

HAMILTON PARTNERSHIP *for Paterson*

Helping launch the Paterson National Park and enhance its educational, social, and economic benefits for Paterson and the nation

www.hamiltonpartnership.org

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Mayor Jeff Jones, the City Council and the People of Paterson, Great Falls Youth Corps, National Park Service, Senator Frank R. Lautenberg, Senator Bob Menendez, Congressman Bill Pascrell, and



WWW.MILLMILE.ORG

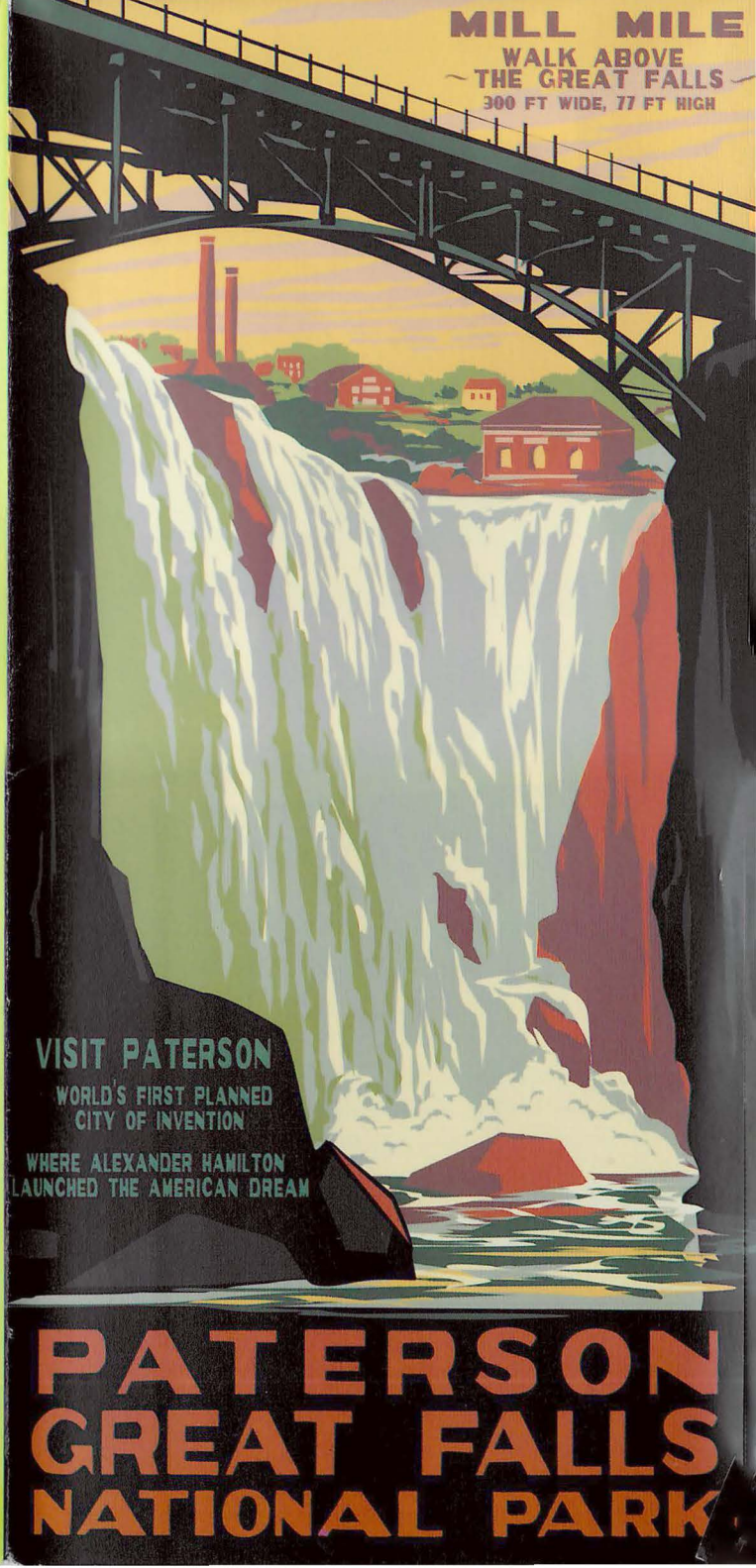


TOUR STOPS

- 1 / Great Falls - Overlook
- 2 / Great Falls - Footbridge
- 3 / Mary Ellen Kramer Park
- 4 / S.U.M. Hydroelectric Plant
- 5 / Upper Raceway Park
- 6 / Rogers Locomotive Works
- 7 / Rogers Administration Building
- 8 / Middle Raceway
- 9 / Lower Raceway
- 10 / Paterson Museum

