Directions:

Follow Cootes Drive from McMaster University to Dundas Street and turn left. Cross Main Street to Governor's Road and continue west to Sulphur Springs Road. Turn left onto Sulphur Springs Road and drive approximately 2km to the parking area on your left.

Trails lead from the parking area to both banks of the creek and pass the human modifications made at the bridge. The stone well across the street from the parking area marks the old site of the Sulphur Springs Hotel.
McMaster University to Sulphur Creek

Route of Travel

Source Data: DMTI Spatial Inc.
McMaster University 2003
Fluvial features such as riffles, cut banks, point bars and meanders can be observed along the creek in addition to human modification features. Other landforms (slumps, flood plains and valley walls) can also be seen while walking along the trail.

A stone well marks the old site of the Sulphur Springs Hotel. Sulphur precipitates from the water that flows from the well into the creek.

An excellent site for introductory geography and geology courses looking at hydrology, fluvial geomorphology and fluvial depositional environments.
This stone well marks the old site of the Sulphur Springs Hotel. The spring still flowing at this location precipitates sulphur. You may notice an odour in the parking area. It is just the sulphur constantly running from the well.
Human Modifications

Stone and concrete gabions have been built to support the bridge and prevent erosion of the stream banks.

A rough trail follows the stream.

Pedestrian bridge downstream from the road.
Floodplain of Sulphur Creek showing fine sand and silt deposits from recent flood event.
The waters of Sulphur Creek are contained within a single channel. This channel curves and winds along its entire length. These curves are called meanders.
Meandering stream: Cut-banks and point-bars

Meanders contain several noticeable features. The steep cut-bank on the outer edge of the meander is where the most severe erosion occurs. The more gently sloping point-bar on the inside of the meander bend is where the sediment carried by the stream is deposited.
Various debris dams and overflow channels at Sulphur Creek.
Ripple structures being formed on a point bar.
Channel Features

- Sand ripples
- Pool
- Riffle

Pool
Slope Erosion at Sulphur Creek
Steep, vegetated slope. Bank instability is demonstrated by the presence of toppled and J-shaped trees.
Be cautious when using debris dams to cross the creek, as some are not entirely stable...
Acknowledgements:

Maps Source Data: DMTI Spatial Inc.

Photographs by Ben Cowie, Luisa DaSilva, Liz Kenny, and Zachary Windus

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