

Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design



Prepared for the Town of Glade Spring
March 2019

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Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

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Virginia Department of Forestry Urban & Community Forestry Program



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

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CDAC team members (left to right): Brooke Pagliarini, Elizabeth Gilboy, and Owen Baylois. Not pictured: Nick Proctor

The Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC) is an outreach center in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech that assists communities, neighborhood groups and non-profit organizations in improving the natural and built environments. Assistance is provided in the areas of landscape architecture, architecture, planning, and interior design. Working with communities, the conceptual planning and design provides communities with a graphic vision of their project that can then be used for grant applications and fundraising for the next steps toward implementation.

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Mount Rogers PDC

Aaron Sizemore
Glade Spring, Town Manager
Mount Rogers PDC, Director

Matthew Lloyd
Community Member

Nancy Williams
Community Member

and

Those who volunteered time for the betterment of their community

Glade Spring, VA:
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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Introduction

In order to enhance the trail experience in Glade Spring, a new trailhead is envisioned near the corner of Hemlock Street where an old house was recently demolished. The Hemlock Street trailhead is in close proximity to several Glade Spring attractions such as Surber & Son Hardware, Town Square Center of the Arts, and the Glade Spring Farmers Market.

The goal of this project was to work with the Glade Spring community to develop a conceptual design for a trailhead in downtown Glade Spring. The site is located near the bend in Hemlock Street and behind the Glade Spring Senior Center. Currently, the site is a gravel parking lot. The site will serve as the trailhead once the Salt Trail is completed into the Glade Spring Town Square. The trailhead needs improved parking, a kiosk with a map illustrating the trail and possibly the history of the trail, benches, picnic tables, restrooms, and any other improvements that would improve access and use of the Salt Trail.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Background of Glade Spring

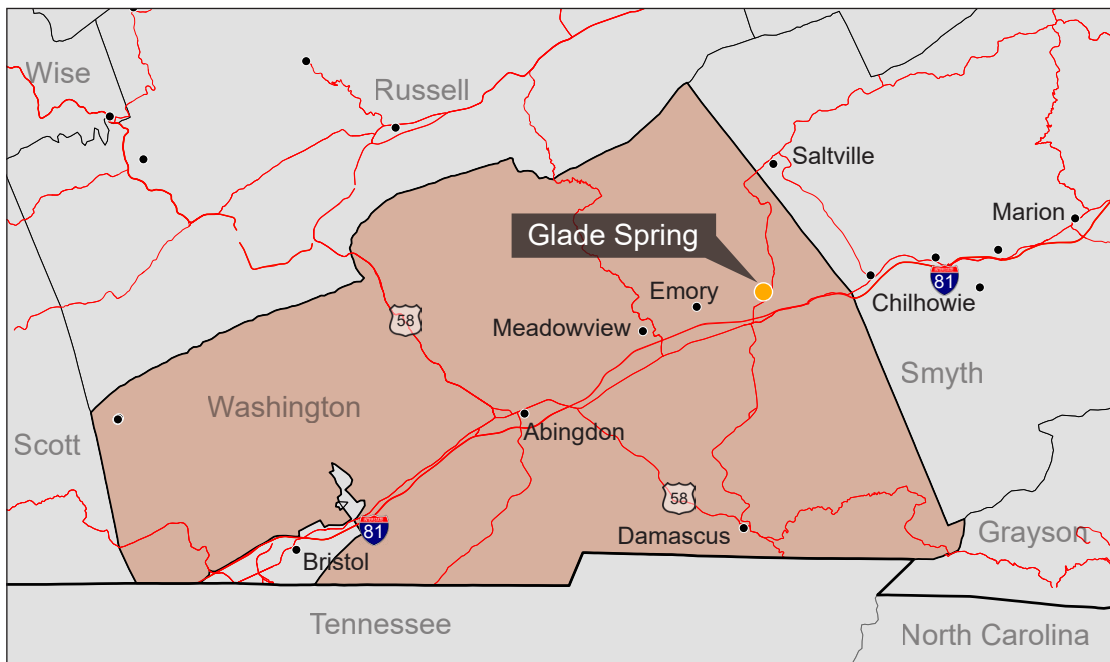
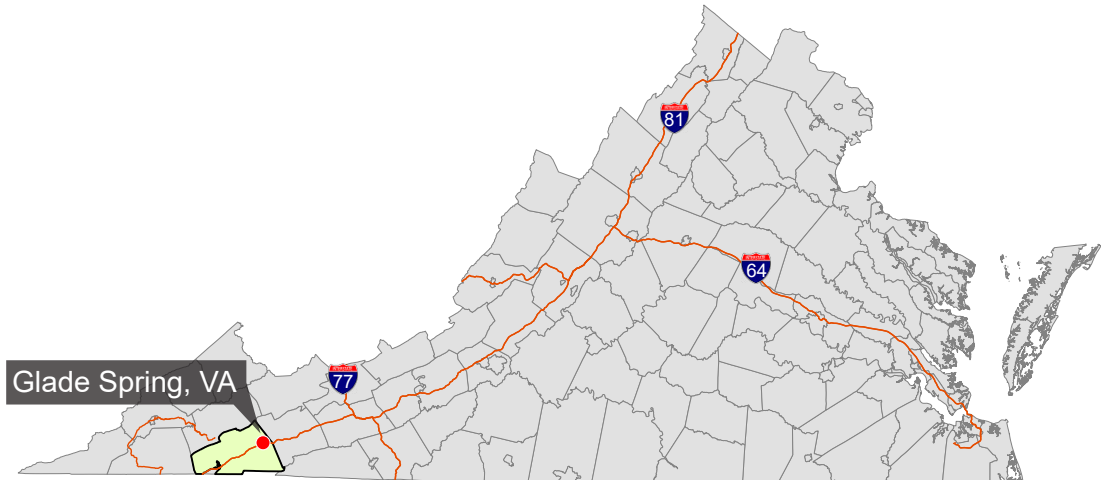
Glade Spring is located within Washington County near Interstate 81 and between Abingdon and Marion in southwest Virginia. As of the 2010 census, the population was around 1,450. According to the town web site, the greater Glade Spring area population is around 4,500. A breakdown of the community's age groups consists of 22.9% under the age of 18, 7.1% from 18 to 24, 26.3% from 25 to 44, 25.5% from 45 to 64, and 18.2% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 41 years.

The Salt Trail, established in 2008 as a part of the Rails-to-Trails program, links the Towns of Glade Spring and Saltville. The trail is a 3.7 mile multi-use trail along a former rail bed. The trail surface varies and includes concrete, crushed stone, dirt, grass, and gravel. The Salt Trail provides an outdoor experience for hikers, runners, cyclists, and equestrians, though does not allow motorized forms of transportation. The Salt Trail currently stretches from about one mile outside the Saltville town limits to about one and half miles outside Glade Spring Town Square. The trail end points are on Old Mill Road in Glade Spring, where there is a trailhead with a gravel parking lot, and on Allison Gap Road in Saltville. Both the Town of Saltville and the Town of Glade Spring have passed ordinances stating their commitment to completing the Salt Trail.