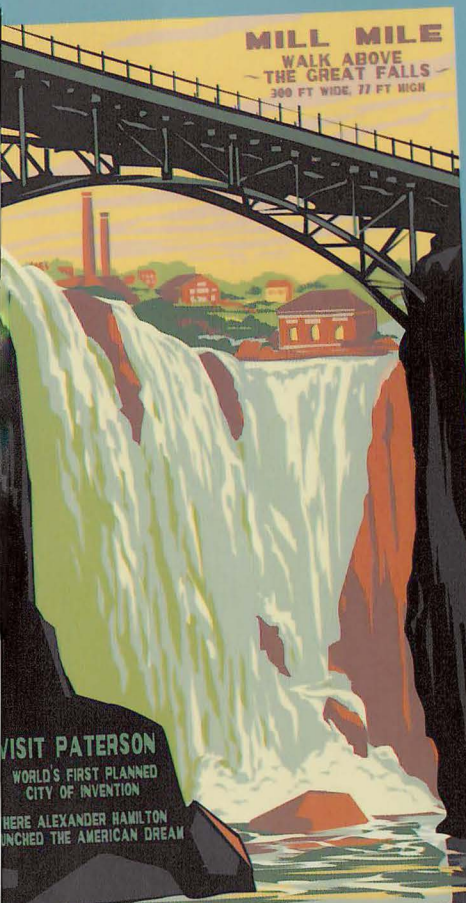
TOUROVERVIEW

National Park Service | www.nps.gov/pagr



NEW NATIONAL PARK

At the Great Falls in Paterson, spectacular natural beauty and American history come together at the heart of America's newest national park.



PATERSON GREAT FALLS NATIONAL PARK

The Great Falls is about 300 feet wide, towers 77 feet high, and pours up to two billion gallons of water into a canyon each day. This natural wonder is the second most powerful waterfall east of the Mississippi. President Obama signed bipartisan legislation to make the Great Falls a national park, and you can play a role in helping make it a national park like no other.

ALTHOUGH PATERSON'S MILLS TODAY LOOK MUCH LIKE OLD RED BRICK FACTORIES IN OTHER CITIES, IT WAS THE WORK THAT TOOK PLACE WITHIN THEIR WALLS THAT PUT PATERSON AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF "HIGH TECH" IN THE 19TH CENTURY. WHEN ALEXANDER HAMILTON FOUNDED PATERSON, THERE WAS VIRTUALLY NO MANUFACTURING IN AMERICA. PATERSON BECAME A BUSINESS INCUBATOR FOR THE AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION, MUCH LIKE CALIFORNIA'S SILICON VALLEY IS TODAY FOR COMPANIES LIKE APPLE, GOOGLE, AND FACEBOOK.

"A NATURAL TREASURE OF ALARMING POWER, A PLACE WHERE I HAVE REPEATEDLY SOUGHT REFUGE, INSPIRATION AND A SENSE OF MY SELF"

- JUNOT DÍAZ, PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR

ALEXANDER HAMILTON

Born to unwed parents on a Caribbean island, Alexander Hamilton was the child of a father who deserted the family and a mother who died when he was 12 years old. While clerking for a trading business, some islanders recognized his potential and took up a collection to send him to New York for a formal education. He left college to fight in the Revolutionary War, rose quickly to become General Washington's most trusted aide, and later became the new nation's first Secretary of the Treasury.

Hamilton believed that America could never be truly free from Britain, nor from any other foreign oppressor, as long as the nation remained dependent on foreign goods. Long after the British surrendered, America remained heavily dependent on England for virtually everything from clothing to military supplies. To strengthen the new nation, Hamilton created a strategy to secure economic independence and founded the city of Paterson in 1792 to begin implementing his plan.

Hamilton took the lead in establishing New Jersey's first corporation, the Society for Establishing Useful Manufactures (S.U.M.). The S.U.M. acquired the necessary land and constructed America's first waterpower system to attract entrepreneurs and workers who would incubate new inventions. The S.U.M. fulfilled the vision of its founder for more than 150 years, from George Washington's first term as President through the end of World War II.

Hamilton was ahead of his time. He believed that hard work and learning, rather than social status or inherited wealth, mattered most in the new nation. He was a courageous early opponent of slavery and a strong advocate for immigration.

