



In July 2012, I had the opportunity to intern at an architecture firm in Manhattan. This picture was at my first site visit, the construction of I.S./H.S. 404Q. Initially, I wasn't interested in engineering. The firm had me in the office all day, either doing paperwork, CAD, or looking at specs. I was solely interested in design and I enjoyed making models. I was never really exposed to engineering. It wasn't until I visited the site and got a tour did I realize I really liked the setting. I liked my hard hat and I was in awe of how everything looked knowing how it would eventually look from its rendering. There were so many things to consider when building something and it made me wonder how hard it must be to satisfy a design and stick to it. I became interested in construction and its process getting there. I wanted to get out of the office and onto the field. After this site visit, I researched more about engineering and tried to find a field of study where I could use a lot of what I learned in architecture and apply it to the major as well. Best decision I made was entering civil engineering. Had I not decided to major in engineering, I would have missed so many opportunities to get a taste of the field and experience something I truly enjoyed. This past week I had my second site visit at the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine. Even though this was just my second site visit, I knew that construction was definitely in my future.



In senior year of high school, my class had to construct the frame of a house in our classroom. This was my favorite project. It was so much fun learning by words and then building with hands. We got to apply what we learned and it was so different from reading a textbook. This project also taught me that communication within the class was key. We had to work together to figure out calculations and how to cut the wood. If one thing messed up, we had to fix it. We had to rely on one another to do their part so we could move forward with the house. I think it is so important to have classes like these. This project introduces design, construction, and teaches us standard rules. This project also gave us an idea of what we wanted to do or didn't want to do in the future. Engineering is a tough field and the males outnumber the females. From this class, I started to lean more on civil engineering and eventually decided to come to Stony Brook for it. I am thankful towards my school for having this class and I think that this opportunity should be offered in many more schools.