There is great potential to expand the Salt Trail in order to draw people into town and connect Glade Spring to surrounding communities. The town of Emory, with a population of about 1,200, and Emory & Henry College with just over 1,000 students, is 3 miles from Glade Spring. Connecting the trail to Emory would provide a fresh opportunity to draw people to Glade Spring. It is hoped that trail activity will help people establish businesses that support trail activity.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project Location

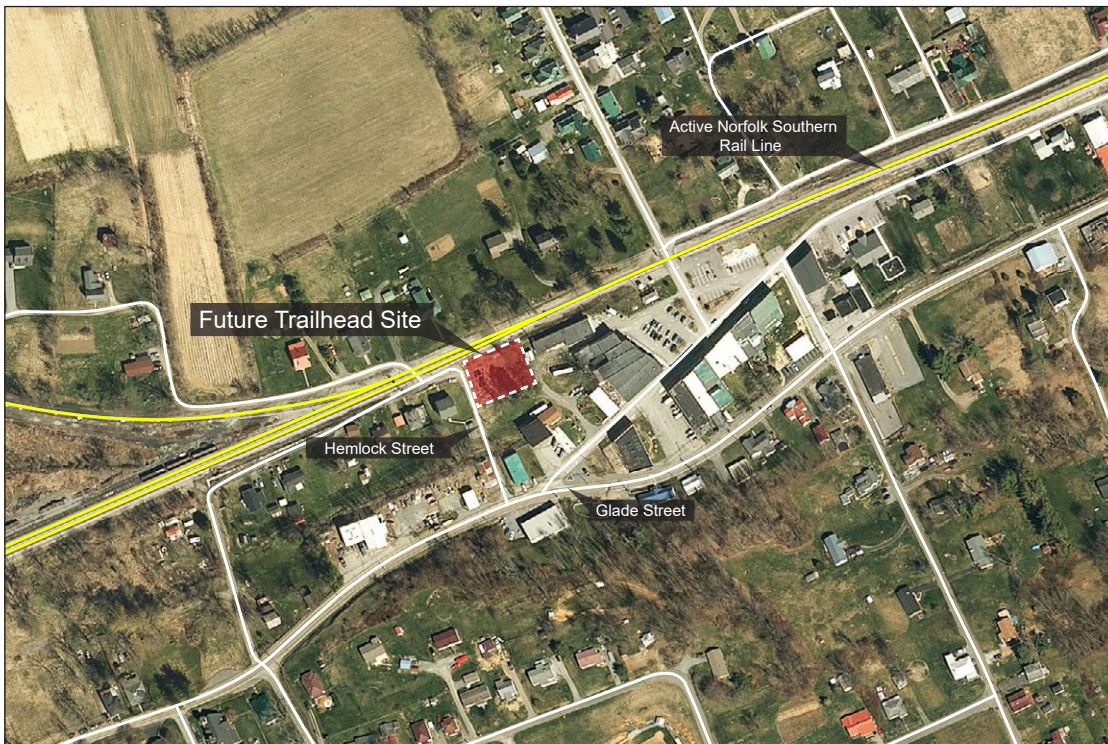


The map above and the aerials on the following page show the location of Glade Spring within Washington County as well as where the proposed Hemlock Street trailhead site is located within Glade Spring.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION



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PROJECT DESCRIPTION



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Design Process

The design process began with a stakeholder input session on October 11, 2018 on the proposed location for the trailhead on Hemlock Street. During that visit the CDAC team learned from several community members about the broad vision for Glade Spring and their on-going efforts to revitalize and enhance their downtown area. CDAC also visited several key sites including the proposed trailhead site, the Point Pavilion where the farmers market is held, the downtown area and Town Square, and walked along Hemlock Street where the Salt Trail will eventually be located. A site visit, photographs, early sketches, and input from the stakeholders created a comprehensive foundation that the CDAC team used to develop two preliminary conceptual trailhead designs.



Glade Spring community member Matthew Lloyd and Mount Rogers PDC Director Aaron Sizemore show the proposed trailhead site to CDAC student designer Owen Baylois (right).



Community members and the CDAC team walk along a section of memorial bricks beside the Senior Center. The memorial bricks could be potentially integrated into future design work.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The team returned to Glade Spring on December 12, 2018 to present two preliminary design concepts for the proposed Hemlock Street trailhead. Following the presentation, community members provided feedback about what they (dis)liked and what they thought might have been missing.

The CDAC team revised the two preliminary design concepts into one final design concept with supporting drawings, which were presented to the Glade Spring community members on February 12, 2019.

Meeting notes from the input sessions and presentations can be found in the Appendix.



CDAC project manager Nick Proctor along with student designers Brooke Pagliarini and Owen Baylous capture feedback during the preliminary design presentation held on December 12, 2018 at the Point Pavilion in downtown Glade Spring.

**PART 1:
FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT**

FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

Design Description

The Glade Spring Trailhead functions as a threshold into town for visitors, as well as a gathering space for the surrounding community. Serving as a gateway into town, this site will guide visitors into the key areas of Glade Spring such as a downtown shopping areas, as well as the Point Pavilion. The trailhead concept provides amenities for both visitors and locals, while celebrating and showcasing the town's identity.

Threshold into Town:

Punctuating the end point of the Salt Trail, the trailhead will welcome pedestrians and bikers into Glade Spring, while guiding them to key areas of the town. A rustic welcoming sign will identify the trailhead and provide a visual indication of the site to hikers further down the Salt Trail or the future connection to Emory and Henry College. Once entering the trailhead, an information kiosk will provide a map of downtown, as well as a public bulletin board to promote local events. A straight repaved path that extends the Salt Trail will guide visitors behind the senior center to the Town Square. A 6' high wrought iron style fence running parallel to this path, would provide a safety border against the railroad, without impeding the view of rains passing by. Light posts would be placed throughout the site a well, increasing safety and visibility.

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A second path running diagonally across the site will invite visitors onto the alley leading to the Point Pavilion where the local farmers market and other events are held. This path would also be an opening for food truck access. Given the limited amount of times food trucks are likely to be in use, the trucks would park directly on the grass. Parking and bike racks would allow visitors to use this site as both a starting and ending point for their journey along the Salt Trail. Three parking spaces (one ADA and two standard) would allow for limited parking. While parking would be limited, this is not only to accommodate for the limited space in the site, but also to encourage parking and visitation in the downtown area.

Green Space:

The site has two large existing sugar maple trees. Surrounding these trees would be two grass open spaces. Seating in the form of benches and a seating wall would border these spaces. Another smaller green space would surround the welcoming sign, with a perennial bed planted around it. An additional green space would be at the southern portion of the property, with a fence (possibly a dog ear or stockade style fence) delineating the border between the trailhead property and the adjacent property to provide screening. A medium tree would be planted in this southern green space next to the shelter. Some small shrubs, possibly including the existing boxwoods, would be planted alongside the fence.

