP
- PARK

FUTURE FEATURES

- PROPOSED MOUNTAIN BROW TRAIL
  Refer to the Mountain Brow Trail Feasibility Master Plan and Recreational Trails Master Plan for details regarding cycling infrastructure and implementation schedule.
- KEDDY ACCESS TRAIL
  (Proposed segment)
- FUTURE TRANSIT STOP

N

ALEXANDER SUDERVICS LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

2.1 Site Inventory + Analysis

This section discusses the study area, existing site conditions, historical uses of the site and other planning initiatives that are relevant to this master plan.

Based on this information, a list of opportunities and constraints that can be explored through the public and stakeholder input process was identified.

2.2 Study Area

Southam Park is a 2.6 hectare park located atop the Niagara Escarpment, at the junction of the Claremont Access Road, Claremont Drive and Upper James Street.

The park is located in the Southam Neighbourhood, spanning municipal Wards 2 and 8. The majority of the park space is located in Ward 8; the triangular open space at the intersection of Claremont Access and Upper James St. is located in Ward 2.

Understanding the study area and the existing amenities is important to prioritizing future upgrades for Southam Park.

There are three municipal parks on the mountain within 1.5km or a 15 minute walking distance from Southam Park. Additionally, there is one local school with open space, informal basketball and baseball amenities and the nearby St. Joseph's Garden Park that provides sports facilities, seating and an abundance of open space.

The local municipal parks described below are illustrated on the Site Context Plan on p.11.

Sam Lawrence Park is located east of the site, and underwent a master plan process in 2019. Sam Lawrence Park is known for its spectacular views of the lower City and Lake Ontario. Some of the improvements to Sam Lawrence Park will include upgraded lighting, 'play moments' (ageless play) amenities, upgraded walkways, seating and gardens.

Bruce Park is located south-east of the site and contains several amenities including a splash pad, play equipment, and sports facilities.

T. Melville Bailey Park is located south-west of the site and has play equipment, a drinking fountain, and seating.

Southam Park has a unique character and is part of a local network of parks and open spaces that contain a variety of traditional amenities within walking distance. In order to complement this network, this masterplan will focus on providing features that enhance the local network of park amenities while preserving the unique character of Southam Park.

2.3 Existing Conditions

A site inventory of existing conditions was conducted on July 15, 2020.

The park, adjacent neighbourhood, and connections (roads, trails etc.) were inventoried and photographed.

The following existing conditions at Southam Park were documented:

- The site primarily consists of open lawn space, with large mature trees. A worn path diagonally through the grass from pedestrian/cycling travel was observed.
- Areas around the existing structure are characterized by inconsistent paving materials, no site furniture, some graffiti, and suspected water drainage issues.
- The site includes some historical and geographical interpretation, including panels noting some historic uses of the site, a memorial fountain, and nearby trail wayfinding for the Bruce Trail.
- The Park appeared to be underutilized (no visitors during the site visit), with potential safety and visibility concerns due to lack of night-time lighting, an inaccessible space at the road level, and unkept slopes.

There was a consensus about the opportunity for integrating the site history into the master plan by maintaining existing features and enhancing interpretation.

Adjacent connections, including the Bruce Trail, the residential corridors, Claremont Access Road, and the future multi-use trail connections were discussed. Due to the proximity to future multi-use trails, the potential for Southam Park to become an active transportation hub was discussed.

Since 2020, a paved multi-use trail and signalized crossing and ramp connecting Southam Park to the Bruce Trail and Claremont Access have been constructed and have improved the accessibility and safety of the site.

(7) Site Inventory and Analysis-view of Stone Structure from Upper James Street.

SOUTHAM PARK
EXISTING CONDITIONS PLAN

Hamilton

[redacted]

2.3 Existing Conditions (cont.)

Southam Park is considered a neighbourhood park and is primarily accessed by pedestrians travelling from adjacent residential areas, the Bruce Trail, or the James Street Stairs. Due to its historic nature, the site has limited parkland amenities. In keeping with a typical neighborhood park there is no dedicated parking, however there is on street parking in the neighborhood.

The existing features include a stone structure with a wooden pergola, a disused water fountain, grassy open spaces with mature trees, and obscured views of the lower City and Lake Ontario.

The Existing Conditions Plan and site photographs (pg. 13-14) illustrate the conditions of Southam Park in the spring of 2020.

The stone structure (number 3) and wooden pergola feature prominently at the corner of the site, and can be seen in aerial photography since 1950.