True to Hamilton's vision, manufacturing and innovation spread rapidly throughout the city, and people of any class, creed, or color soon found the ability to climb higher than they had ever imagined. Paterson became a city where a former slave, a poor farmer, or a recent immigrant could build a better life. In Paterson, Hamilton launched what we have come to call the American Dream.

Hamilton founded Paterson to begin transforming a rural agrarian society based in slavery into a modern economy based in freedom.

A CITY OF WORKERS

After touring the Great Falls National Historic Landmark District, check out the surrounding neighborhood where you will find more fascinating history intertwined with a vibrant present.

The story of immigrants coming to Paterson in search of a better life has remained a constant throughout the city's history. At different points in time, the neighborhood between the Great Falls and downtown has been known as Little Italy, Dublin, and Little Lima.

Houses where Paterson's immigrant workers came to live throughout the 19th and 20th centuries can still be seen on and around Passaic Street. At the corner of Cianci and Van Houten Streets is the renovated Question Mark Bar. Named the Nag's Head a century ago, the bar was an unofficial union headquarters of the Industrial Workers of the World during the 1913 Paterson Silk Strike, when all of the city's 25,000 silk workers went on strike to protest working conditions in the mills.

Paterson has always been a city of workers and often has been at the forefront of the struggle for better working conditions. One of the first factory walkouts in America was here in 1828 at a cotton mill, and a union leader from Paterson organized the first Labor Day celebration in 1882.

After taking in these historic sites, be sure to stop by one of the many local restaurants and coffee shops. Try some of Paterson's famous hot dogs or Peruvian seafood, or perhaps an authentic espresso in an Italian soccer club very different from Starbucks. Paterson isn't only about history; it's a vibrant city, full of life and spirit.



"PATERSON DID NOT JUST MANUFACTURE; IT PRODUCED ARTICLES THAT REDEFINED THE LIMITS OF LIFE. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO THINK OF ANY OTHER CITY WHOSE PRODUCTS CUT SO DEEPLY INTO THE TEXTURE OF THE UNITED STATES AND NOT ONLY TRANSFORMED ITS NATIONAL CHARACTER, BUT REVOLUTIONIZED AMERICAN RELATIONS WITH THE WORLD."

- CHRIS NORWOOD, AUTHOR

MILL MILE

We invite you to tour the Great Falls, one of the few sites in America whose natural beauty is matched by its historical significance. This walking tour follows the route by which the nation's first hydropower system powered the Paterson mills for more than 100 years.

VISIT MILLMILE.ORG

1

Great Falls - Overlook

Begin the Mill Mile walking tour here, where a statue of Alexander Hamilton, one of America's Founding Fathers (you will recognize him from the ten-dollar bill), rightly takes a place of honor.



As the nation's first Secretary of the Treasury, Alexander Hamilton chose to implement a new economic vision for America at the Great Falls. Hamilton founded Paterson to create an economy that required not slavery but freedom, that rewarded not social status but hard work, and that promoted not discrimination against some but opportunities for all.

Along the tour, be sure to visit the Great Falls Historic District Cultural Center on the corner of Spruce Street and McBride Avenue, just across from Overlook Park. Orient yourself with a quick look at the timeline of Paterson's industrial and cultural history.

Walk up McBride Avenue and veer to the right to enter the footbridge that crosses above the Falls.

2

Great Falls - Footbridge

Here you can witness the extraordinary power of the Great Falls, sharing the experience that poet William Carlos Williams once described: "The river comes pouring in above the city and crashes from the edge of the gorge in a recoil of spray and rainbow mists."

At the end of the last Ice Age, about 13,000 years ago, the retreating glaciers recast the landscape around the Passaic River, deepening its canyon through the basalt and ultimately creating the cascade known as the Great Falls. Today, the waterfall pours up to two billion gallons into the basalt chasm daily, second in volume and width only to Niagara Falls in the eastern United States.

This area was originally homeland of the Lenape Indians, and then a few Dutch missionaries and trappers beginning in about 1620. When Hamilton founded Paterson in 1792 there were just ten houses here. By the late 19th century, Paterson was the fastest growing city on the east coast.

Continue on the tourist footbridge across the chasm to Mary Ellen Kramer Park.