FINAL DESIGN CONCEPT

Community and Identity:

One of the most notable features of the design is the picnic shelter. Capable of holding four picnic tables, this shelter would include two attached restrooms, with doors opening at the backside of the shelter rather than into the picnic area. It is recommended the style be similar to the rustic nature of the welcome sign. More picnic tables would be placed in the grass open space adjacent to the shelter.

As a centerpiece to the entire site, a public art wall would showcase the town's artistic heritage and invite community participation in the space. There are several opportunities for the art wall including as a section of the memorial seat wall and/or on the side of the senior center storage unit. The wall would curve parallel to the path weaving through the site. The memorial bricks that are currently used in the path leading behind the senior center would be reincorporated into a shorter seating wall connected to the art wall. An additional seating wall made from reclaimed bricks would surround the welcome sign. These bricks could be further incorporated into the paving underneath the bike rack adjacent to the shelter.

The storage containers next to the Senior Center could be painted with murals, as well as the back wall of the Senior Center along the path. This could be an opportunity for local artists and the community to provide an

Connecting Elements:

Adjacent to the Town Square, a second smaller trailhead will visually and spatially connect the main trailhead to the rest of downtown Glade Spring. The path running behind the Senior Center will end at the smaller trailhead near the existing stage. Bike racks, benches, and a perennial bed will make it more visitor friendly, while lighting and a curb cut into the parking lot will increase safety and accessibility. A second kiosk will provide another space for promoting local announcements. Attached to one of the lighting poles, a sign will direct people to the main trailhead and the Salt Trail (when the connection is completed).



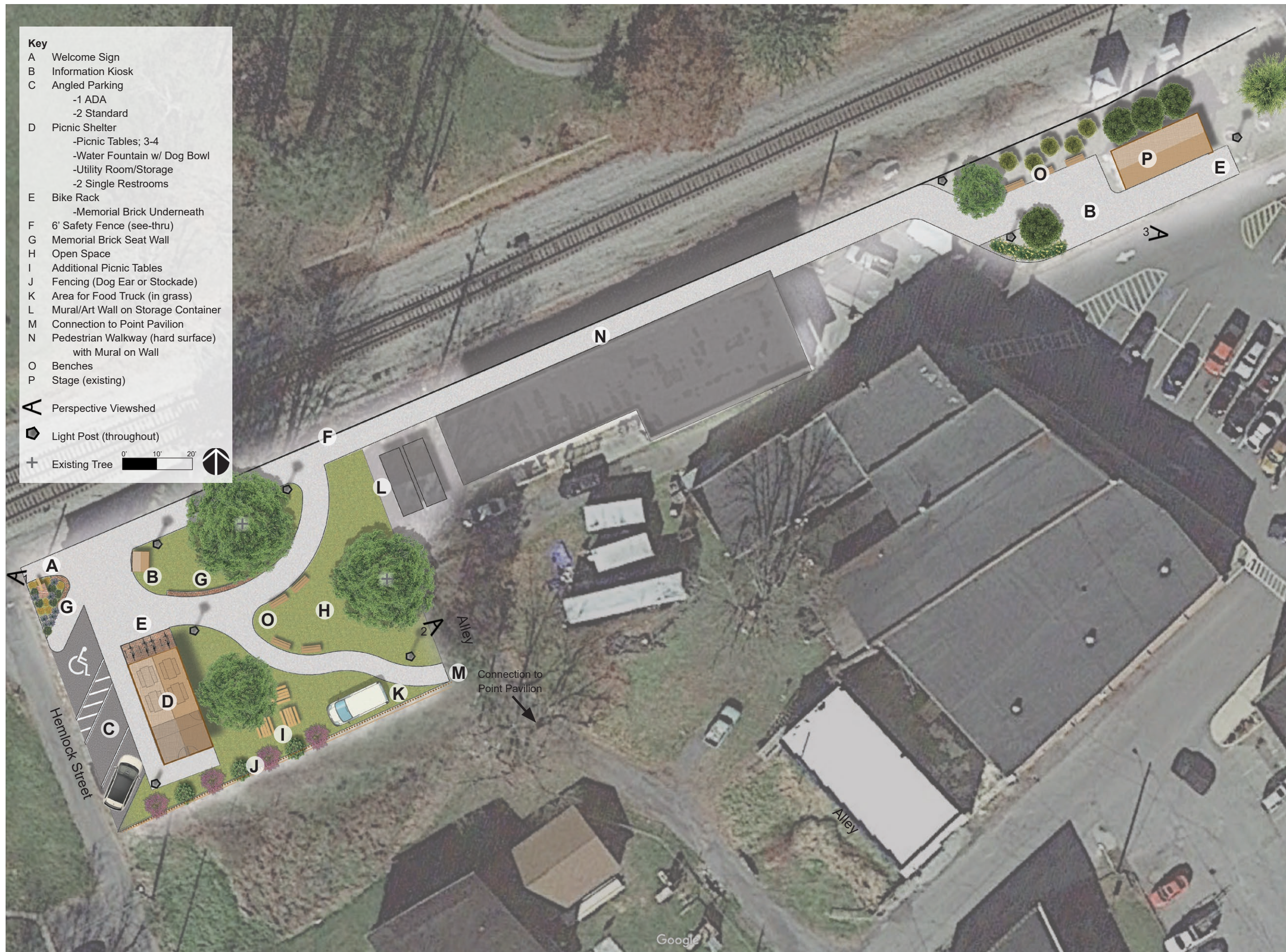
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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Master Plan
February 12, 2019





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Key	
A	Welcome Sign
B	Information Kiosk
C	Angled Parking -1 ADA -2 Standard
D	Picnic Shelter -Picnic Tables; 3-4 -2 Single Restrooms -Water Fountain with Dog Bowl
E	Bike Rack -Memorial Brick Underneath
F	6' Safety Fence (see-thru)
G	Memorial Brick Seat Wall
H	Open Space
I	Additional Picnic Tables
J	Fencing (Dog Ear or Stockade)
K	Area for Food Truck (in grass)
L	Mural/Art Wall on Storage Container
M	Connection to Point Pavilion (existing)
N	Pedestrian Walkway (hard surface) with Mural on Wall
O	Benches
P	Stage (existing)
A	Perspective Viewshed
⬠	Light Post (throughout)
+	Existing Tree

Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Site Plan: Trailhead
February 12, 2019



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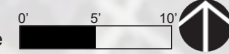
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Key

- A Welcome Sign
- B Information Kiosk
- C Angled Parking
 - 1 ADA
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with Mural on Wall
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- Light Post (throughout)
- + Existing Tree



**Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design**

Final Design Concept

Site Plan: Town Square Extension

February 12, 2019



Seen from the Salt Trail entrance, the Glade Spring welcome sign marks the proposed trailhead site and a kiosk welcomes visitors with local information and trail map. There are bike racks, a picnic shelter (with two restrooms accessed at the back side of the shelter), and picnic tables in the open green space. Memorial bricks can be used under the bike rack, as a cap to the seating wall, and/or as a veneer on the seat walls. A mural/art wall, incorporated on the side of the senior center's storage units, can be seen beyond the kiosk. It offers an opportunity for visitors to take pictures of one another in front of the mural. Beyond the picnic shelter is an area for a food truck to set up in the grass during special events.