Two interpretive panels on the site tell the history of the former park site use by the Mountain View Hotel and the nearby Hamilton Barton Incline Railway (number 7).

The memorial fountain has changed locations over time and currently sits on the lawn of the park (number 5).

The corner of the site is currently vacant, unused land (number 2).

Much of the site is currently characterized by open lawn space and mature trees (numbers 8 and 9). There is a worn path in the grass (number 6) indicating where pedestrians cross diagonally through the park.

The James Street Stairs (number 1) provide direct pedestrian access from the bottom of the mountain to the top. The Bruce Trail also connects at this location.

Improvements during 2020-2021

Since the Claremont Access and Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail were already under construction in 2020, multiple site visits were undertaken to ensure those upgrades were documented and integrated into the master plan process.

A new asphalt paved trail (number 11) was constructed in 2020 as part of the Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail and provides a connection through the park, between the existing Bruce Trail and Mountain Brow Trail network.

A ramp and signalized pedestrian and cycle crossing (number 10) were also constructed in 2021, permitting users to safely cross Claremont Access into the park.

2.4 Site History

Southam Park is located in a prominent location on top of the Niagara Escarpment. This landform (locally know as Hamilton Mountain) is a product of the differential erosion of rock layers over millions of years, creating an exposed cliff face. The escarpment in this area is approximately ninety meters tall and provides desirable views of the lower City of Hamilton and Lake Ontario from above.

This area has been occupied by humans for several thousand years beginning with a long history of Indigenous settlements.

Since the early 1800's the site has been occupied by:

- The English Tavern (circa. 1830)
- The Mountain View Hotel (circa. 1881)
- The Wentworth Hunt Club (circa. 1916)

The James Street stairs are located where the former Hamilton Barton Incline Railway operated between 1892 and 1932.

The Southam family gifted the property to the City of Hamilton in 1943, to be used as a recreational park.

The park was named in honour of Major Gordon Southam, who was killed in World War 1. A memorial stone fountain in his name currently rests on the lawn of the park.

In light of this rich history, Southam Park was identified in the City of Hamilton's 2002 Inventory of Cultural Heritage Landscapes.

A detailed account of the site history has been included in the Appendix.

(L-R) (9) Bottom of the Hamilton Barton Incline Railway, (10) Former location of Memorial Fountain at Upper James Street

2.5 Related Projects

The 2020 construction of a north-south asphalt trail connection through Southam Park is part of the on-going Mountain Brow Trail Feasibility Master Plan, and is an important linkage for pedestrians and cyclists across the top of the escarpment.

The Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail is a major active transportation project that provides a safe connection for cyclists and pedestrians travelling between the mountain and the lower City. The trail was named in memory of Jay Keddy, a local resident and cyclist who was tragically killed in an accident while riding his bike home from work.

The trail runs from Hunter Street in the lower City to Mohawk College on the mountain, and is protected from vehicular traffic by a concrete barrier from Hunter Street to just north of Gateview Drive.

The multi-use trail makes use of the upbound side of the Claremont Access right-of-way and has been constructed in conjunction with road resurfacing and bridge repairs completed in 2021.

A new signalized crossing point was constructed at the corner of the site leading pedestrians and cyclists to a ramp. This ramp connects to the newly constructed asphalt trail through Southam Park.

Part of this Master Plan process was to identify park upgrades that will complement the newly constructed multi-use trail system infrastructure.

Images of the completed access ramp, path, signalized crossing, and barriers along Claremont Access are shown below.

(L-R) (11-12) Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail: Newly constructed ramp and signalized crossing

3.0 Site Opportunities + Constraints

(13) Limestone structure and Virginia Creeper vines.

3.2 Site Constraints (cont.)

Accessibility

Categories: *Safety + Accessibility • Park Identity • Programming • Amenities*

Accessibility concerns are attributed to dead-end pathways, uneven pavement surfaces, unsafe trail linkages, absence of seating, and only one accessible entrance from the south-east corner of the park. Some of these constraints have been resolved with the construction of the AODA compliant ramp during the construction of the Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail.

Accessibility and inclusivity are priorities when considering all future amenity and programming upgrades in the park. Accessible and inclusive amenities will enhance park identity and could attract more park users.

