

The Star-Ledger

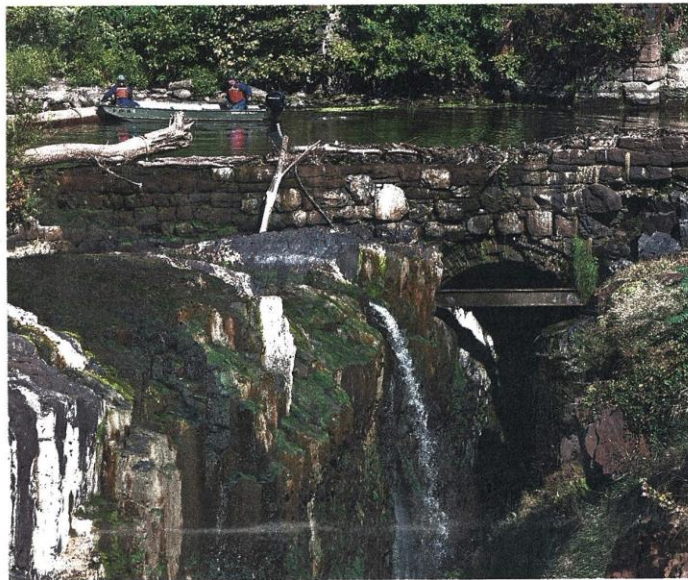
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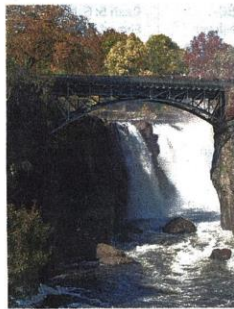
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

PATERSON

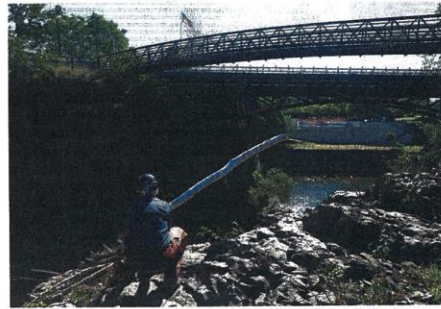
GREAT FALLS ON THE RISE



Ed Murray/NJ Advance Media for The Star-Ledger



The Great Falls as it appears when water is flowing. Associated Press



A Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission worker cleans up above the falls Thursday. Ed Murray/NJ Advance Media for The Star-Ledger

Ed Murray For The Star-Ledger

Everything needs a little tidying up from time to time. On Thursday, the Great Falls in Paterson had its turn to get cleaned up. So the water was shut off.

The Passaic River, which feeds the cascade, was diverted from its 77-foot freefall and sent through an adjacent hydroelectric plant owned by Paterson and operated by Eagle Creek Renewable Energy.

Workers picked up garbage, cut and removed

large trees and generally cleaned up the area.

Water levels were low enough for workers to go out on the rocks, usually inaccessible, and see graffiti carved into the stones in the early 1800s.

The falls — the second-largest waterfall in the Northeast — became a National Park site in 2009.