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Perspective 1: Trailhead Entrance with Sign, Picnic Shelter, and Bike Racks
February 12, 2019



Seen from the alley entrance are the food truck space in the grass, picnic tables in the open lawn, the picnic shelter, and an open lawn for picnicking or other passive activities. Benches line the walking paths. The entry sign, seating walls, and information kiosk can be seen in the background.



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Perspective 2: Alley Entrance with Food Truck, and Picnic Shelter
February 12, 2019



The town square extension entrance is located in the town square between the senior center and the existing stage. The entrance to the Salt Trail is framed by plantings, a welcome kiosk, and benches.



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Perspective 3: Town Square Trailhead Extension with Information Kiosk
February 12, 2019

PLANT PALETTE

Plant Palette Summary

Existing Trees:

On-site there is a row of hemlocks and two sugar maples that must be considered and dealt with in the design.

All the hemlocks are in poor health and the canopies have grown into the AEP transmission line, therefore they should not be removed by town employees. AEP has offered to remove the hemlocks for no cost.

The sugar maple, closest to the railroad, has no obvious signs of rot or decay or structural concerns. The crown is asymmetrical due to growing close together with another tree that is no longer existing. The tree will need selective pruning for general health improvement. Prior to pruning a consult with the VA Department of Forestry (DOF) must occur. Overall, the health of the tree is good and there is no need for immediate removal.

The second sugar maple, closest to the gas line, is in poorer condition than the other sugar maple. There is severe compaction around the entire tree's root system is due to the neighboring alley and vehicles driving on-site over the gravel. The tree now exhibits several signs of distress such as the seepage, thinner crown and canopy. The black discoloration on the side of the trunk is caused by a non-harming fungus and is of no concern. Overall, the health of the second sugar maple is moderate without need for immediate removal; however, conversations about replacement strategies with VA DOF should begin soon.

Replacement Recommendations:

Any future trees that are planted must account for the mature canopy size when considering plant spacing during the initial installation. They should also stay a decent distance from the power line and hard surfaces. When planting, add a mulch ring around each tree to the extent of the canopy following industry standards for mulch application in order to avoid damage to the root collar and trunk base. Potential shade trees for the site include oaks, maples and elms. Screening trees include hollies, dogwoods and redbuds.



Arrowwood Viburnum, *Viburnum dentatum*
Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist loams, but tolerates a wide range of soils. Established plants have some drought tolerance. Prune as needed immediately after flowering.

Height: 6 - 10 feet
Spread: 6 - 10 feet
Bloom Time: May to June
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Hedge



Tatarian Dogwood, *Cornus alba* 'Sibirica'
Best grown in organically rich, consistently moist, fertile, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of a wide range of soils. Established shrubs tolerate some dry soils as well as occasional standing water. Also referred to as Coral Bark Dogwood.

Height: 4 - 7 feet
Spread: 3 - 5 feet
Bloom Time: May to June
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Hedge



Glossy Abelia, *Abelia x grandiflora*
Easily grown in average, medium, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Best flowering in full sun. Prefers moist, organically rich soils which drain well.

Height: 3 - 6 feet
Spread: 3 - 6 feet
Bloom Time: May to September
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Hedge



Meadowsweet, *Spiraea alba*
Grow in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Prefers full sun. Needs constant moisture, and soil must not be allowed to dry out.

Height: 3 - 4 feet
Spread: 3 - 4 feet
Bloom Time: June to August
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium to wet
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Hedge



American Elm, *Ulmus americana* 'Jefferson'
Grow in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun. Tolerant of light shade. Prefers rich, moist loams. Adapts to both wet and dry sites. Generally tolerant of urban conditions.

Height: 40 - 50 feet
Spread: 40 - 50 feet
Bloom Time: March to April
Sun: Full sun
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Shade Tree



Red Maple, *Acer rubrum*
Easily grown in average, medium to wet, well-drained soil in full sun to part shade. Tolerant of a wide range of soils, but prefers moist, slightly acid conditions. Very cold hardy. New leaves, twigs, fruit, and fall color are all variations of red.

Height: 40 - 70 feet
Spread: 30 - 50 feet
Bloom Time: March to April
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium to wet
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Shade Tree



Flowering Dogwood, *Cornus florida*
Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Prefers moist, organically rich, acidic soils in part shade. Benefits from a 2-4" mulch which will help keep roots cool and moist in summer.

Height: 15 - 30 feet
Spread: 15 - 30 feet
Bloom Time: April to May
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Medium
Suggested Use: Flowering Tree



Eastern Redbud, *Cercis canadensis*
Easily grown in average, medium moisture, well-drained soils in full sun to part shade. Part shade is best in hot summer climates. Performs best in moderately fertile soils with regular and consistent moisture. Avoid wet or poorly drained soils. Multi-stemmed understory tree with rose-purple flowers.

Height: 20 - 30 feet
Spread: 25 - 35 feet
Bloom Time: April
Sun: Full sun to part shade
Water: Medium
Maintenance: Low
Suggested Use: Flowering Tree



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Plant Palette Suggestions
February 21, 2019



Welcome sign



Information kiosk with wooden border and roof cover



U-shaped bike rack



Picnic shelter with attached bathrooms



Open space for picnicking with restrooms in the background



Combination water fountain and dog bowl station



See-through metal safety fencing



Dog-ear border fencing



Memorial brick walkway



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Precedent Images 1 of 2
February 12, 2019



Community art wall



Community mural related to bicycles



Community mural as a group photo opportunity



Brick Seating Wall



Food truck with seating nearby



Food trailer with picnic tables



Concrete walking trail with information sign



Concrete biking trail



Bench along walking path



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Final Design Concept
Precedent Images 2 of 2
February 12, 2019

**PART 2:
SITE INVENTORY
AND
ANALYSIS**

SITE INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

Site Inventory Summary

Existing Conditions and Location:

The site for the proposed trailhead is between Hemlock Street and the Senior Center. Directly north of the property line is an active rail line. The site is level on top of a hill that slopes down towards West Glade and Town Square Street. The ground is mainly gravel on site, apart from several raised planters made from wooden railway ties. Currently, there are two large sugar maples located on the site, as well as a row of hemlocks on the south side that is scheduled to be removed.

Roads:

Hemlock Street is the only public road approaching the site. The Salt Trail connection to Emory and Henry would be built upon this path, but existing road conditions are designed for vehicles rather than pedestrians and bikers. Hemlock Street is also classified as a two-way road, despite only being wide enough for one vehicle at a time coming off of West Glade Street. The connection to the existing Salt Trail towards Old Mill Road would cross the active rail road. There is also a private alley coming off of Town Square Street that runs adjacent to the Senior Center that is used by some locals, but is not a public street. This alley is also only wide enough for one vehicle at a time.