Site Identity

Categories: *Park Identity • Safety + Accessibility • Amenities • Programming*

The underutilization of Southam Park could be related to site identity. The park can be characterized by its vast open space, which may be less inviting without seating areas. If the park is widely known as an unsafe space, users may tend to utilize other safer park spaces instead. The park is constructed using a variety of different materials (poured concrete, pavers, natural stone) which are aged, and do not define any space (i.e. Seating area, walkway etc.).

Finally, the historical interpretation of the site is incohesive. The fountain is located by itself in the turf area, and the existing interpretive panels are adjacent to the sidewalk along Upper James Street. A more meaningful placement of interpretive panels and the fountain in the park could improve the park's identity as a Cultural Heritage Landscape.

Various upgrades related to safety, amenities and programming will enhance the park's identity and provide reasons for people to use the park as intended.

4.0 Stakeholder + Public Consultation

(14) View of the worn path through the trees from the stone structure.

4.1 Stakeholder + Public Consultation

Stakeholder and public consultation was an important part of this master plan process.

In order to ensure that stakeholders and the public were involved throughout the process, the following strategies were implemented:

- Public Information Center (P.I.C)
- Information Session and Survey Flyer
- Park User Survey
- Stakeholder Survey
- Master Plan Notice Boards
- Design Concepts Survey

Public and stakeholder engagement often involves in-person presentations and workshops supplemented by online media. Due to restrictions in place around the COVID-19 pandemic, all public engagement was conducted virtually, with the exception of the hardcopy flyers and notice boards.

To maximize information sharing, a variety of online media were utilized and information was made available on:

- Hamilton.ca

  (https://www.hamilton.ca/parks-recreation/improving-our-parks/southam-park)

- Engage Hamilton Platform*

  (https://engage.hamilton.ca/southampark)

- City of Hamilton YouTube Channel

  (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VF4x3En0Ou4)

In addition, information and updates could be found on the City of Hamilton's social media channels (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn), and the City of Hamilton Ward 8 website.

***Engage Hamilton Platform**

Engage Hamilton is the City of Hamilton's interactive online platform for citizens to learn about, engage in, and provide feedback on important City initiatives.

This portal allowed registered users to access the online presentation, participate in the online surveys, and view survey results and concept designs. The portal also provides the email and telephone number of the City of Hamilton Project Manager for other inquiries.

4.2 Public Information Center

Due to the restrictions surrounding in-person gatherings, the public information center was delivered as a pre-recorded presentation.

Rather than conducting a live presentation where problems with online connectivity, accessibility and scheduling may contribute to participant frustration and fatigue, the pre-recorded format allowed participants to access the information on their own time, and review at their own pace.

The audio/visual presentation was a slideshow presentation with narration and was designed to be streamed or downloaded and watched as a video.

The video was hosted on the YouTube platform and could be accessed through a link on the Southam Park Master Plan page and on the Engage Hamilton website.

A full-text version of the presentation was also made available online.

The presentation described the master plan process and provided an estimated timeline for completion. The presentation also provided viewers with our findings related to site history, site context, our inventory of existing park conditions, and analysis of opportunities and constraints.

Finally, the presentation invited participants to complete the park user survey.

A copy of the presentation slides is included in the Appendix.

(15) Master Plan Twitter announcement.

4.5 Stakeholder Survey

A survey was designed to identify key opportunities and constraints from the perspective of stakeholders. The questions were directly related to the evaluation and decision-making framework, and centered around the specific categories/themes.

As previously noted the themes are:

- Planting and Maintenance
- Amenities
- Safety and Accessibility
- Park Identity
- Connectivity
- Heritage, Interpretation and Education
- Programming

For clarity, the same three questions were asked about each of the themes in order to identify stakeholder knowledge about *existing issues*, *current initiatives*, and *other opportunities and constraints* that should be considered in the master plan.

For simplicity, compound themes such as planting and maintenance, safety and accessibility, and heritage, interpretation and education were divided and queried separately (i.e. three questions about planting and three questions about maintenance were included etc.).

Since 33% of park user respondents reported that the potential view was the most special quality of the park, stakeholders were also asked about views into and from the park.

The survey was provided in a digital spreadsheet format, and each of the questions was open-ended, requiring a written response. Stakeholders were also provided with a preliminary snapshot of the park user survey results.

The stakeholder survey and preliminary park user survey results were sent via email to representatives of various internal and external groups and they were invited to respond by email or telephone.

A full list of organizations that were invited to participate and a copy of the stakeholder survey can be found in the Appendix.

