The Gowanus Canal did not always look like what it looks like today. The Gowanus Creek was a tidal estuary flowing into the Gowanus Bay in the New York Harbor. At that time, the creek was surrounded by mostly farms and mills. Now, the Gowanus Canal Conservancy, a tidal estuary, surrounds the buildings and homes in the Gowanus neighborhood. The income gap is widening in the Gowanus. The income gap is also widening in the Gowanus because the canal there are many efforts to restore the canal.

Despite the historical damage done to the canal, there are many efforts to restore the canal.

The Gowanus is a unique neighborhood in which you can observe the community undergoing great changes.

This podwalk will help you to explore some of the community's grey and green infrastructure, its history, and cultural value for residents. And how they relate to sustainability.

As you walk towards Nevins St. and Degraw, you have now reached your fifth stop. This site of new luxury residential and commercial building esplanade that is open to the public called sponge park. It is about 1,800 square feet surrounding the street end rain gardens along the banks of the Gowanus Canal. The sponge park helps to capture and clean stormwater runoff from 2nd Street; this reduces combined sewage overflows into the canal. Also take note of the CSO point as you approach Carroll St Bridge.

At the dead end you have reached the final stop. This is the second proposed site for the proposed sewage overflow holding tanks. The Salt Lot also provides green space. This green space began with a collaborative effort between the Department of Sanitation of New York and Gowanus Canal Conservancy.