

A scenic view of a stone arch bridge in Central Park, New York City. The bridge is a prominent feature, arching over a small pond. In the foreground, there are tall, green reeds. The background is filled with dense green trees and several tall, modern skyscrapers of the city skyline. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural, contrasting with the urban environment.

***The Breathtaking  
Bridges***

***By Kfeer Rachlin***

# Intro

When you walk into central park you think that the trees are just trees. You think that the Bridges are just bridges. If you do think that then you are completely wrong. They may just be trees, but the bridges are not just bridges, They are a piece of the park that make the park a park. They are also a piece of history because the first bridge in central Park was started in 1851 and completed a few months or years later. Central Park was completed in 1857 and people have made bridges in the Park ever since then



The Green Gap Arch Bridge was started in 1851. The Green Gap Arch is a natural boundary for the central park wildlife center. The Green Gap Arch has a 81 foot underpass and the span is 25 feet.





The Playmates Arch is next to the Central park carousel. The Arch Received it's name from the Fredric law Olmsted because that is what they named the area of that piece of the park. The Arch has a 66 foot area beneath the bridge. The bridge is made of red and white brick



# Driprock Arch

CENTRAL PARK  
CONSERVANCY  
part of the city of nyc

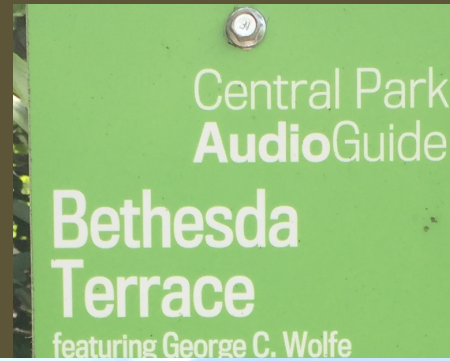


The Driprock Arch Bridge was completed in 1859 of red brick. The bridge is 11 feet high and 24 feet long.





The tiles on the Bethesda terrace bridge were first installed in 1867 and was covered with over 16,000 tiles.

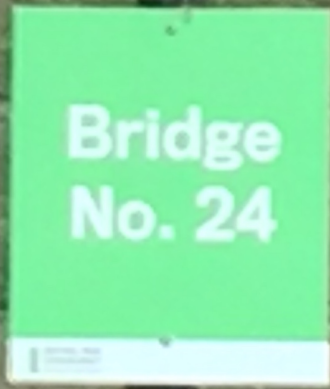




The Willowdell Arch is 14 feet 10 inches across and 9 feet 10 inches high. The Willowdell Arch was designed as a bridge in 1925



## (Reservoir Bridge)



The Reservoir Bridge was completed in 1865. In 1989 the bridges concrete deck was replaced with a wood deck.







# Greywacke Arch



The Greywacke Arch was constructed in 1862. The construction workers who built the bridge wanted to make it look like a Spanish and middle eastern architecture.





The Inscope Arch was constructed in 1875. The Inscope arch is 12 feet high and 13 feet 7 inches long.



# Dipway Arch

Back then when men were in central park working women and children sat under the shade of the arch waiting for the men to finish working. The Arch stands 11.5 feet tall and was completely finished in 1996.



# The Greyshot and Rifstone Arches

The Greyshot Arch was built in 1860. The Greyshot Arch is also 80 feet long and 10 feet high. When this picture was taken people were renovating the Arch.

The Rifstone Arch goes 30 feet across and 11 feet 10 inches. The Arch was completed in 1861 and a piece was demolished in 1938





The Bow Bridge was made in 1859-1862.



# *Fun Facts about the Arches and Bridges of Central park and from back then.*

- An Arch is a curved symmetrical structure spanning an opening and typically supporting the weight of a bridge, roof, or wall above it. The word Arch was created from the Latin word Arcus ( Bow) then after time that was turned into the French word Arche and that was turned into the English word Arch.*
- The first bridge in the world was built in Telford, England in 1779 by Abraham Darby (the third) and was the first large structure in history to be constructed from iron. It revolutionized the way structures were built enabling engineers to build ever larger structures and buildings.*
- The first bridge in central park was designed by Calvert Vaux and Jacob Wrey Mould, and completed in 1862. The first cast-iron bridge in the Park (and the second oldest in America), the bridge was built between 1859 and 1862. Bow Bridge is named for its graceful shape, reminiscent of the bow of an archer or violinist.*
- Most bridges in Central Park Have Red Brick on and that makes them pretty old because the first piece of red brick was made of shaped mud a little time before 7500 BC.*
- The Iron age began in Europe in the 8<sup>th</sup> century between 1000 BC and 1200 BC*
- One of the smallest bridges in Central Park Bridge is the Gapstow Bridge . People say that even though it is small that the view is great*
- The oldest datable bridge in the world still in use is the slab-stone single-arch bridge over the river Meles, Turkey, which dates from c. 850 BC. Remnants of Mycenaean bridges dated c. 1600 BC still exist in the neighborhood*

- Bow Bridge is named for its graceful shape, reminiscent of the bow of an archer or violinist. This handsomely designed bridge spans the Lake, linking Cherry Hill with the woodland of the Ramble. At 87 feet, it is the longest bridge in the park.
- *The Bow Bridge is the oldest Bridge in Central Park, and completed in 1862. The first cast-iron bridge in the Park, and the second oldest in America, the bridge was built between 1859 and 1862.*
- *The Bow Bridge stretches 60 feet across the lake below it*





My name is Kfeer Rachlin. The reason that I wanted to write about this topic is because everyone that walks on these bridges think that they are just a thing to help them get from one side of something to another side of something. They should start realizing that they are walking on a piece of history because every bridge in that park was made at least more than 100 years ago. I also got into this topic because I go to central park almost every week and was wondering about the bridges.