

Photo A



This photo shows the early industrial development along the natural shoreline of the harbour, looking west towards Aldershot, ca.1922. In the foreground is the Firestone Tire & Rubber Company factory built in 1912. Beside Firestone is the National Steel Car Company, Canada's foremost manufacturer of railroad rolling stock, which built its plant in 1912 at the foot of Kenilworth Ave. North. To the right on the bayshore, with twin smokestacks, is the thermal-generating plant erected by the Dominion Power and Transmission Company in 1922 and razed in the early 1940s. At the left centre of the photograph is the industrial chemical, fertilizer and dynamite plant of the Grasselli Chemical Company, constructed in 1912 at the foot of Ottawa Street North; the plant was taken over by CIL in 1928. Above it is Stelco, which had already expanded well into the bay on filled-in waterfronts.

Photo by Cunningham Studio, Courtesy T.Melville Bailey.

Inlets to Industry: Humans dramatically transformed the southeastern shore of the Bay, disrupting the natural habitat of many plants, birds animals and fish. A series of marshy inlets once reached south, stretching like fingers down to what is now Barton Street. Hamilton City Council and the Hamilton Harbour Commission (formed in 1912), hoped to concentrate heavy industry in this area, leaving the rest of the bayfront for recreational and residential uses. They promoted the filling in of these inlets, to create more land for industrial development. Some of the inlets, like parts of Sherman inlet, also were filled in for health reasons, literally covering up industrial and residential pollution.

"The site of Hamilton was originally covered with a dense growth of tall, rank, Indian grass, with a coarse serrated edge... The country between the mountain and the bay was cut here and there with deep ravines and dotted with patches of swamp or swale - a favourite haunt of quails, rattlesnakes and frogs. The monotony of the Indian grass was relieved here and there by tall water elm, and close, low and almost impenetrable patches of shrubbery which formed safe shelter for the wolves. (Page & Smith, Historical Atlas of Wentworth County, 1875.xv.)"

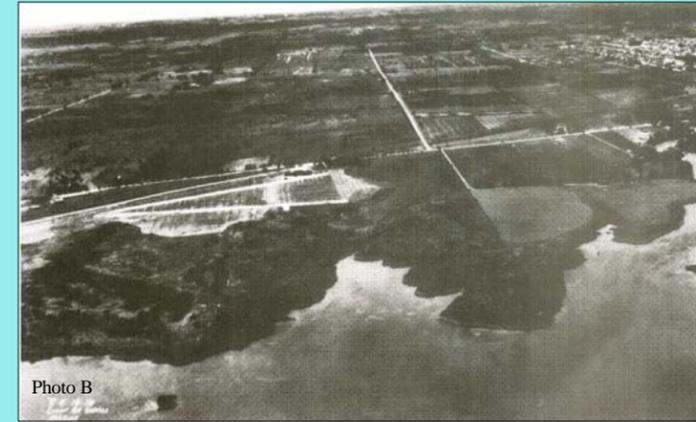


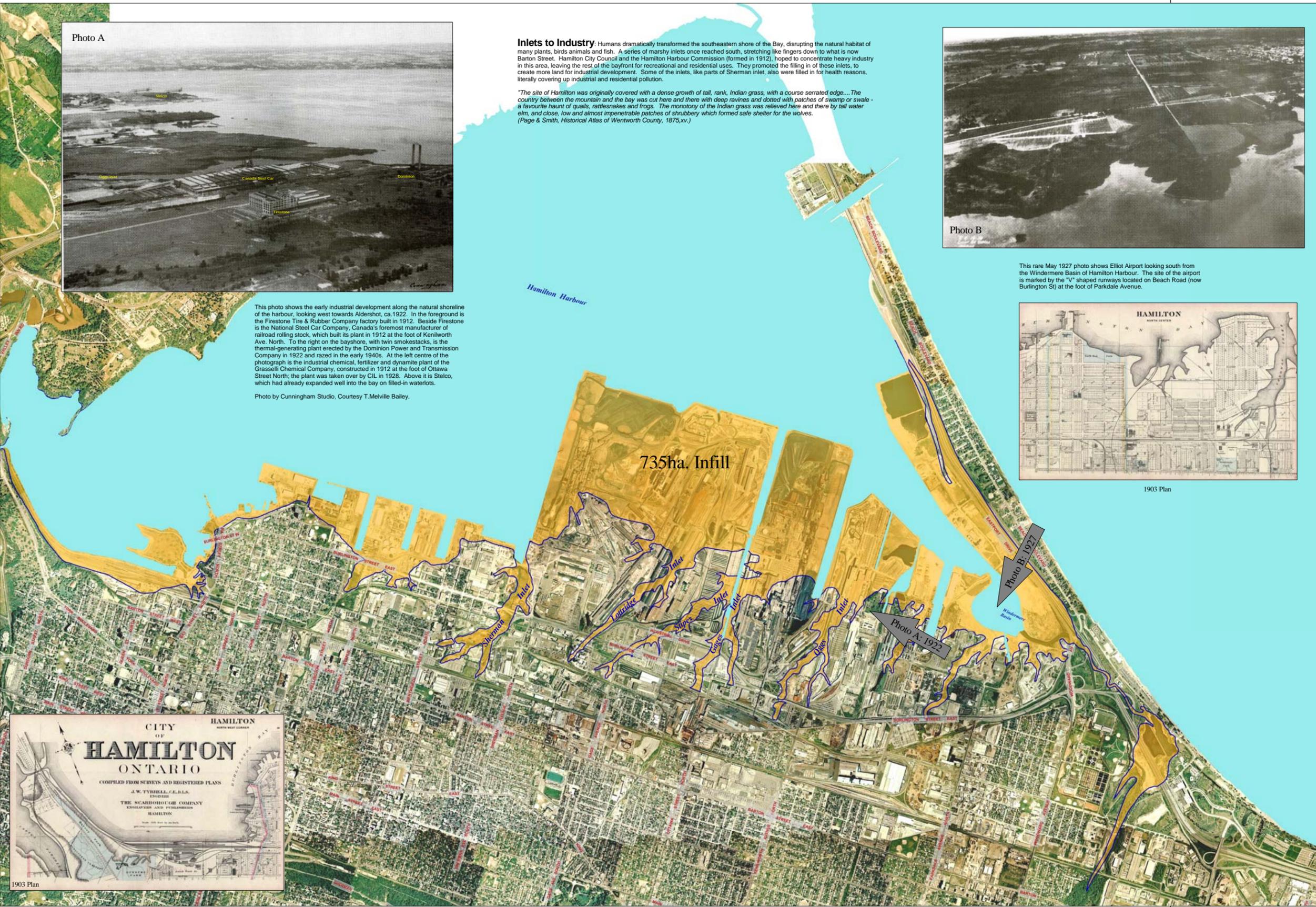
Photo B

This rare May 1927 photo shows Elliot Airport looking south from the Windermere Basin of Hamilton Harbour. The site of the airport is marked by the "V" shaped runways located on Beach Road (now Burlington St) at the foot of Parkdale Avenue.



1903 Plan

735ha. Infill



1903 Plan

Hamilton Historic Shoreline (1900-2000)

Source: Hamilton Harbour Commission; Plan Showing South Shore, E.M.Whitby, December 21, 1912
Airphoto Date: 1999

Legend

- 1912 Shoreline
- Harbour Infill



Date Plotted: November 7, 2007

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
LONG RANGE PLANNING DIVISION
OFFICIAL PLAN & INFORMATION PLANNING

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