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Threshold into Town:

Viewing the site from 150 feet away along the future connection to Emory and the existing Salt Trail connection shows that there are limited visual indications of the trailhead from this distance, so the site should be made more recognizable. The pathways to key areas of town such as the Point Pavilion and the Town Square do not provide any guidance to potential visitors.

Safety:

The memorial brick path that runs from the corner of Hemlock Street to behind the Senior Center is not suitable for bikers or those with limited mobility. Although these bricks do emphasize the identity of the site with the community, they should be reused in a safer way. Additionally, the site's proximity to the rail line requires that certain setbacks be put in place, as well as a safety fence.

Inventory and analysis maps can be found on the following pages.



Full view of the trailhead site taken from the eastern edge looking toward the railroad.



Brick path running along the north side of the trailhead site looking toward the back of the Senior Center.



Transplanted boxwoods line the brick path.



Raised planter made from railroad ties and filled with gravel-soil mixture. Interior of planter is slightly higher than surrounding area.



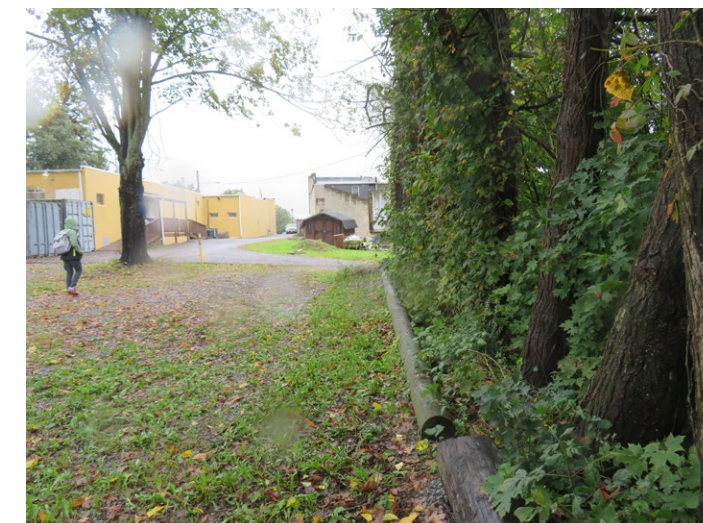
View of the raised planters made from railroad ties.



View of a gravel area where parking could be. Railroad ties act as border between brick path and gravel.



View facing west with gas line indicator on the eastern edge of the site.



Tree line along south edge of site delineating the edge of the property.



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Site Inventory
Existing Conditions Images 1 of 2
December 12, 2018



Full view of the trailhead site taken from the corner of Hemlock Street.



View of a concrete retaining wall adjacent to the railroad track, opposite of the trailhead site.



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View of Hemlock Street leading up to the site from West Glade Street.



View of the road leading downhill into town.



The roads leading up to the trailhead site are wide enough for one vehicle to drive on them at a time.



View from the bottom of the road leading uphill to the trailhead site.



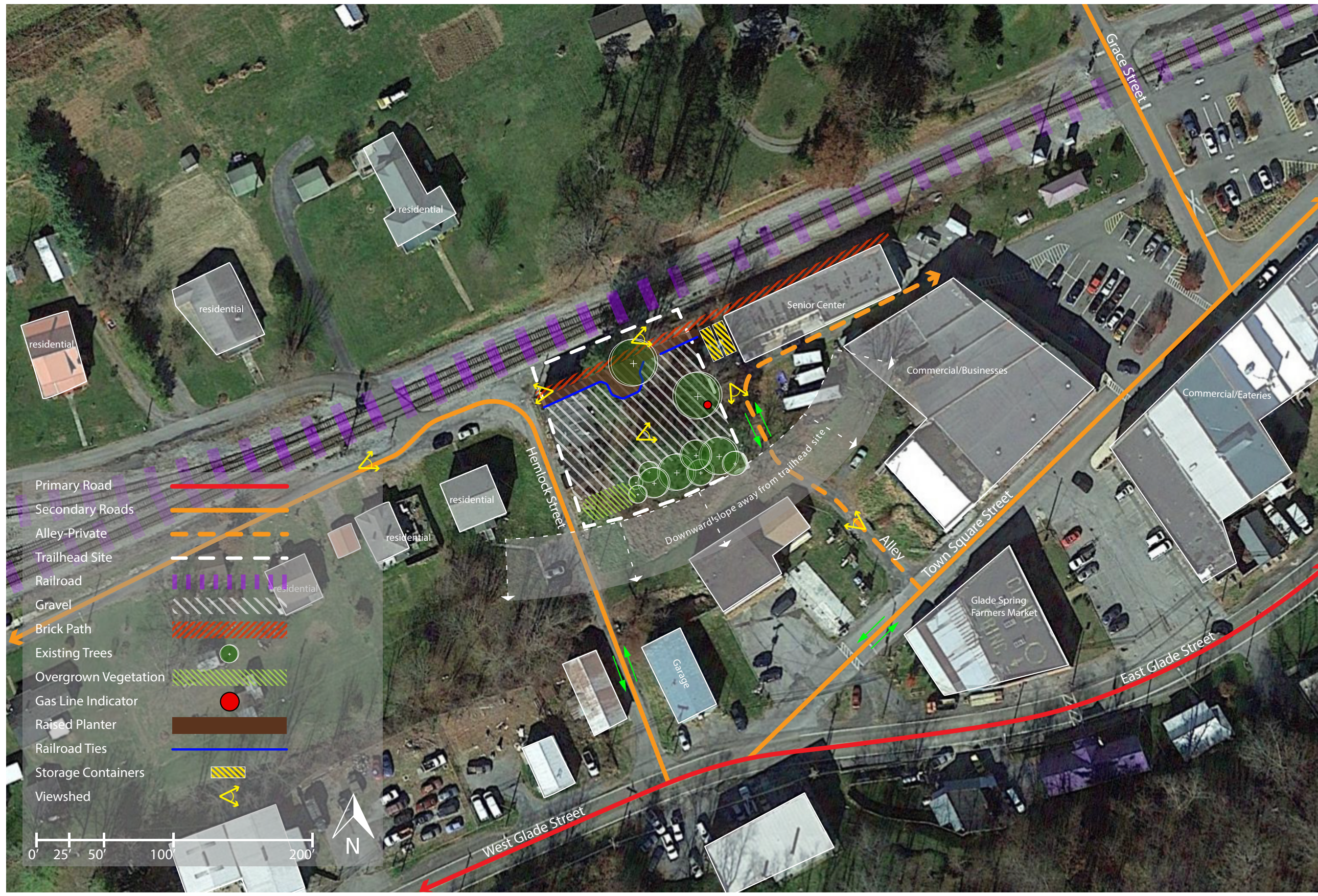
View of proposed trail from trailhead site.



View of future trail location, roughly 150 feet from trailhead. Trailhead site is not easily visible from this distance.

Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Site Inventory
Existing Conditions Images 2 of 2
December 12, 2018



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**Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design**

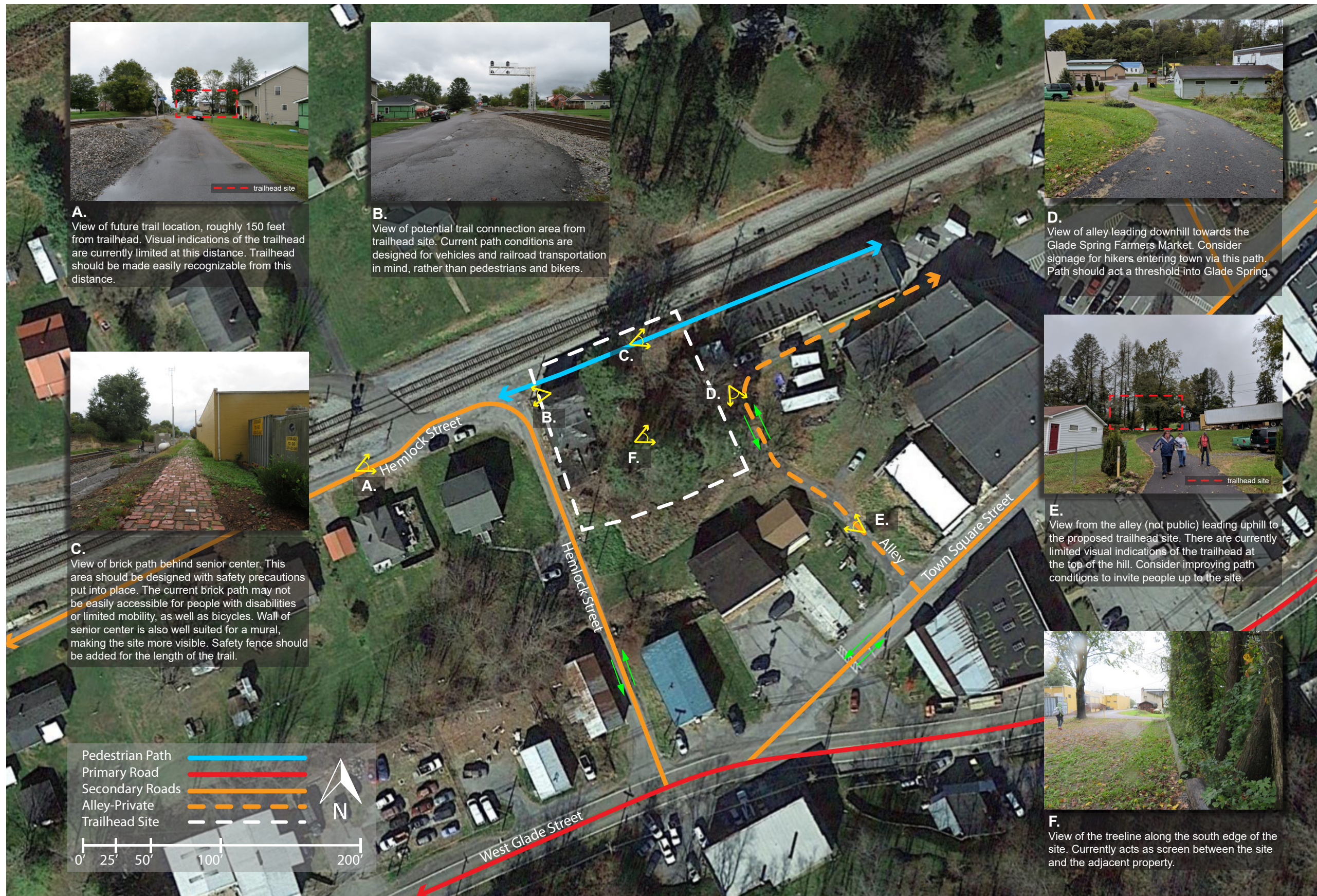
Site Inventory
Existing Conditions Map
December 12, 2018



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A. View of future trail location, roughly 150 feet from trailhead. Visual indications of the trailhead are currently limited at this distance. Trailhead should be made easily recognizable from this distance.



B. View of potential trail connection area from trailhead site. Current path conditions are designed for vehicles and railroad transportation in mind, rather than pedestrians and bikers.



D. View of alley leading downhill towards the Glade Spring Farmers Market. Consider signage for hikers entering town via this path. Path should act a threshold into Glade Spring.



C. View of brick path behind senior center. This area should be designed with safety precautions put into place. The current brick path may not be easily accessible for people with disabilities or limited mobility, as well as bicycles. Wall of senior center is also well suited for a mural, making the site more visible. Safety fence should be added for the length of the trail.



E. View from the alley (not public) leading uphill to the proposed trailhead site. There are currently limited visual indications of the trailhead at the top of the hill. Consider improving path conditions to invite people up to the site.



F. View of the treeline along the south edge of the site. Currently acts as screen between the site and the adjacent property.

Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

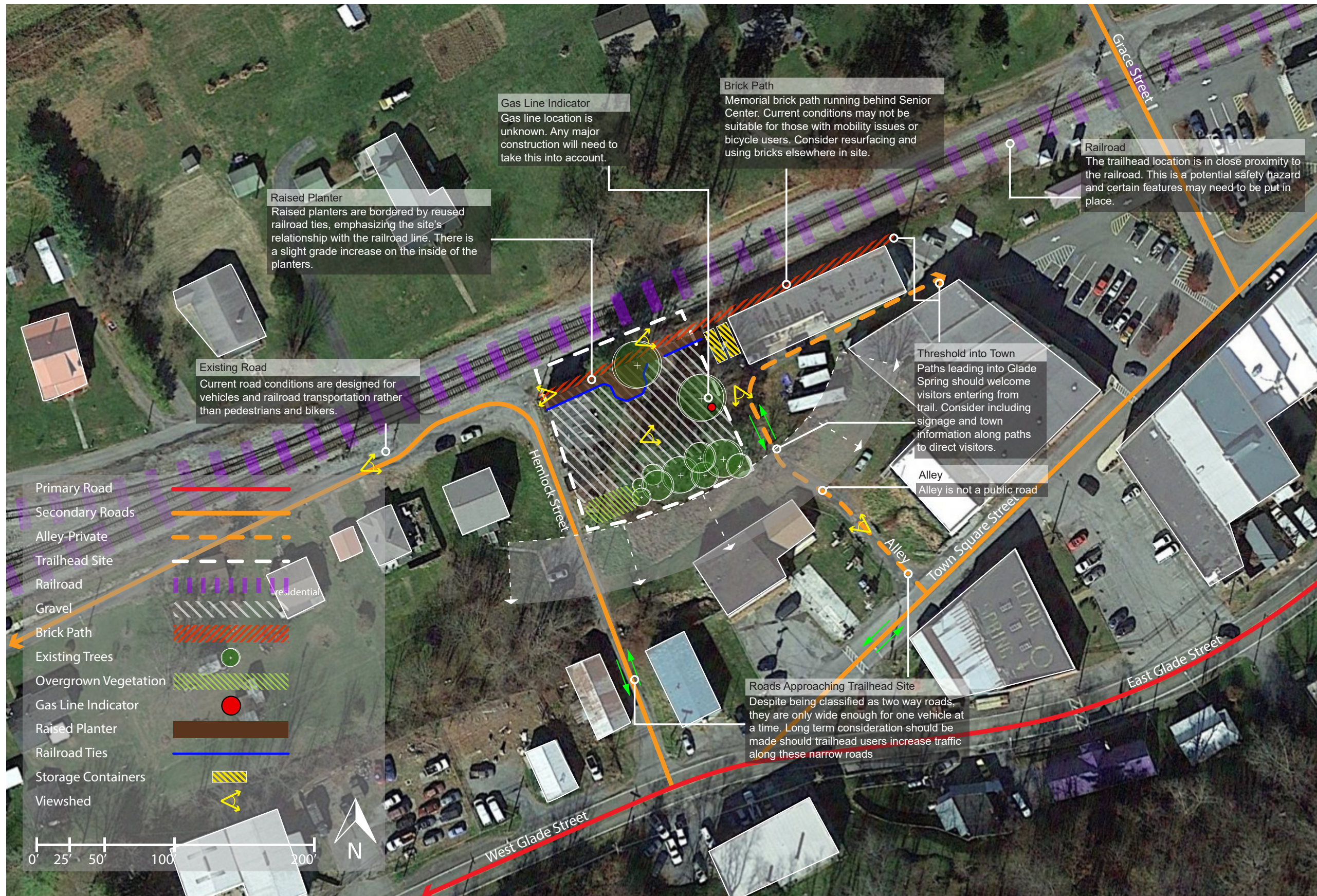
Site Analysis
Viewshed Assessment
December 12, 2018



