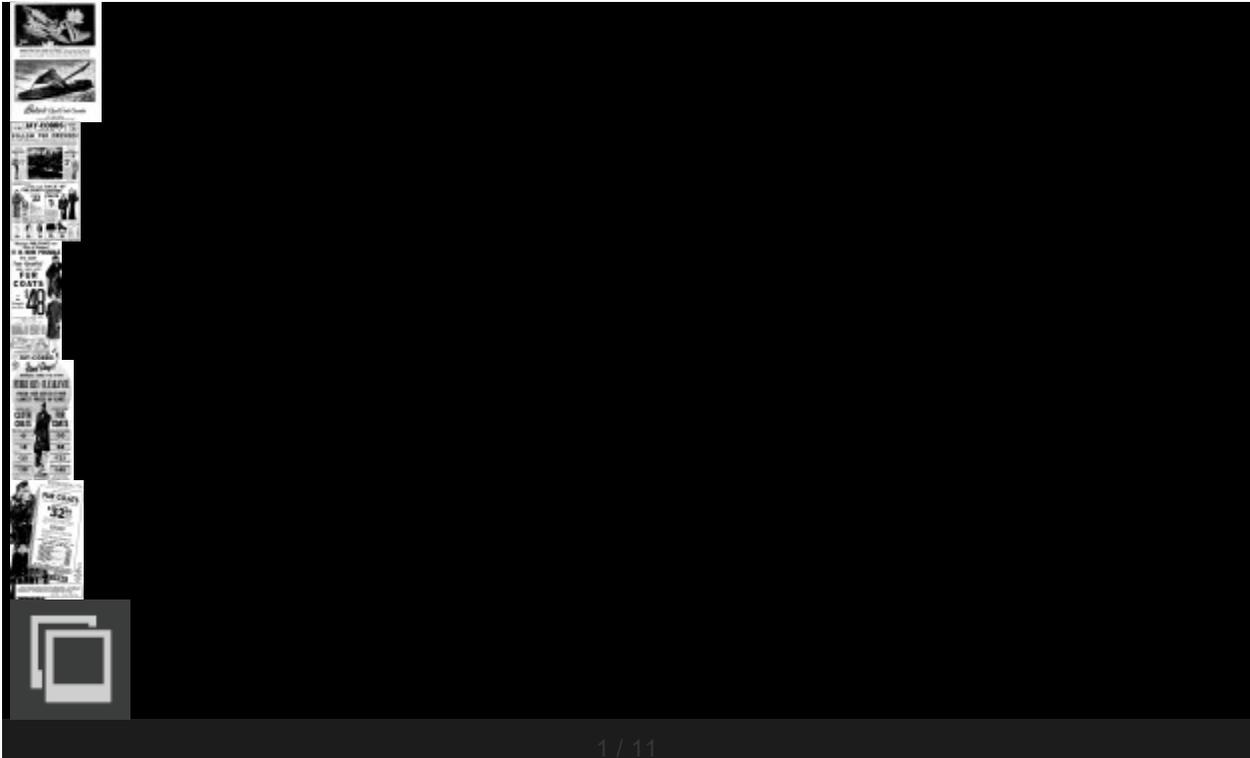


Syracuse building set for demolition has long retail history





300 block of South Salina Street, east side of the street. Photo taken in December 1985 by David Lassman.
[David Lassman | dlassman@syracuse.com](mailto:dlassman@syracuse.com)

[PrintEmail](#)



By [Annie Palmer | Contributing writer](#)

on February 05, 2016 at 7:05 PM, updated February 05, 2016 at 9:03 PM

14shares

DOWNTOWN SYRACUSE BUILDING COLLAPSES

- [Syracuse building set for demolition has long retail history](#)
- [City will pay \\$235K to demolish neglected building in downtown Syracuse](#)
- [Update: Demolition of downtown building postponed until Saturday morning](#)
- [Business slow for stores near collapsed Syracuse building \(Video\)](#)
- [City to demolish partially collapsed building in downtown Syracuse this afternoon](#)

All Stories

The building that collapsed in downtown Syracuse this week has had a long history of retail shops and was once owned by a Democratic mayoral candidate.

A large portion of a wall at 331 S. Salina St. [collapsed Thursday](#), leaving a two-story hole in the four-story brick building.

The building, which was built in about 1890, was once known as the Hogan Building, named after Thomas Hogan, according to records at the [Onondaga Historical Association](#).

Hogan was a Syracuse-born philanthropist, lawyer and politician, who at one point ran for mayor, according to association records.

More recently, in the early 2000s, the building was purchased by [Eli Hadad](#), a former car salesman and small-business owner who had become a real estate developer. He was also linked in media reports to the Israeli mafia. Hadad went on a buying spree in Syracuse, eventually owning more than a dozen properties worth \$12 million at one time.

The building's ownership and uses have changed many times over the years.

The building has housed several businesses including Graff Furniture, Hislops Department Store, Heenan cloak and suit, Niswonger and Benkesser, the Majestic Cloak Factory, Baker Shoes and One Price Sportswear.

Here's a look at the building's history based on records at the historical association and Onondaga County property records:

1890 (about): The Hogan Building is built.

1895: The building housed Chase and Smith Piano Company.

1916: Majestic Cloak Co., a specialty clothing store for women, moved in. Majestic Cloak pledged itself to be "A Milestone in the Growth of Syracuse."

1919: Thomas Hogan sold the building to Bernard B. Givens, a local philanthropist and chairman of United Jewish Appeal, a Jewish umbrella organization, which later became the Jewish Federations of North America.

1923 (about): Majestic Cloak closed.

1960: The building was bought by E. Goldberg, owner of the architectural firm Sargent, Webster, Crenshaw and Folley. Goldberg built a new façade, extending up to the second floor, and a new first floor entrance. It's unclear what business occupied the building at this time.

1980: Baker Shoes moved into the Hogan Building. At this time, it's owned by Syracuse University and still features the 1960s-era two-story sign.

Late 1980s: The building to the south, 333 S. Salina St., was torn down. In 1990, Greenwood Development Group proposed using the vacant lot for an outdoor flea market, hot dog vendor and other uses.

1987: Baker Shoes closes its store.

2003: 331 S. Salina LLC bought the building for \$150,000.

2006: 499 Syracuse City Centre Llc of Brooklyn bought the building for \$100,000.