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*ROPE INSPECTIONS BEGIN ON
19TH CENTURY
RUNNING TRACK BRIDGE*

NEWS RELEASE

Rochester, N.Y., November 11, 2009 – Bergmann Associates' rope inspectors and engineers have begun an intensive rope inspection of the Rochester Running Track Rail Bridge, a decommissioned 19th Century railroad bridge crossing the Genesee River in Rochester.

As part of a study to determine the feasibility of reuse as pedestrian bridge, Bergmann Associates is assessing its condition as well as the best options for restoration, cost and benefits of preserving the structure. In many cases, tearing a structure down is more expensive than the sustainable approach of reuse. Rope Inspection is the safest and most comprehensive method of assessing the deterioration of old bridges of this type, especially before it is known how much load or equipment the bridge can carry. Inspectors will be dangling 100 ft above the River on Thursday, November 12th, Saturday, November, 13th and Monday, November 16th from 7:30a – 3:30pm. Bergmann Associates has recently completed a similar full restoration project in Poughkeepsie, NY transforming a rail bridge into what is now the world's longest recreational use bridge.

The Running Track Bridge is located just to the north of the Smith Street Bridge and is accessible from either St. Paul Street on the east or Lake Ave. on the west. Please contact Vince Press for the best camera access or to arrange an interview with the Project Manager, Mike Cooper.