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Site Analysis
Design Opportunities and Constraints
December 12, 2018

**PART 3:
PRELIMINARY
DESIGN CONCEPTS**

PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

Concept 1

Design Description

This concept for the Glade Spring Trailhead would welcome visitors into town, while still serving the local community. Design features include a wooden pergola, a reclaimed brick plaza, and a gazebo. This concept links the Salt Trail with some of the main features of town, such as the Point Pavilion where the local farmer market is located, and the Town Square.

Pathways:

The site will invite visitors into downtown Glade Spring and direct circulation to key areas of town. A 15-foot-wide pergola at the northwest entrance to the site will provide a visual indication to the site for hikers and cyclists traveling along Hemlock Street on the Salt Trail. Signage on the top of the pergola will let visitors know they have entered the trailhead. Once entering the trailhead, the pergola will direct circulation along a repaved brick path running behind the Senior Center into the Town Square. This 10' wide path will be reminiscent of the current brick path made from reclaimed bricks. Repaving this path would also make it more accessible and safer for bicyclists and people with limited mobility. The endpoint of this path would be at the entrance of the Senior Center adjacent to the town square, with medium shrubs growing at either side to create a visual doorway in and out of the town square.

A 6' high fence running along the north side parallel to the railroad will act as a safety barrier against the railroad. An additional path crossing diagonally across the site will direct visitors towards the private alley leading to the Point Pavilion. Parking and bike racks would allow visitors to use this site as both a starting and ending point for their journey along the Salt Trail.

Green Space:

Other than the line of hemlocks on the southern edge of the site, this concept will retain the two remaining trees on the site. Two large lawns will surround these trees, one of which will have additional trees planted within it. An additional lawn along the southern portion of the site will guide visitors toward the alley. A line of small shrubs will line the bottom edge of the trailhead, separating the trailhead from the other property directly south of the site.

Community:

The centerpiece of this concept would be an 18' square brick plaza space at the middle of the site. This brick square will be made from the reclaimed painted bricks that currently comprise the brick path behind the Senior Center. To prevent damage to the memorial bricks, a type of sealant would have to be applied to the square. This square would allow the artifacts of the community to be presented to both residents and visitors, while also celebrating the artistic heritage of the community. To further

PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

emphasize this sentiment, a mural could be applied to the back of the Senior Center storage unit, directly viewable for people walking along the northern brick path.

Other notable features would include a gazebo. Capable of holding up to 10 people at once, this space could act as both a quiet refuge, or an outdoor event space. Outdoor grills and tables will allow for large events. Other amenities would include benches lining the main circulation paths of the trailhead. Additionally, some of those benches would face the railroad, allowing people to sit and observe the trains go by through the fence. Trash and recycling receptacles would dot the whole trailhead, especially at the main entrances and circulation paths. Restrooms would partially block the storage containers from view, while a tall fence blocks the exposed areas. The restrooms would also have water fountains and dog fountains attached. In between the parking spaces and the pergola, a semi-permanent gate would be used to allow food trucks in the trailhead for large events. Maintenance vehicles could also be allowed through the gate.

- Key**
- A Pergola w/ Welcome Sign
 - B Brick Walkway to Town Square
 - C Town Square Trail Kiosk
 - D Benches
 - E 6' Safety Fence
 - F Trash/Recycling
 - G Parking
 - 5 Standard
 - 1 ADA
 - H Bike Rack
 - I Charcoal Grills
 - J Outdoor Tables
 - K Restrooms
 - Drinking Fountains
 - Dog Drinking Fountain
 - L Community Information Board
 - M Open Plaza
 - N Food Truck Gate Access
 - O Food Truck Electric Access
 - P Brick Plaza Using Reclaimed Bricks
 - Q Gazebo (~10 people)
 - R Connection to Glade Spring Farmers Market
 - S Storage Units (Existing)
 - T Senior Center (Existing)
 - U Existing Trees
 - V Boxwood Row
 - W Wall Mural
- A** Viewshed Perspective



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Preliminary Design Concept 1
Site Plan
December 13, 2018



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Seen from the Salt Trail entrance, a large pergola makes the trailhead visible from afar. The brick path leads visitors directly to the town square, while an adjacent path leads down to the Glade Spring Farmers Market. Picnic tables and a gazebo make the site an inviting space, while a gate provides food truck access. Reclaimed bricks are incorporated into the paving as a center piece in the plaza. Parking and bike racks are also provided.



Wooden gazebo



Memorial brick plaza with wooden gazebo



Metal bike rack along sidewalk



Water fountain with dog bowl

Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Preliminary Design Concept 1
Perspective: Trailhead Entrance from Hemlock Street
December 13, 2018

PRELIMINARY DESIGN CONCEPTS

Concept 2

Design Description

Concept 2 incorporates different outdoor environments that enable multiple activities for community members and visitors. The concept includes a splash pad, a public art wall, and shelter with ample gathering space. The trailhead site links the future site to vital town spaces like the Point Pavilion and Town Square.

