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CSP

Long Island Aquarium
Islip, New York



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Located in central Long Island, the Long Island Aquarium has been conceived as an innovative presentation of the ecological evolution of Long Island, a peninsula formed by the receding glacier over 20,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age. The exhibition is focused on a six story simulated glacier seen through a glass enclosed structure. Visitors enter from lobby spaces into the interior of the glacier, surrounded by ice formations cold to the touch, reinforced by cold air and dripping melt water. The linear visitor pathway emerges at a high point from the glacier and descends with the melt waters through stream settings, ponds, marshes, and sandy coastal edges into the sea. The final exhibit is a large underwater habitat of the adjacent offshore Atlantic Ocean, displaying a diverse collection of sharks, rays, and schooling pelagic fishes, and others native to the region. Included in the project are a museum shop and a large format theater.