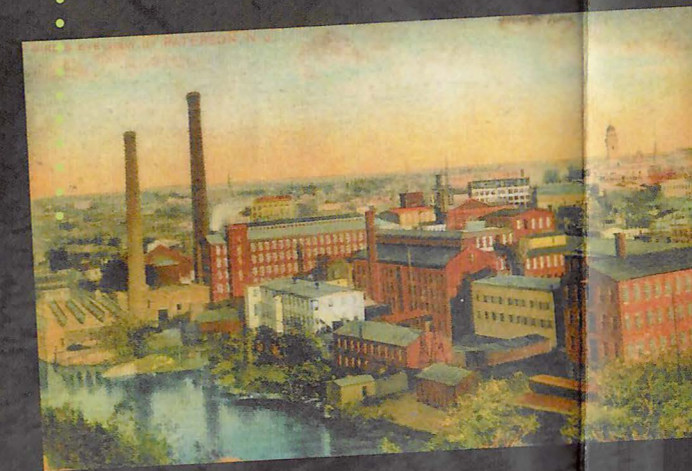
3

Mary Ellen Kramer Park

This parkland on the northeast side of the Falls is named in honor of Mary Ellen Kramer, wife of former Paterson mayor Pat Kramer and the remarkable woman who launched the effort to preserve and protect the historic district in the 1970s.

In 1778 when the area near the Great Falls served as General Washington's headquarters, Hamilton met with Washington and French General Marquis de Lafayette on this patch of green for a midday meal of cold ham, tongue, and biscuits. Today, you can walk up to the edge of the chasm, several feet from the roaring waters, and feel the power of the Falls that inspired Hamilton more than 200 years ago.

Retrace your walk back toward McBride Avenue. You will pass the red brick S.U.M. Plant opposite the Falls.

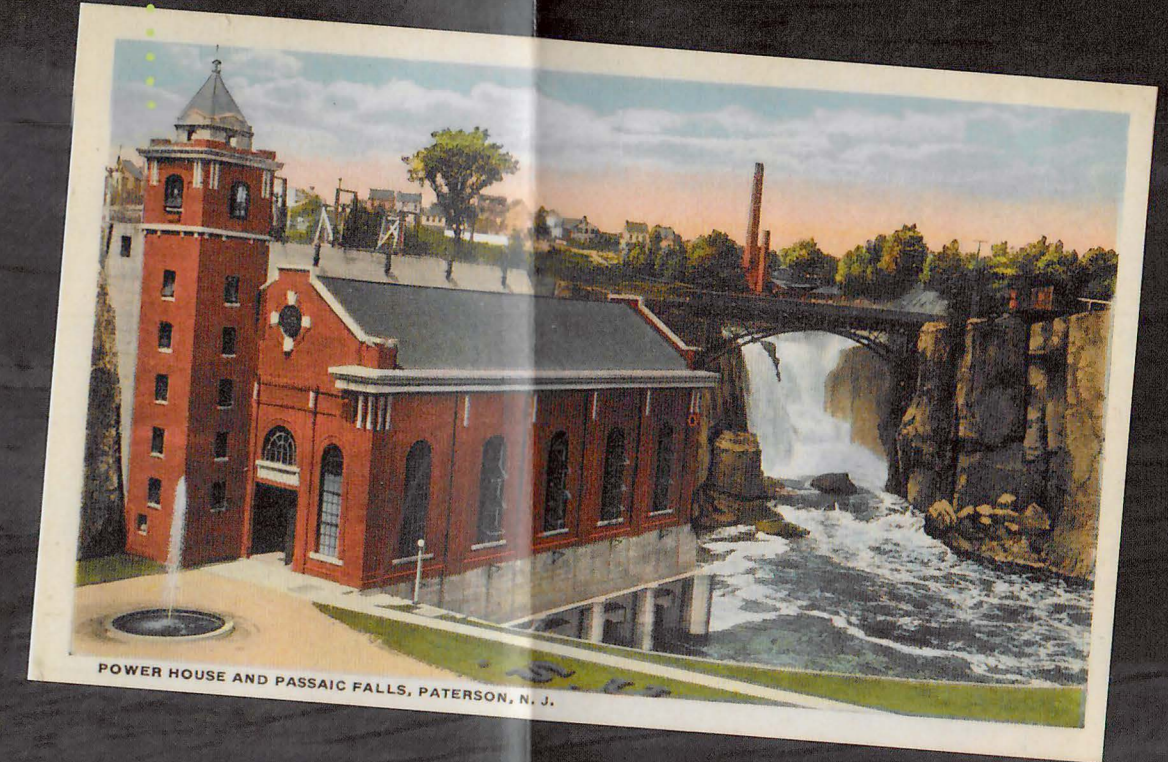


4

S.U.M. Hydroelectric Plant

As the 20th century approached, electricity began to replace older technologies, but the Falls still remained important. The S.U.M. constructed one of the country's earliest hydroelectric plants here in 1914, replacing the older waterwheels that had powered Paterson's industries for 100 years. Situated on the bank of the river to take advantage of the natural geography, the plant generated hydroelectricity from the energy of the falling water and remained operational until 1969. In the 1980s, the plant was restored to produce up to 11,000 kilowatts per hour of clean, renewable energy—enough to power more than 11,000 homes.