The proposed trailhead site integrates a multitude of outdoor spaces for community members and visitors to utilize and enjoy on their way to and from the future Salt Trail. Incorporated within the proposed design, a splash pad, a shelter with an extended gathering space grounded by re-purposed bricks, public art wall, accessible biking and walking paths and outdoor open space perfect for everyday use. The ADA accessible paths provide access to the Senior Center, Point Pavilion, and into the town center. At the town center a prequel to the trailhead site takes advantage of the existing parking lot to make more accessible for a greater number of users as well as indulge in the open grassy area ideal for sitting down, relaxing, and watching the trains ride by.

Splash Pad:

Especially for the warm summer days, the splash pad enables children (and adults) a chance to cool off and enjoy the outdoors. Seating loops along the edge of the path into the site itself, not only to bring attention to the splash pad but also serves as a safety measure. The sprouting water creates a light, dynamic, and playful environment whether people wish to play or look on from a distance.

Shelter:

The shelter runs along the eastern edge of the site, nearest to the senior center. Functionally, it provides space for 3 movable picnic tables and hard surface for activities such as grilling. The ground surface, extending beyond the structure itself, is formed by the bricks that are currently on the site. A message board is within the gathering space for any meetings, events, and more to be pinned up and for shared community information.

Public Art Wall:

The art wall is centered within the site and curves along the main route at the intersection of the three path connections. Placement in the center of the site allows the collages of work to be viewed as people are arriving from the Salt Trail, Point Pavilion or Senior Center. The centered location also places importance on the value of art within the community and the unity of the community itself. Its uniqueness generates intrigue for people to slow down, relax, and appreciate the other features of the trailhead site.

- Key**
- A Trailhead Welcome Sign
 - B Bike Racks
 - C Seating Wall
 - D Splash Pad
 - E Public Art Wall
 - F Open Green Space
 - G Restrooms
 - H Picnic Tables
 - I Picnic Shelter
 - J Town Square Entrance
 - Picnic Table
 - Trail Sign
 - Plantings
 - K New Sidewalk
 - L Connection To Town Square
 - M Connection To Glade Spring
 - Farmer's Market
 - N Storage Units (Existing)
 - O Senior Center (Existing)

A Viewshed Perspective



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Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Preliminary Design Concept 2
Site Plan
December 13, 2018



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Seen from the Salt Trail entrance, the Glade Spring welcome sign marks the proposed trailhead site. There are bike racks, a shelter (left; background), and picnic tables (right; background) in the open green space. The splash pad is an exciting feature drawing families into the space. The public art wall (directly behind the splash pad) features art on both sides of the wall.



Shelter for community gathering



Splash pad with seating



Entry sign to Salt Trail and Glade Spring



Public art wall

Glade Spring, VA:
Conceptual Hemlock Street Trailhead Design

Preliminary Design Concept 2

Perspective: Trailhead Entrance from Hemlock Street

December 13, 2018

**PART 4:
APPENDIX**

APPENDIX

Meeting Notes

Stakeholder Input Session

October 11, 2018; 10:00-12:15pm
Glade Spring Town Hall
113 E Glade St, Glade Spring, VA 24340

Attendees

- From CDAC: Elizabeth Gilboy, Owen Baylois, Kontessa Roebuck
- From Glade Spring: Scott McCoy, Mt Rogers PDC (main point of contact for project); Aaron Sizemore, Exec Director Mt Rogers PDC and Town Manager; Tina Bunnell, Glade Spring Staff; Matthew Lloyd, Chair, Planning Commission; Nancy Williams, Secretary, Planning Commission

General Observations

- Client goals
 - The site should be an easily identifiable space to visitors/trail users
 - Trail should be multi-use
- Site is a future potential trailhead for a trail that extends to Saltville and Emory & Henry College
 - Trail follows rail line
 - One branch travels north to Saltville, while another branch travels west to Emory & Henry College
- Despite small size, town is very connected to their artistic identity
- Site is adjacent Senior Citizen Center
- Sidewalk between rail and site has been bricked over
- Tree line along southern portion
 - Hemlocks (will be removed)
 - Southern property line may either align with telephone poles, or may surpass
- Wetland 900 feet further down trail

Trailhead Ideas

- Basics
 - Community Information board
 - Cork board for public announcements, information, map, mileage, direct people to town square, historic information about town and VA Intermont College
 - Parking
 - 2 car entrances
 - Paved
 - More than 10 but less than 20 spots

APPENDIX

- o Trailhead should act as a rest area
 - Trash
 - Recycling
 - Mile markers
 - Grass
 - Picnic table(s)
 - Shelter
 - Restrooms
- Possibly waterless composting toilets
- Sinks or hand sanitizer
 - o Water
 - Water fountains and dog water fountains
 - Possibly for sinks
- Senior Center
 - o Grill for adjacent Senior Center
 - o Seniors use the alley to access behind the Senior Center more so than the bricked sidewalk.
 - o Senior exercise equipment (looked at an AARP grant last year, but were too late)
 - How Body Building Can Build Community
 - Endless Recess
- Additional possibilities
 - o Youth splash park
 - o Outdoor Classroom at Wetland further down trail
 - Raised pathway above water
 - o Electricity Access for Food Trucks (seasonally)
 - o Bike Rack
 - Air compressor and bike repair station (charge for air?)
 - o Memorial Bricks
 - Bricks purchased by relatives, friends, etc. of deceased residents to fund trailhead construction
 - Sitting wall, brick mosaic in ground
 - *Possible danger for seniors and/or bike users if used for ground surface
 - o Free Expression Rock
 - Legal vandalism
 - Curtail graffiti epidemic
 - Large rock used for public art expression
 - o Wifi
 - o Put a mural on the wall behind the Senior Center?

APPENDIX

Preliminary Design Presentation

January 22, 2018; 6:00-7:00pm
Point Pavilion
Glade Spring, VA 24340

Concept 1: Pergola and Brick Memorial Square

- Likes
 - Spot for food trucks
 - Parking
 - ADA- at least two spots
 - Information kiosk with town map
- Dislikes
 - Pergola-style shelter
- Changes
 - Loading/ unloading zone

Concept 2: Rustic Entrance Sign, Splash Pad

- Likes
 - 2nd, smaller trailhead at the senior center on the town square side
 - Restroom location on the south side of the park
 - Rustic style of sign
 - Metal, see-through safety fence for railroad
 - Reuse bricks in the walls
 - Memorial bricks would have to be used at the wall cap so that the decorative “face” of the brick could be seen. Non-memorial bricks that do not have anything on them could be used in the wall base.
 - Art wall
 - Open-style shelter
 - Information kiosk with town map
- Dislikes
 - Splash pad
- Changes
 - Add bike racks to the 2nd, smaller trailhead

General

- Would like lighting in the trailhead; match existing light fixtures found throughout the town square
- Like the soothing sounds of water; explore other soothing sounds such as chimes that wouldn't require additional plumbing
- Cross check where water/sewer is located on or adjacent to the site
- Keep ~5 parking spots at the trailhead. Adjust to be angled to reduce how much space they take up.