

# Bronx River, The: An Environmental & Social History

Maarten de Kadt

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The Bronx River flows twenty-three miles from its source in Valhalla to its mouth, the East River in the Bronx. This waterway was used for centuries by Native American tribes for drinking, food and transportation, and they called it "Aquehung" a fast stream flowing along a high bluff. After the arrival of Europeans, though, the Bronx River suffered as industry prospered; it powered mills and, unfortunately, became a dumping ground for all kinds of waste. Its appearance and ecosystem were forever changed. Today, community members are again attempting to alter the river, but this time for the better, by helping it recover. Discover the fascinating history of this small waterway and the ways it influenced and was affected by the people around it.



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