



**Bridge
Authority**

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****Photos Available via [Dropbox](#)****

HISTORIC PHOTO RECREATION UNVEILED ON 99th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEAR MOUNTAIN BRIDGE

*Over 100 People Gather to Recreate 1924 Photo as one of many
Celebrations for the Upcoming Bear Mountain Bridge Centennial*

Bear Mountain Bridge Online Store [Open through Nov. 27](#)

Fort Montgomery, N.Y. – In celebration of 99 years since the Bear Mountain Bridge opened for public use, the New York State Bridge Authority (NYSBA) has unveiled a recreation of a 1924 photograph of construction crews and others taken from the deck of the bridge prior to its opening. The photo was taken by Scott Snell of SDS Imagery, a filmmaker and producer based in Beacon, NY. He was commissioned by the nonprofit Historic Bridges of the Hudson Valley (HBHV) for the photograph and has been working with HBHV on a documentary currently under development about the bridge's history.



Above Left: Original photo from 1924. Courtesy: Frank Goderre.

Above Right: Photo recreation captured on Nov. 17, 2023. Credit: Scott Snell, SDS Imagery.

On Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27, 1924, the Bear Mountain Bridge was opened to the general public after being formally dedicated the day prior. It was a groundbreaking engineering achievement for its

time, being the first vehicular bridge over the Hudson River south of Albany and the first suspension bridge with a concrete deck. For a brief period, it also held the title of "bridge with the longest suspended span in the world." Many consider the innovations with the Bear Mountain Bridge to have spurred a boom in bridge building in New York State and the entire country in the years following. Originally built by a private enterprise founded by the Harriman family and other backers, the bridge would come under the ownership of NYSBA in 1940.

Sometime during the late phases of construction in 1924, workers and others affiliated with the project posed for a photograph, both on the steel tower and on the deck below. Not much is known about who is in the original photo or who was behind the camera. However, it resurfaced nearly a century later, when local historian Frank Goderre came across it and brought it to the attention of NYSBA and HBHV.

On Nov. 17, 2023, over 100 people gathered at the bridge to recreate the photograph, representing NYSBA, HBHV, and other local partners like New York State Parks and State Park Police, New York State Police, the United States Military Academy at West Point, and other special guests. Special attention was given to recreate certain elements of the original photograph as well. NYSBA maintenance staff – now donning modern-day protective gear – were positioned on the steel tower to mimic the poses from 1924. The new photo also paid homage to a dog featured in the 1924 photograph with the inclusion of Duke, the furry companion of Bear Mountain's Assistant Foreman Scott Annacone.

Video footage from the event is anticipated to be included in the documentary. More information regarding the documentary and additional centennial events in the works and will be posted on www.bmb100.com over the next year.

Last Day to Shop the Bear Mountain Bridge Online Pop-Up Store

While Nov. 27 marks the 99th anniversary of the bridge's public opening, it also marks Cyber Monday. The Bridge Authority reminds everyone that today is the last day to take advantage of its first online "BMB100 Pop-Up Shop." Just in time for the holiday season, the e-commerce site offers a variety of unique gift ideas themed to the bridge. A number of items will be for sale through the online store, including:

- Apparel, such as hats, T-shirts, sweatshirts, and onesies
- Tote bag
- Holiday ornament
- Kitchen apron

Many of the products are made to order and items will be produced and shipped out after the online pop-up store closes at 11:59 p.m. Eastern on Nov. 27th. Orders are expected to begin shipping out mid-December. Delivery by Christmas Day is not guaranteed.

The online store is being offered through a partnership with [Spectrum Designs](#), a non-profit that is dedicated to providing meaningful employment opportunities to those on the autism spectrum. They are a New York-based full-service custom apparel and promotional products business and a member of the Preferred Source program through the New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID).

About the New York State Bridge Authority

The New York State Bridge Authority (NYSBA) operates the Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon, Mid-Hudson, Kingston-Rhinecliff and Rip Van Winkle Bridges. It also owns and maintains the structure of the Walkway Over the Hudson pedestrian bridge. The Authority receives no operating funding

through state or federal tax dollars, with nearly all of its revenue coming through tolls. Tolls are reinvested back into capital improvements on the Authority's spans, ensuring these critical pieces of infrastructure can continue serving the Hudson Valley for decades to come. Learn more at www.nysba.ny.gov.

About Historic Bridges of the Hudson Valley

Historic Bridges of the Hudson Valley (HBHV) was founded to promote the cultural awareness and general knowledge of Hudson Valley bridge history and the art of civil engineering, architecture, and bridge science. The organization also serves as a curator and custodian of historical artifacts regarding the vehicular bridges owned by the New York State Bridge Authority. STEM curriculum and other learning tools utilizing the NYSBA bridges are available by request for educators. Learn more at www.hbhv.org.

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