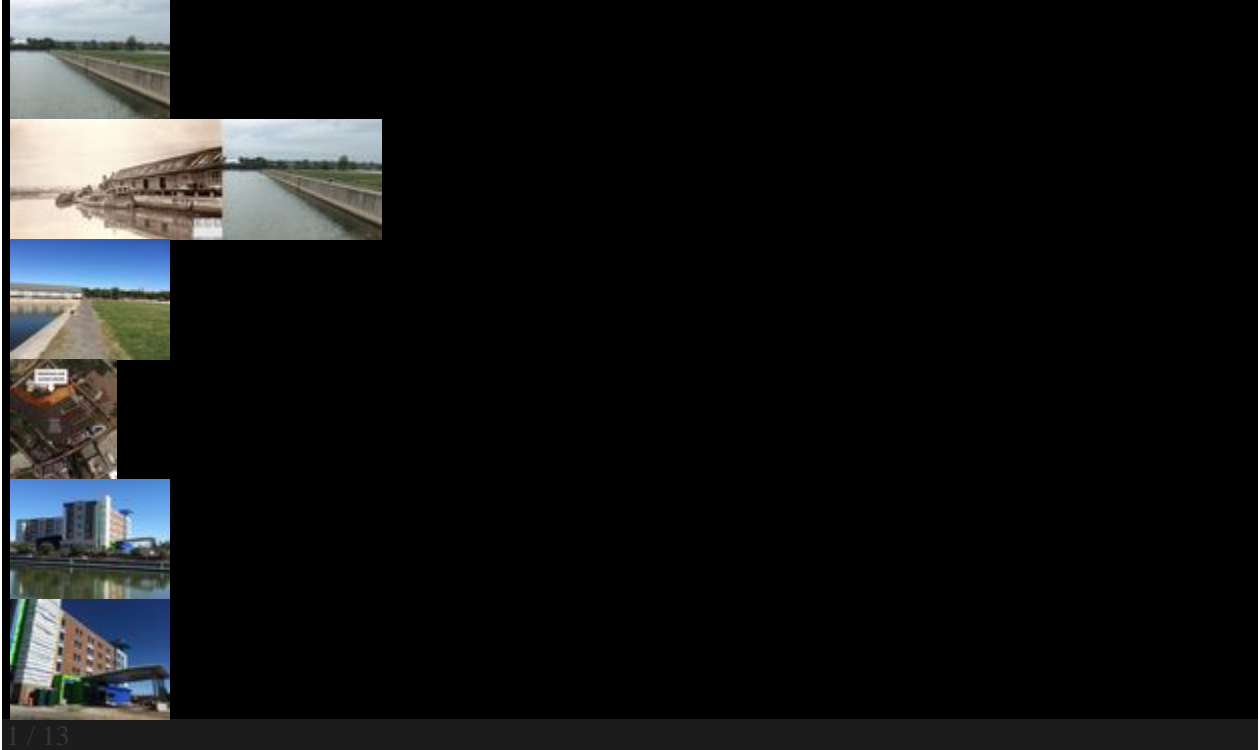


Historic building at Syracuse Inner Harbor to be moved





The freight house at the Syracuse Inner Harbor was a busy place when this photo was taken in July 1923. (Onondaga Historical Association)
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Syracuse, N.Y. — An historic, 97-year-old freight house at the Syracuse Inner Harbor is about to be moved for the second time in 15 years.

COR Development Co., which has exclusive rights to redevelop the former Barge Canal terminal south of Onondaga Lake, said it plans to move the wooden building from the harbor's east bank to its north bank as part of the project.

COR spokeswoman Maggie Truax said the move will allow the company to redevelop the east bank of the harbor. She said the company has no immediate plans for the freight house but is looking for some type of civic use for it.



Aerial photo shows the location of the historic freight house at the Syracuse Inner Harbor and the planned site of State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry's Onondaga Lake Science Center. COR Development Co. wants to move the freight house to the north bank of the harbor, to the left of the planned science center. *Courtesy of COR Development*

The building dates to 1918 and originally stood on the harbor's south pier. Dennis Connors, curator of history for the **Onondaga Historical Association**, said it was used for temporary storage of freight moving in or out of the terminal.

"Obviously, not for bulk cargo like lumber or coal, but for boxes or barrels of goods," he said. "It seems that such use of the terminal was fairly minimal. Most goods coming in and out being of the bulk nature, often loaded directly back and forth from barges to railroad cars on adjacent sidings."

As time went on, the major use of the terminal was for bulk oil shipments, which were piped directly from oil barges into the numerous oil storage tanks that dotted the landscape around the harbor, he said. Eventually, the freight house likely was used as a storehouse for canal maintenance activity, he said.

In 2000, the building was moved to the east bank as part of the city's plan to redevelop the harbor into a residential, recreational and commercial center.

Plans were to turn the structure into a visitor center. However, one problem with that plan was that the building has no windows, and its historic status might prevent the installation of any.

In 2012, the city gave COR the **rights to develop the harbor**. The Fayetteville-based developer is **building a 123-room Aloft Hotel** on the south bank of the harbor and is making plans for build mixed-use buildings on the eastern and western banks of the harbor.

COR plans to move the freight house to a location along the waterfront, to the west of State University College of Environmental Science and Forestry's planned **Onondaga Lake Science Center**. The company's plans show a boat dock in front of the freight house.

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