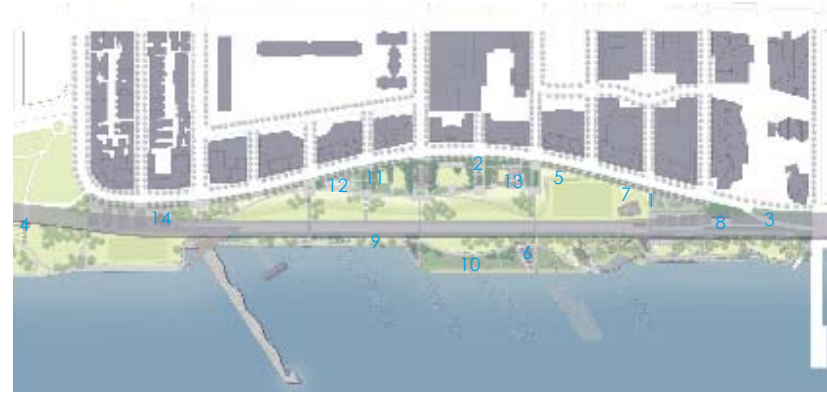


Riverside Park South

Location: New York, USA **Designer:** Thomas Balsley Associates **Photographer:** Thomas Balsley Associates, David Quinones, Betsy Pinover Schiff **Completion date:** 2010 **Site area:** 93,078 sqm



1. Pedestrian Entry Plaza
2. Pedestrian Path
3. Bicycle Path
4. Existing Transfer Bridge
5. Amphitheatre
6. Terraced Park Overlooks and Promenades
7. Earth Promontory and Hudson River Prospect
8. NYCDPR Maintenance & Storage Facility
9. Natural Landscape Area
10. Boardwalk Through Natural Landscape Area
11. Gardens
12. Northern Children's Play Area
13. Southern Children's Play Area
14. Restaurant Concession

The master plan called for the relocation of an overhead highway into a tunnel beneath the new park and extended from the 59th Street to the 73rd Street at the Olmsted Riverside Park. The process involved working with local and state government agencies, community groups, stakeholders and the client to create a vibrant new public space that reintroduced the community to the water's edge and responded to the unique industrial history and riparian ecology of the site.

The new park, called Riverside Park South, features a series of special architectural park structures and landscape spaces that vary in scale and highlight the experiential qualities of the park. Terraces, expansive lawns, architectural shade structures, recreation areas, lawn mounds, and intimate tree groves create viewing areas, spaces for play, that draw one to the river's edge. A circulation system of esplanades, boardwalks, footpaths, and bike paths tie the individual places together. Overlooks at each historic pier piling field, terraced walls and a two hundred and fifty metre long pier take visitors out to and across the water. A new serpentine pedestrian bridge sweeps out across the water and encircles a reconstructed wetland planted with native grasses. The design is guided by site remediation and social and environmental sustainability principles.

Award description:
NYASLA – Honour Award



Right: Grasslands, cove, and the southern lawn plaza are punctuated with interpretive overlooks at the historic pier landings

