

Cascades

South Park



Overview Constructed in 1931, the South Park Cascades was a manmade feature of waterfalls and pools using stratified rock quarried from within the park itself. The vision of Paul Riis, a landscape architect best known for his involvement in the development of Yellowstone National Park, the Cascades was carefully composed in a naturalistic manner common to the Prairie Style design movement.

The Cascades was one of a number of original features conceived for the park and quickly became a popular destination spot. It made for summertime fun for families seeking to get away from the city and provided a calm, picturesque site to visit in any season. Years of aging and closure in the mid-1970s led to the Cascades being forgotten by time. Fully restored, it was re-opened in November 2021. The large stone pools will no longer be used for wading as they once were long ago, but the Cascades will provide the community with a very special historic landscape retreat for all to enjoy.

Partners Allegheny County

Funding Allegheny County, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation's Operation Restore, Citrone thirty/three Foundation, Allegheny Foundation, Colcom Foundation, Friends of South Park, Richard King Mellon Foundation, Friends of South Park, Allegheny County Parks Foundation

Allegheny County Parks Foundation

We work together to improve, conserve, and restore the nine Allegheny County parks.