

COME HIKE THE TRAILS!

PLACES/TRAILS TO VISIT

**NY 146 Multi-Use Trail
on Rexford Bridge**
Balltown Road, Rexford, NY
View of cliffs of Clifton Park from
the bridge trail.

**Mohawk Landing
Nature Preserve**
640 Riverview Road, Rexford, NY
Follow an 800-foot trail to river views,
sloped ramp to shore below cliffs.

Lock 7 Dam Overlook
6 Sugar Hill Road, Rexford, NY
East of river overlook is a sloped trail,
(east) along rocky shoreline and then
towpath trail to Ferry Drive.

**Mohawk River
Canoe/Kayak Access**
1 Towpath Road, Clifton Park, NY
(in Halfmoon)
Ramp leads to towpath Community
Connector Trail Access (north).

**Ferry Drive Entrance to
Vischer Ferry
Nature & Historic Preserve**
End of Ferry Drive at Mohawk River:
Ferry Drive, Rexford, NY
Access to east (to Lock 7 Dam overlook) & west
(to rest of Preserve) on historic towpath route.

**Whipple Bridge Entrance to
Vischer Ferry
Nature & Historic Preserve**
South side of Riverview Road &
VanVranken Road, Rexford, NY
Extensive trail network and access to
river's edge within preserve.

**Clute's Dry Dock Entrance
to Vischer Ferry
Nature & Historic Preserve**
69-89 Riverview Road, Clifton Park, NY
New pedestrian bridge over historic
canal leads to extensive trail network.

Prepared by
Katherine Johnson
on behalf of the Town of Clifton Park
as part of a Girl Scout Silver Award
project for Troop 2158.

Travel through geologic time by
experiencing what is visible on
walking trails near the river!

Clifton Park Town Hall phone:
518.371.6657

www.cliftonparkopenspaces.org
www.cliftonpark.org

**MOHAWK RIVER
SHORELINE,
CLIFTON PARK, NY**

**GEOLOGY
WALKS**

Photo Location: Mohawk River at Lock 7 Dam
Photo Credit: Katherine Johnson

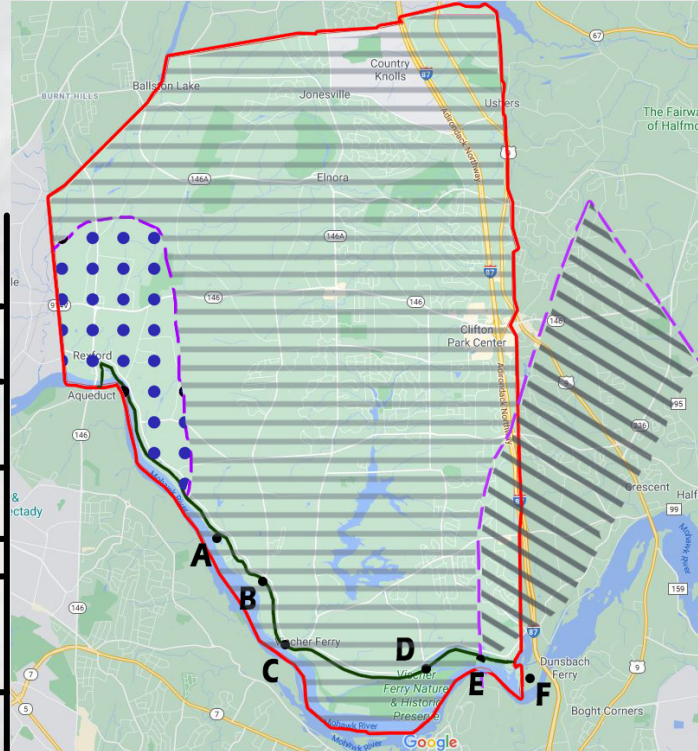


THE STORY OF CLIFTON PARK GEOLOGY

(Highlighted)

Phanerozoic Eon

Era	Life	Period	Mill. Years Ago	
Cenozoic	Modern Humans, mastodons, mammoths	Quaternary	2.58	
	Large carnivores; abundant grazing mammals; Earliest grasses; Large running mammals; Many modern groups of mammals.	Tertiary	Neogene	24
		Paleogene	65	
Extinction of dinosaurs & ammonoids				
Mesozoic	Earliest placental mammals; Climax of dinosaurs and ammonoids; Earliest flowering plants; Decline of brachiopods; Diverse bony fishes.	Cretaceous	142	
	Earliest birds; Abundant dinosaurs and ammonoids	Jurassic	206	
	Modern coral groups appear; Earliest dinosaurs and mammals with abundant cycads and conifers.	Triassic	251	
Extinction of many kinds of marine animals, including trilobites				
Paleozoic	First mammal-like reptiles	Permian	290	
	Earliest reptiles; Extensive coal-forming forests	Carboniferous	Pennsylvania	323
		Mississippia	362	
	Earliest amphibians, ammonoids, shards; Extinction of armored fish; Other fish abundant.	Devonian	418	
	Earliest insects; Earliest land plants and animals; Peak development of eurypterids	Silurian	443	
	Invertebrates dominant (mollusks become abundant); Diverse coral and echinoderms; Graptolites abundant.	Ordovician	490	
Earliest fish; Algal reefs; Burgess shale fauna; Earliest chordates, Diverse trilobites; Earliest trilobites; Earliest marine animals with shells	Cambrian	544		



KEY

- Town of Clifton Park Boundary
- Mohawk Towpath Scenic Byway
- Canojoharie Shale
- Austin Glen Formation contains graywacke & shale
- Schenectady Formation - contains graywacke, sandstone, siltstone, shale

- A: Mohawk Landing Nature Preserve**
- B: Lock 7 Dam Overlook**
- C: Ferry Drive**
- D: Vischer Ferry Nature Preserve**
- E: Clute's Dry Dock**
- F: River access under the Thaddeus Kosciuszko Bridge (I-87) - Halfmoon**

Limestone: A sedimentary rock made primarily of the mineral calcite. Texture: very coarse

Dolostone: A carbonate primarily of mineral dolomite. Texture: Medium, fine

Shale: A soft, finely stratified sedimentary rock formed from consolidated mud or clay and can be split into fragile slabs. Texture: fine.

Graywacke: A coarse usually dark gray sandstone or fine-grained conglomerate composed of firmly cemented fragments. Matrix is of clay, chlorite, quartz, and pyrite. Texture: medium, fine.

Schist: A metamorphic rock, formed by the metamorphosis of mudstone/shale, or some types of igneous rock, to a higher degree than slate. Texture: medium, fine.

Quartz: A hard and transparent mineral that is the second most common mineral (after feldspar) on earth. It can be found in igneous, metamorphic, and sedimentary rocks. Hardness: 7

Sandstone: A sedimentary rock made up of round quartz grains cemented together. Texture: medium



L to R. Top row: Sedimentary - Shale. Second row: Sedimentary - Sandstone. Third row: Sedimentary - Graywacke; Sandstone. Fourth row: Clute's Dry Dock; Schist with vein of quartz; River access under Thaddeus Kosciuszko Bridge (I-87).

Ordovician and Cambrian Periods are known for bedrock consisting of limestones, shales, sandstones, and dolostones.