



Replacement of Historic Bridge Restores Critical Transportation Link



The award winning Southard Street Bridge carries motorists over U.S. Route 1 and CONRAIL tracks. The structure restores a critical transportation link for the New Jersey Department of Transportation in the City of Trenton. This beautiful new span improves traffic flow and vertical clearances on and under the roadway that replaces a deteriorating bridge constructed in 1921.

Aesthetic enhancements include antique-style lighting and black wire mesh angled fencing along with architectural bridge parapets formed with arched cutouts and intermittent pylons that mimic the original structure's railings. Two historic markers with information about the original bridge designer and fabricator will be mounted on the new parapet. Route 1 under the bridge was originally constructed over the route of the historic Delaware and Raritan (D & R) Canal, so the project required close coordination with the D & R Canal Commission. The Delaware & Raritan Canal State Park, with preserved canal locks, towpaths, and a waterway that supplies water to the City of Trenton is a short drive from the bridge.

High levels of pedestrian traffic over the Southard Street Bridge prompted construction of a temporary pedestrian bridge adjacent to the construction site. This project received overwhelming support from local residents and historic preservation organizations. The American Council of Engineering Companies of NJ awarded Buchart Horn their Distinguished Award for Engineering Excellence for its design of the Southard Street Bridge.