Columbia Engineering began on Madison Avenue, during the American Civil War, with Columbia College's School of Mines, which evolved over an eventful 150 years into today's Department of Earth and Environmental Engineering (EEE). Originally focused on metallurgy and resource extraction, today EEE plays a leading role innovating ideas and tools for sustainability and environmental preservation, while improving standards of living for a still-growing global population. Current research includes alternative energies, carbon sequestration, water availability and assessment, waste management, and greener industrial processes.

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