Announces master plan for Bronte Creek Park

A master plan for Bronte Creek Provincial Park - Ontario's first urban-oriented park — was announced this week by the Hon. Leo Bernier, Minister of Natural

Resources.
Situated at the Queen Elizabeth Way and Highway 25, the 2,000 acre site in the Burlington-Oakville area is just 25 miles from Toronto and will provide a major recreational centre for the

more than 3,000,000 people in the Toronto-Hamilton urban areas. "Park development will be phased over a number of years and during this period many people will be able to make further contributions to its success, both formally and informally," commented Mr. Bernier. "We anticipage that many facilities will be available by July, 1973." The park will have

a "unique atmosphere" that harmoniously balances ac-tivities, facilities, horticulture and natural environment.

Preserve gorge The plan calls for two distinct roles to be played by the park. The natural environment of the deep and spectacular Bronte Creek gorge will be preserved

and trails, outdoor exhibits,

(Photo by S. Dills)

protection of its natural values. In a second role, the park will provide facilities on adjacent tablelands including swimming pools, picnic shelters, tennis courts, riding stables, bicycle paths, arts and crafts centre and playgrounds. During the winter, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing trails will be available along with toboggan slides and

skating rinks. The Master Plan also calls for several "urban-oriented" park innovations:

-a mini-bus internal transportation system that eliminates the need for movement of 'automobiles beyond entrance parking lots;

-supervised day-care centres to permit parents full enjoyment of activities geared for adult interests:

-a demonstration farm where sitors can help in cultivation of crops, groom horses or participate in vegetable and fruit canning.

Easy access

"Unlike many existing provincial parks, Bronte Creek Provincial Park is easily accessible by public transportation," Mr. Bernier said. "The southeast corner of the park is less than a 5 minute walk from Bronte's GOstation and we expect that a GO bus from the Oakville GO-station will make stops at the park. Plans call for over 6,000 parking spaces and the present interchange at the Q.E.W. and Bronte Road will be reconstructed," he

"I am particularly happy with the special facilities which will be provided for handicapped persons. These will include ramp entrances to buildings and special wheelchair trails," Mr. Bernier pointed out.

The master plan for the unique park was developed from recommendations made by the Bronte Creek Provincial Park Advisory Committee headed by Donald M. Blenkhorne, an Oakville architect. The committee received numerous proposals and briefs from the public and eventally recommended the final

Local MPPs

Also providing valuable contributions were the Hon. James Snow, Minister of Government Services, and the Hon. George Kerr, Q.C., Provincial Secretary for Justice. The park design was developed by the Toronto consulting firm, Project Planning Associates Ltd.

Implementation of the plan is being carried out by governmental representatives in co

nature study areas and scenic operation with Project Planning ment designs have been recently lookouts will ensure the Associates Ltd. Engineering, reviewed and approved by the architectural and site develop- advisory committee.



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MRS. SPROWL POINTS to the spot where diggers will find

water. She can't explain her own powers. —Jennifer Barr MOGOSKI

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Mrs. Sprowl divines water

Snows of winter turn greens to white

by Jennifer Barr

Rain drizzled on a grey-haired lady in gum boots, tramping around the field with a forked metal rod. Suddenly her arm started to flair wildly, as if on a string, and she stated calmly:

There are two crossed streams here. You'll find water 20-25 feet down but the rock is for her activity. She small spring at 150 feet and two larger ones at 165 feet and 175

Mrs. John Sprowl of Acton, one of the few remaining water

diviners, was at it again. The occasion this time was erection of a new home on the Rockwood sideroad property of the Mac Barr's and the accompanying search for a well

Mrs. Sprowl is very well-known responsible for more wells than

She first became aware of her

inherited power at the age of

eight and has taken it for granted ever since. A well-driller husband and information from the University of Guelph have helped Mrs. Sprowl to learn much about land types and water tables, but most of her knowledge comes from experience.

However, there is no explanation for the uncanny antics of her right arm as she divines underwater streams or her ability to predict accurately depths at which water will be

(Continued on Page Eight)

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