EDUCATIONAL CONCEPT: Creating a Relationship between the Community and Nature

Exploring the A.T. at Bear Mountain
Realigning the A.T.
The Educational Loops: Overall Idea

- Location of loops highlights diverse points of interest and offers educational opportunities
- Inviting and easily reached
- Accessibility to all users in different sections
- Options are based on level of difficulty, accessibility, and educational focuses

Exploring the A.T. at Bear Mountain

Jason Berks
John Carluccio
Galia Hanoch-Roe

Vlad Moskowski
Elizabeth Hendrickson
The Bottom Loop

Exploring the A.T. at Bear Mountain
The Hessian Lake Education Loop

Exploring the A.T. at Bear Mountain
Exploring the A.T. at Bear Mountain
The Educational Center at the bottom loop
Exploring the A.T. at Bear Mountain

Jason Berks                   Vlad Moskowski
John Carluccio                Elizabeth Hendrickson
Galia Hanoch-Roe

Current A.T.                      Rerouted A.T.
Major Welch                      Perkins Drive
Educational Loop

The Top Education loops
The Top Loop Options

Option 1:
The Perkins Memorial Tower “Astonishing Vistas” Loop
Very accessible short route (1.5-2 miles)
Loop Option 1: The astonishing views very accessible short route (1.5-2 miles)

- Perkins Memorial Tower & vistas
- The Old A.T.
- Joining the “real trail”

Close of section of road to permit:
- Vistas & educational opportunities
- High accessibility at low cost
- Less vehicular pollution
Loop Option 2:
The Perkins Memorial Tower “A.T. Experience” Loop
A self guided, moderately difficult route (1.5-2 miles)
Loop Option 2: Joining the A.T. Experience
A self guided educational route (1.5-2 miles)
Loop Option 3:
The Perkins Memorial Tower “Taste of All” Loop
Vistas, the A.T. and the old road
Moderately difficult route (2-3 miles)
Loop Option 3: A taste of all, vistas, the rough A.T. and the old road (2-3 miles)
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Conceptual Trailhead Design

- Three Informative signs about History, Ecology, etc.
- Sitting stones opposite Info
- Ten foot tread way
- Located directly on A.T.
- Gives hikers a sense of entry onto the trail

A place to rest and learn
- Signage overhead about A.T. distance, difficulty, etc.
- Stone paving gives a sense of entry into the trailhead
Proposed Trailhead Locations

**Gateway Trailhead**
- Located on the south side of Hessian Lake
- Connects A.T. to Gateway Area
- Gives day hikers a clear entry to the A.T.

**Summit Trailhead**
- Located on the south side of Perkins Memorial Tower
- Connects Perkins Memorial Tower to main viewing area
OTHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Exploring the A.T. at Bear Mountain


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