

PROJECT

Rocket Throter Sculpture
New York, New York

CLIENTS

NYC Department of Parks & Recreation
Olmsted Center, Flushing Meadows-
Corona Park
Flushing, New York

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Rocket Throter statue was commissioned for the 1964 World's Fair held in New York City. Sculptor Donald De Lue created the approximately 45 foot tall bronze sculpture based on the major theme of the fair, "Man's Entry into Space."

The sculpture has been exposed to the elements for more than 47 years at its location in Flushing Meadows Park. Because of the large size, stretched out pose of the sculpture, and its appurtenances, the demands on the structural support system are high.

Cracks are evident in the plinth supporting the sculpture and prompted investigations into the condition of the sculpture.



Rocket Throter by Donald De Lue



Videoscope image of interior armature and attachment point with plinth at bronze rivet heads.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY ATKINSON-NOLAND

- Atkinson-Noland provided video imaging of the interior of the sculpture to investigate the configuration and condition of the internal armature. The investigation was conducted with a 5 meter videoscope and 2 mm diameter camera inserted into existing weep holes.
- Thermal imaging was used to detect attachment points between the armature and the bronze skin of the sculpture.
- An ultrasonic thickness gauge was used to evaluate variations in the thickness of the casting.



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