

[Project Name](#)

Assunpink Creek Stream Restoration Study

[Client](#)

New Jersey Office of State Planning

[Services Provided](#)

- # Culvert and Bank Restoration Study
- # Engineering Approach for Culvert Removal/Bank Restoration
- # Cost Analysis

[Project Description](#)



Sadat Associates, Inc. (SAI) provided pro-bono assistance to the New Jersey Office of State Planning (now New Jersey Smart Growth Commission) to study stream restoration concepts for a portion of the Lower Assunpink Creek in the City of Trenton.

Currently, the Assunpink Creek has a culvert between South Warren Street and South Broad Street. An open lot adjacent to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs has a twin box culvert structure through which the Creek flows beneath the lot. The culvert was constructed in the 1970s in anticipation of development of the property.

[Approach](#)

Since the property was never developed, the Office of State Planning became interested in alternative approaches for using the property in an environmentally compatible manner.

The 400' culvert over the Creek is an obvious insult to the integrity of the Assunpink Creek corridor, which was once the subject of a linear park plan developed by Fredrick Law Olmstead for the City of Trenton. The Office of State Planning wished to develop some concepts for better use of the property including restoration of the stream corridor.

SAI assisted the Office of State Planning in developing the environmental rationale for removal of the culvert and bank restoration. SAI also provided the Office with an engineering approach for culvert removal/bank restoration as well as a cost analysis for the project.

A top manager from the Office of State Planning happens to be an Adjunct Professor of Urban Design at Cook College. He and his co-professor, Dr. Steven Strom, used the Lower Assunpink as the subject of a design workshop project for an urban design graduate course. SAI provided assistance to the workshop by providing an orientation to the graduate students concerning the potential for the stream corridor restoration and the costs and benefits of undertaking the project. A representative of the City of Trenton Planning Office also participated in the design workshop and provided the students with an overview of the City's ideas to "reclaim" underutilized City property in the downtown area of Trenton near the Assunpink Creek.