

# Habitat for Humanity

City of Brampton / 25:8 Research + Design  
20 Hoskins Square, Brampton, Ontario

## Healthy & Sustainable Development - F.1.1



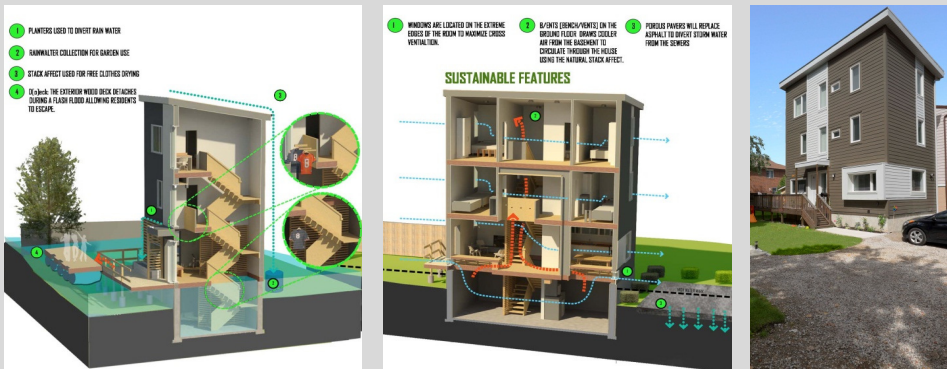
For over 25 years, the corner lot at 20 Hoskins Square sat empty due to its location within the flood plain of the adjacent Etobicoke Creek. Over time, the site became a neighbourhood parking lot and an informal pedestrian thoroughfare. In 2014, after years of planning, Habitat for Humanity-Brampton cut the ribbon for three new in-fill houses in Central Brampton. Through this project, the organization developed a new prototype for future builds and created a lifetime of memories for three worthy families.

When the project was initiated, 25:8 Research + Design focused on THREE(E) GOALS:

(E)fficient: Design houses that could accommodate families of 7, in only 1,200 square feet. This was achieved by shrinking the footprint of the houses to as small as 6.2m x 6.2m. The reduced house size maximized the available land and enabled the plot to fit 3 houses.

(E)conomical: The simple and flexible design enabled the houses to be built with donated materials and labour. The result kept construction costs between \$60-70/ sq.ft. Centralizing the plumbing and mechanical systems reduced the equipment size. The compact design also reduces the energy consumption to a low \$30/month, easing the maintenance cost for the new owners.

(E)nvironmentally Conscious: The houses were designed to LEED Gold standard and achieved an Energuide 85 Rating through the use of sustainable strategies. For the design team, "Environmental Consciousness" also included community awareness. Socially, the site design strengthens its community connection by formalizing the path through the site, facilitating access to public transportation, while the new gardens provide a place for neighbours to gathering.



Despite their minimal budget and limited resources, the Habitat team was open to applying creativity and innovative design solutions to develop a house that was functional, cost-effective and engaging.