4.6 Stakeholder Survey Results

The stakeholder survey was shared with representatives from 27 different internal and external groups. Please see the Appendix for a complete list of stakeholders and respondents.

Key points from the responses received include:

- Preserve the mature tree canopy and plant additional trees (i.e. plant along existing and proposed pathways).
- Plant native and pollinator species to promote biodiversity and mitigate climate change.
- Promote connections to the Niagara Escarpment and highlight the significance of the escarpment ecosystem and its benefit to the City of Hamilton.
- Promote Southam Park as a gathering and resting point on the Bruce Trail using wayfinding, seating, and interpretive signage.
- Consider safety and visibility when designing planting areas.
- Mitigate impact of park lighting by using dark sky compliant fixtures.
- Promote site history through interpretation and education.
- Provide a formalized paved pathway connection through the park in place of the existing worn path in the grass.

(17) Former sidewalk and Bruce Trail marker along Claremont Access adjacent to Southam Park.

5.0 Design Concept Development

(18) Public Engagement Notice posted at Southam Park.

CONCEPT #1

INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
(CULTURAL AND GEOLOGIC HISTORY)

INFORMATION STATION
(SIGNAGE, MAPS, NEIGHOURHOOD STOPS)

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

PROPOSED UPGRADES

1. POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY NATIVE PLANTING (SALT-HARDY SPECIES)
2. CREATIVE PLAY FEATURES / EXERCISE
3. WIDENING EXISTING SIDEWALK
4. PRESERVED OPEN SPACE
5. ENHANCED VIEWS THROUGH INVASIVE REMOVAL
6. PRESERVED MATURE CANOPY + PROPOSED TREE PLANTING
7. ENHANCED FOUNTAIN PLACEMENT
8. NEW CONCRETE PAVING
9. LIGHTING + SAFETY
10. CYCLING + TRAIL USER AMENITIES
11. FORMAL + INFORMAL PATH SEATING
12. CAFÉ SEATING ALONG STONE STRUCTURE
13. PAVED ASPHALT DESIRE PATH

0 10 20 35m

N

ALEXANDER BUDREVICS & ASSOCIATES LIMITED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

APRIL 2021

5.1 Design Concept Development

Based on our evaluation of the results from our inventory and analysis, and the park user and stakeholder surveys, two concept plans were prepared.

Concept #1 – Minor Upgrades

The first concept illustrates minor upgrades to the site that support improvements in all categories, including:

- Safety and Accessibility
- Connectivity
- Park Identity
- Amenities
- Programming
- Heritage, Interpretation and Education
- Planting and Maintenance

The proposed upgrades are illustrated in the Concept #1 plan (p. 31) and a description of each upgrade is provided below.

1. Native and pollinator-friendly planting in peripheral open spaces provide low maintenance greenery with ecological benefits.

2. Natural play features consisting of berms, logs and stones provide informal play and exercise opportunities for children and adults.

3. The existing concrete sidewalk along Upper James Street has been widened to allow for improved accessibility.

4. The majority of the existing open lawn is an asset to the park that would remain available for various unprogrammed uses.

5. Views of the lower City and Lake Ontario can be enhanced through selective invasive species removal that will also benefit the escarpment ecosystem.

6. Existing mature trees in the park will be preserved. Additional tree planting is proposed along the new pathways throughout the park.

POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY PLANTING

NATURAL PLAY FEATURES

TOP (L-R): (19, 20). BOTTOM (L-R): (21, 22)

5.1 Design Concept Development (cont.)

7. The existing fountain, a memorial to Major Gordon Southam, would receive a more prominent location at the main node of the park.

8. New concrete paving adjacent to the stone structure walls replaces the damaged unit paving, corrects grading issues, provides a more accessible walkway, and enhances circulation.

9. New pathway and stone structure lighting, with a cohesive design style, provide enhanced safety measures for evening users and darker winter months.

10. Cycling and trail amenities include bike racks, a water refill station and wayfinding signage.

11. Formal seating options like new benches provide rest stops along the trail and are situated to enjoy pleasant views and shade from mature trees. Informal seating allows for passive recreation in open spaces.

12. The stone structure and pergola are preserved, and the addition of café-style tables and chairs define a space for gathering, picnicking and relaxing with views of the park and City below.

13. The existing worn path through the grass is paved to provide another formal route to traverse through the park and to use as a walking circuit.