Cross McBride Avenue at its intersection with Spruce Street and enter Upper Raceway Park.



5

Upper Raceway Park

The raw power of the Falls inspired Hamilton, but he would have to harness that power to carry out his vision for the city. Pierre L'Enfant, a French-American who served with Washington and Hamilton during the Revolutionary War (and later planned the city of Washington, D.C.), devised an unprecedented system that diverted some of the rushing waters from just before the top of the Falls into narrow canals. Taking advantage of the sharp drop in elevation, the rushing waters carried power to what would be the site of dozens of mills.

The Upper Raceway runs along a path and curves abruptly at a switchback, where the two parts of the Upper Raceway meet. Here, you can see the Barbour Flax Mill of the Barbour Flax Spinning Company, one of the world's largest flax manufacturers in the late 1800s, and buildings of Rogers Locomotive Works.

6

Rogers Locomotive Works

Founded by Thomas Rogers in 1831, Rogers Locomotive Works produced some of the first American steam locomotives and helped to make Paterson one of the largest locomotive manufacturing cities in America.

Originally, the Rogers factory buildings on both sides of Spruce Street near the Upper Raceway were used for cotton-spinning and producing textile-manufacturing equipment. But soon after the operation began, the company diversified and began producing locomotive parts to supply the budding U.S. railroad industry. Five years after opening operations on Spruce Street, the Rogers Locomotive company built a two-story locomotive assembly shop on the street's east side. The company completed its first engine, the Sandusky, at this site in 1837 and continued to produce locomotives here until the early 20th century.

Rogers Locomotive Works manufactured locomotives for many different railroad companies throughout the country. When the Golden Spike completed the Transcontinental Railroad in 1869, a Rogers Locomotive was there to link the nation.

On the corner of Market and Spruce Streets, the Rogers erecting shop currently houses the Paterson Museum and offices. Here, workers completed the assembly of up to three locomotives each week in the 1870s. Visit the Museum now, or as Stop 10 at the end of the tour.

7

Rogers Administration Building

Sitting at the end of the row on Spruce Street is the former Rogers Administration Building, with a striking red brick façade and recently restored signage bearing the name "Paterson Silk Machinery Exchange" to advertise a later tenant. Once the offices of the wealthy owner and managers of Rogers Locomotive Works, the building now serves those in the greatest need. The renovated structure opened in 2003 as the William Waldman Independence House, and provides transitional housing for youth preparing to leave the State's foster care system. The New Jersey Community Development Corporation (NJCDC) occupies the renovated Rogers Frame Fitting Building next door, where NJCDC has its offices for the educational and social services it provides to the people of Paterson.

From here, cross Spruce Street and enter the Middle Raceway path between the Union Works building and the raceway.



8

Middle Raceway, Essex Mill, and Franklin Mill

The Middle Raceway is the oldest part of the raceway system, some of which dates back to 1794. Here you will see several remaining early 19th century mills restored for other uses in the 1980s. Part of the handsome Franklin Mill building on the corner of Mill and Ellison Streets dates back to 1804 when the mill produced cotton; in the 1850s, it produced steam engines and turbines, and by 1915 it was a foundry and silk mill. The neighboring Essex Mill is located on the first plot of land leased from the S.U.M. to private investors, and was used largely for textile production. Like most of the factory buildings throughout the district, the uses of these mills changed over the years with improvements in technology.

In recent years, these structures have been renovated for adaptive reuse. The Franklin Mill now provides modern office space and the Essex Mill serves as affordable housing with apartments for artists and musicians.

10

Paterson Museum

The Paterson Museum displays an impressive collection of products made in Paterson that transformed both America and the world, including some of the first Colt revolvers, the world's first motorized submarines, aircraft engines from Wright Aeronautical Corp.'s Paterson plant that made the engine for the first transatlantic flight, and silk looms that would help make Paterson the largest silk manufacturing city in the world.

VISIT WWW.PATERSONNJ.GOV AND CLICK ON "HISTORIC PATERSON"

