

# Student study could boost parkway plan

By Alexi Friedman

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Two graduate students working as interns for the National Park Service will spend the next three months studying the Henry Hudson Parkway — its past and present — to prepare a report that will be the next step in efforts to designate it a state scenic byway.

The interns, from the Park Service's Historic American Engineering Record, will split their time between documenting significant architectural, cultural, environmental, recreational and scenic features on and in view of the parkway and writing a history of the road Robert Moses built 70 years ago.

They will draw from a host of sources, including last year's work by a Harvard design school student on the Riverdale portion of the parkway. Hired by New Yorkers for Parks, Pippa Brashear worked with the Riverdale Nature Preservancy's Henry Hudson Parkway Task Force to create ideas to enhance the park land and beauty of the parkway.

This latest job, contracted by the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, involves the entire 11-mile parkway, from 72nd Street in Manhattan to the Riverdale-Yonkers border, and signifies the first step in what will ultimately become the Henry Hudson Parkway Corridor Management Plan. A consultant firm drew up that plan, using the three-month study as a jumping-off point, said Nancy O'Connell, the project manager. She said the firm should be hired by next spring.

The interns, one from the University of Colorado and the other from Bard College, will focus on the roadway itself, examining what has happened to it since its completion, how much of the original roadway is intact, what was done to it and why.

To provide some respite from the heat, Wave Hill has given each of the interns free passes to its grounds.