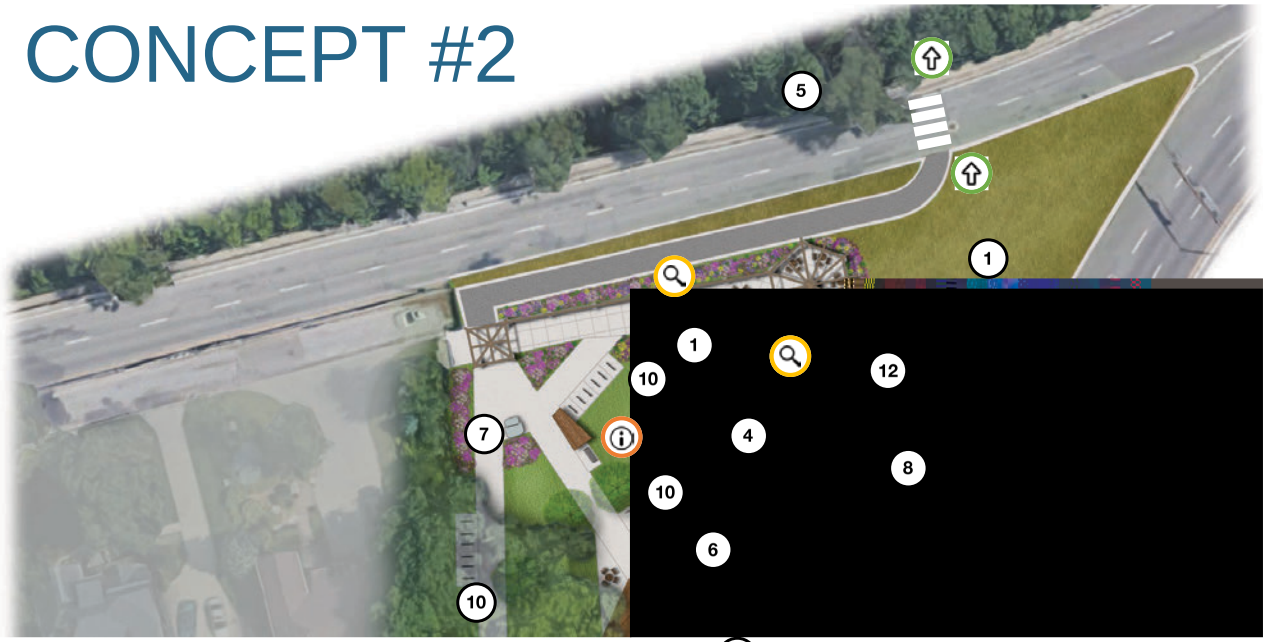
- Proposed locations for interpretive signage (cultural, geological, historical, educational)
- Proposed locations for informational signage / kiosk (maps, neighbourhood features)
- Proposed locations for wayfinding signage (trail linkages, distances, path types)

WAYFINDING + INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

LIGHTING + SAFETY

TOP (L-R): (23, 24). BOTTOM (L-R): (25, 26)

CONCEPT #2



INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
(CULTURAL AND GEOLOGIC HISTORY)

INFORMATION STATION
(SIGNAGE, MAPS, NEIGHOURHOOD STOPS)

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

PROPOSED UPGRADES

- POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY NATIVE PLANTING (SALT-HARDY SPECIES)
- CREATIVE PLAY FEATURES / EXERCISE
- WIDENING EXISTING SIDEWALK
- PRESERVED OPEN SPACE
- ENHANCED VIEWS THROUGH INVASIVE REMOVAL
- PRESERVED MATURE CANOPY + PROPOSED TREE PLANTING
- ENHANCED FOUNTAIN PLACEMENT
- NEW CONCRETE PAVING
- LIGHTING + SAFETY
- CYCLING + TRAIL USER AMENITIES + BIKE SHARE
- FORMAL + INFORMAL PATH SEATING
- 12 CAFÉ SEATING ALONG STONE STRUCTURE + ADDITIONAL SEATING
- 13 PAVED CONCRETE DESIRE PATH + UPGRADE EXISTING TRAIL TO CONCRETE
- 14 COVERED PICNIC SHELTER + WASHROOM

0 10 20 35m

ALEXANDER BUDREVICS & ASSOCIATES LIMITED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

