

The City of New York Department of Parks & Recreation, in partnership with the nonprofit New York Restoration Project (NYRP), has undertaken a park improvement program aimed at reversing years of neglect and returning the park to its former glory.

Client: New York City Department of Parks & Recreation

Fee: \$100,000

High Bridge Park derives its name from New York City’s oldest standing bridge, the High Bridge (1848), which is the most celebrated part of the famed Old Croton Aqueduct that carried water over the Harlem River. The 119-acre park boasts important natural assets including acres of trees, pathways and glades overlooking the Harlem River. Among its strongest features are the magnificent cliffs and large rock outcroppings that dominate the park.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Emergency Response
- Geotechnical Consultation Services
- Rock Stabilization
- Construction Observation

As part of its stepped-up maintenance program to keep the park safe and clean, the Department of Parks & Recreation retained Urban Engineers, Inc. to provide geotechnical consultation services and inspection related to emergency repairs to a rock outcropping towering above a recreational path. The rock outcropping experienced instabilities in the recent past and the Department was concerned about the safety of hikers using the pathway beneath. The Department hired a contractor to stabilize the rock slope and charged Urban with the responsibility to oversee the rehabilitation and provide input on rock stabilization techniques. Urban’s consultation consisted of advising the Department regarding the following:

- Vegetation Removal
- Rock Scaling
- Rock Bolting
- Rock Netting Installation

Vegetation removal, rock sealing, and rock bolting activities were completed by the contractor during Urban’s construction observation services.



Urban helped stabilize the rock wall shown in this turn of the century engraving of the fashionable promenade along the Harlem River Speedway near High Bridge.