

Jean and Ric Edelman Fossil Park

**Location:**

Sewell, New Jersey

Status:

Construction

Forecast Project Delivery:

Fall 2024

Development Cost:

\$75 million

Design Consultants:

Ennead Architects

KSS Architects

General Contractor:

Dobco, Inc.

Project Planning & Development:

Division of Facilities, Planning & Operations

Gloucester County Improvement Authority

***Prioritization Category:**

Categories 1 and 6

Description

This project, named the Jean & Ric Edelman Fossil Park after its donors, involves the development of a 65-acre parcel located in Mantua Township. The site, that includes a former open-pit marl mine, will serve as a major museum and research center for the University and exemplify experiential learning and increase STEM literacy for all visitors. Development of a building at the fossil park will incorporate principles of sustainability and green infrastructure as an intrinsic part of its development, will provide faithful stewardship of our environment and strong leadership on issues pertaining to sustainability.

The project has the potential to welcome thousands of visitors per year, including school groups, nature clubs, scouting groups, and tourists who can participate in amateur fossil digs in the quarry, go on nature walks, and explore the site's habitats, geology, and unique natural features, and facilities including: a museum, fossil collection rooms, fossil prep labs, event exhibition space, a cafe and park space amenities.

*Projects are guided by the University of the Future Priorities in the following categories:

1. Classrooms and Laboratories
2. Student Housing Needs
3. Space for New Faculty and Staff
4. Deferred Maintenance & Modernization
5. Internal and External Collaboration Spaces
6. Advance Academic Mission