APRIL 2021

5.3 Design Concepts Survey Results

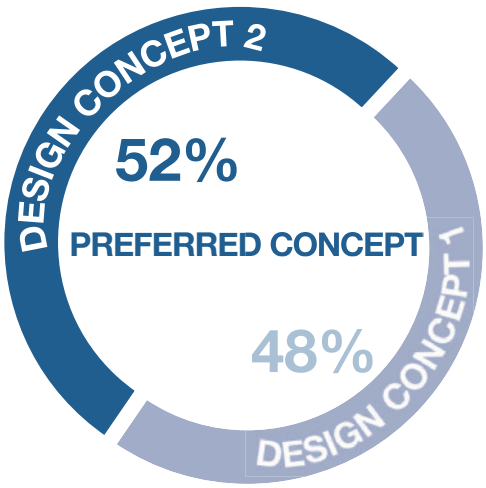
The survey launched on May 11, 2021 and closed a month later on June 11, 2021. The survey page was visited 189 times and collected 105 responses.

A copy of the survey questions can be found in the Appendix.

Since participants had the opportunity to comment freely in their response to each question, some respondents identified more than one upgrade as being most beneficial or least preferred in each concept. To analyze these results, the evaluation and decision-making framework was used to categorize, evaluate, and rank each response.

Of the 105 responses, 52% indicated design concept 2 as the preferred option.

The park additions that were determined to be most beneficial were related to lighting and safety upgrades.



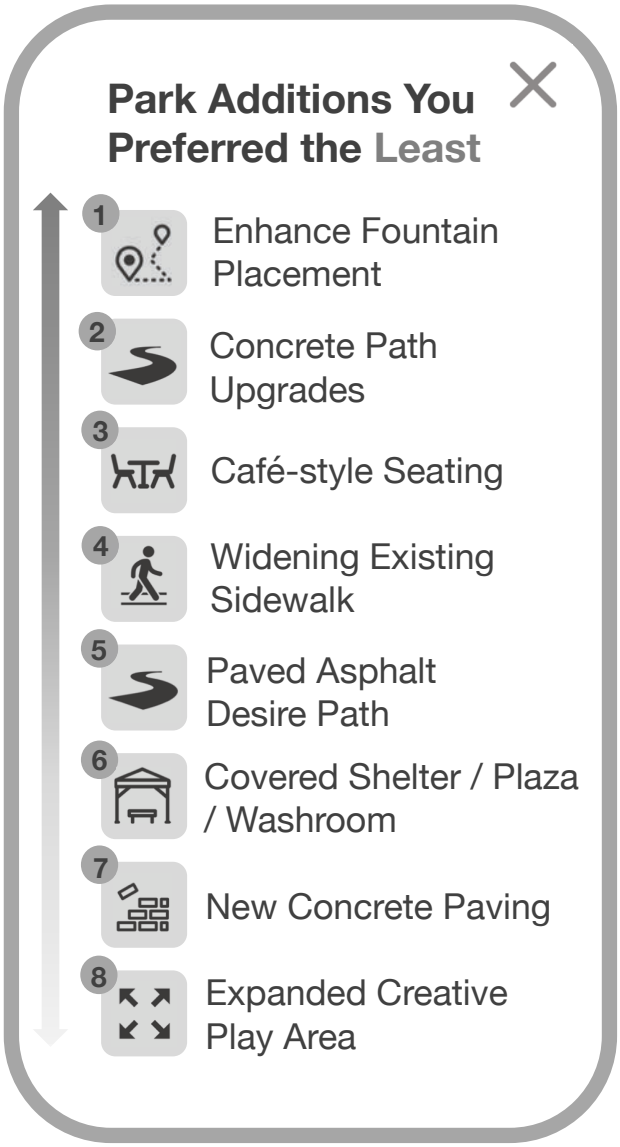
This was an interesting result since 86% of participants from the initial park user survey responded that they felt safe in Southam Park.

Other preferences included those related to proposed pollinator and native planting, formal and informal seating upgrades, and amenities for cycling and trail users.

5.3 Design Concepts Survey Results (cont.)

The park additions that were preferred the least include the relocation of the fountain to a more prominent location, the upgrading of the existing paths from asphalt to concrete, and the provision of café seating adjacent to the stone structure.

It is important to note that despite concept 2 being marginally preferred over concept 1, three of the upgrades that respondents preferred the least (concrete path updates, covered shelter/plaza/washroom, and expanded creative play area) were only illustrated in concept 2 and were the main differences between concept 1 and concept 2.



The responses to the final open-ended question typically provided supporting comments and more information about participants' preference responses.

