

SUBMISSIONS | SMALL OPEN SPACES

Project Title

MOTH Gardens:

Downsview Memorial Parkette

Site

Keele Street and Wilson Avenue

Project Team

Scott Torrance Landscape Architect Inc.

Jeannie Thib, Artist

Light studio Inc, Lighting Design

Peter Sheffield, Structural Engineers

Smith and Andersen, Electrical Engineers

V.A. Wood Associates, Geotechnical Engineers

Client

The City of Toronto



2009

 TORONTO Urban Design Awards

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Downsview Memorial Parkette is a green oasis in an urban landscape that provides an identity to an intersection whose corners are otherwise dominated by parking lots. A new pedestrian plaza is marked by a planted arbor and two orchards, which frame the entrance to a series of formal and informal landscapes.

The layout of the formal gardens references a historic photograph showing the letters M-O-T-H next to the runway where Gypsy Moth and Tiger Moth airplanes were manufactured. This large-scale graphic application has been combined with the circulation and themed landscapes of a formal Italian garden, providing a unique experience at both the large and small scale.

The informal gardens blend native plantings with airport runway features, to create a green runway-like swath of park, flanked with seating and screened from Wilson Avenue and the adjacent parking.

2009