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Progress Report: East Lyme's Overlook Park

R.S. De Santo, East Lyme Public Trust Foundation, Inc.

One of the most important improvements in the aesthetics of the Niantic Bay Overlook walkway is the incorporation of Ashlar Stone surface panels, shown in the above photograph which has been retouched for clarity.

The Neel Company of Springfield, Virginia, was contracted to Amtrak to provide pre-cast modular retaining wall panels (T-Wall@ panels) for portions of the retaining walls that separate the walkway from the rail bed. The 791 panels, each weighing between 2,400 and 7,300 pounds, were fabricated by Concrete Systems, Inc. of Londonderry, New Hampshire. This patterned T-Wall covers 50,000 square feet and extends 1,217 feet westward from the Niantic River underpass by Cini Park, where the wall is approximately 14 feet high, slowly diminishing to a final height of 8 feet.

Concrete "dead men" are attached to each panel of the wall, forming a "T," hence the name T-Wall, which serve to anchor each panel in compacted fill. This fill is a deposit of sand and gravel that creates the foundation for the new railroad bed on which the trains will travel adjacent to, and higher than, the walkway.

For more information on progress see: <http://www.publictrustfoundation.org/news.htm>.

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