Although lighting and safety upgrades were determined to be the most beneficial, one participant indicated that the area is already well lit, while another expressed concerns regarding up lighting and the effect on seeing the stars.

Preservation of open space ranked #8 as most beneficial. However, some respondents who did not indicate this, noted the importance of the preservation of green space in their final response.

Pollinator and native planting ranked highly as being most beneficial and received no indication as being least preferred, however, multiple respondents noted concerns about current maintenance levels of the park.

Respondents also noted concerns about play area safety, the proximity of this park to other playgrounds, and the importance of accessibility in the design of a proposed play area.

6.0 Final Master Plan Design

(34) Keddy Access Multi-Use Trail through Southam Park.

MASTER PLAN
DRAFT

INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE
(CULTURAL AND GEOLOGIC HISTORY)

INFORMATION STATION
(SIGNAGE, MAPS, NEIGHOURHOOD STOPS)

WAYFINDING SIGNAGE

PROPOSED UPGRADES

- POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY NATIVE PLANTING (SALT-HARDY SPECIES)
- CREATIVE PLAY FEATURES / EXERCISE
- WIDENING EXISTING SIDEWALK
- PRESERVED OPEN SPACE
- ENHANCED VIEWS THROUGH INVASIVE REMOVAL
- PRESERVED MATURE CANOPY + PROPOSED TREE PLANTING
- ENHANCED FOUNTAIN PLACEMENT
- NEW CONCRETE PAVING ADJACENT TO PRESERVED STONE STRUCTURE AND PERGOLA
- LIGHTING + SAFETY
- CYCLING + TRAIL USER AMENITIES + BIKE SHARE
- FORMAL + INFORMAL PATH SEATING
- 12 PAVED CONCRETE DESIRE PATH

0 10 20 35m

ALEXANDER BUDREVICS & ASSOCIATES LIMITED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

SEPTEMBER 2021

SOUTHAM PARK DESIGN ELEMENTS

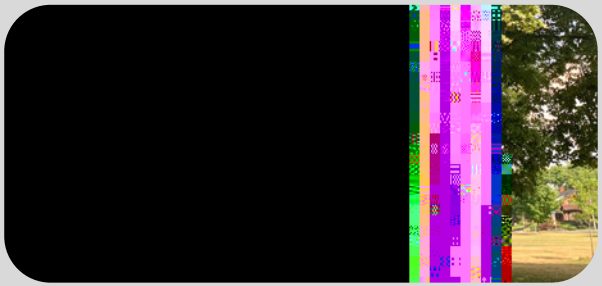
POLLINATOR-FRIENDLY NATIVE PLANTING

CREATIVE PLAY FEATURES

PRESERVED OPEN SPACE

PRESERVED STONE STRUCTURE AND PERGOLA

PRESERVED MATURE CANOPY



LIGHTING + SAFETY

BIKE + TRAIL USER AMENITIES, WAYFINDING AND INTERPRETIVE SIGNAGE

FORMAL + INFORMAL PATH SEATING

The conceptual images presented in this package are for information purposes only. Actual amenities will be subject to the detailed design process and may be modified according to the City of Hamilton Parks Construction Standards at the time of implementation.

(L-R) TOP: (19, 20, 21, 22, 35, 36). MIDDLE: (5, 37, 26, 25). BOTTOM: (38, 39, 24, 23, 40, 41).

Image References

(1) Local History & Archives Hamilton Public Library [Online]. Mountain View Hotel. Available at:https://www.flickr.com/photos/hpllocalhistory/14045935129/.....Cover

(2) Author's Photo. (2020).....Cover

(3) Tom Luton. (2019). Train Web: Hamilton Transit History [Online]. Hamilton Barton Incline Railway. Available at: http://www.trainweb.org/hamtransithist/images/HBIRhistoric2.jpg .....Cover

(4) Local History & Archives Hamilton Public Library [Online]. Mountain View Hotel. Available at:https://www.flickr.com/photos/hpllocalhistory/14045935129/ 1

(5) Author's Photo. (2020).....2, 47

(6-8) Author's Photos. (2020)..... 9,12,14

(9) Albertype Company/Library and Archives Canada/PA-032190. Library and Archives Canada [Online]. Bottom of the Hamilton Barton Incline Railway Available at: https://recherche-collection-search.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/home/record?app=fonandcol&IdNumber=3335589.....16, 20

(10) Hamilton Public Library. Local History and Archives. Accessed at Head -of-the-Lake-Historical-Society [Online]. Former location of Memorial Fountain at Upper James Street. Available at: https://www.facebook.com/VintageHamilton/posts/southam-park-on-upper-james-has-changed-a-lot-since-this-photo-was-taken/1044501938901432/.....16, 20

(11,12) Author's Photos. (2021).....17

(13) Author's Photos. (2020).....18-21

(14) Author's Photo. (2021).....22

(15) City of Hamilton Twitter. (May 29, 2021). [Twitter]. Available at: https://mobile.twitter.com/cityofhamilton/status/1398724843437236226/photo/1)..... 24

(16,17) Author's Photos. (2020)..... 27, 29

(18) Author's Photo. (2021).....30, 36

(19) Glenn, Kyle. Monarch Butterfly. Unsplash.com. Available at: https://unsplash.com/@kylejglenn.....32, 47

(20) Awaytogarden.com. Physostegia and late yellow foliage of Amsonia. Available at: https://awaytogarden.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Seasonal-flower-event_Physostegia-and-Amsonia.jpg.....32, 47

(21) Archtizer.com. Berm Natural Play. Available at:https://architizer.com/projects/chicago-botanic-garden/#.WNzxZsR5Jbs.pinterest 32, 47

(22) Betterme.world. Natural Exercise. Available at: https://betterme.world/articles/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/shutterstock_1012058116.jpg 32, 47

Image References

(23) Trail Wayfinding. Leisurescout.blog. Available at: https://bikecampfishetc .files.wordpress.com/2021/01/murratomountainstrail2.jpg..... 33, 47

(24) Myharriman.com. West Tiger Mountain Kiosk. Available at: http://www.myharriman.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/kiosk_ tuxedo3.jpg.....33, 47

(25) Architectenweb.nl. Mimik 10 Post. Available at: https://architectenweb.nl/producten/product.aspx?ID=25650.....33, 47

(26) LandscapeForms.com. Alcott Area Light. Available at: https://www.landscapeforms.com/SiteCollectionImages/ LFI%20Photo%20Gallery/Alcott%20Area%20Light/Alcott_ AreaLight_07_main.jpg.....33, 47

(27) Van Win, Lien. Café Seating. Unsplash.com. Available at: https://unsplash.com/photos/C7DPwa8XkPw.....35

(28) Artformurban.co.uk. Mingle Picnic Table. Available at: https://www.artformurban.co.uk/media/catalog/product/ images/street-furniture-mingle-picnic-table-2.jpg.....35

(29) Halt-inc.com. Bike Repair Station. Available at: https://www.halt-inc.com/deluxebikerepairstation.....35

(30) Raisethehammer.org. Bike Share. Available at: https://www.raisethehammer.org/static/images/sobi_hub_hunter _go_station.jpg.....35

(31) Poligon.com. Gable Roof Shelter. Available at: https://poligon.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/WLG-24X36.jpg.....35

(32) Rawdesign.ca. St. James Park Pavilion. Available at: https://rawdesign.ca/projects/st-james-park-pavilion/.....35

(33) City of Hamilton Twitter. (May 29, 2021). [Twitter]. Available at: https://mobile.twitter.com/cityofhamilton/status/1398724843437236226/ photo/1).....36

(34) Author's Photo. (2021).....39

(35) BBC.com. Open Space. Available at: https://ichef.bbci.co.uk/news/976/ cpsprodpb/B2C0/production/_112206754_gettyimages-1223449871.jpg.....47

(36) istockphoto.com. Frisbee Playing. Available at: https://www.istockphoto.com/photo/people-are-playing-frisbee-in-city-park-gm621378134-108504663.....47

Image References

(37) Author's Photo. (2020).....47

(38) Pinterest.com. Bike Parking. Available at: https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/
343469909072310752/?d=t&mt=login.....47

(39) Belson.com. Water Fountain. Available at: http://www.belson.com/
Haws-Barrier-Free-Powder-Coated-Hi-Lo-with-Pet-Bowl-
Pedestal-Drinking-Fountain 47

(40) Wishboneltd.com. Formal Bench. Available at: https://wishboneltd.com/
site-furnishings/park-benches/item/mountain-classic-park-bench
-all-metal.....47

(41) Montrosepress.com. Informal Seating. Available at:
https://bloximages.chicago2.vip.townnews.com/montrosepress.com
/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/d/3c/d3ccf298-a754-11ea-8f65-
6f866dc52021/5eda85be7ad0c.image.jpg.....47