

History of Yorktown Freight Shed

The Freight Shed was originally built by the National Park Service on a wharf on the York River after a tropical storm in 1933 which destroyed much of the Yorktown waterfront including the York River ferry terminal. The terminal supported, not only ferries across the river, but also stored freight that was shipped via coastal freighters to other ports like Baltimore. After the Coleman Bridge was built in 1952, the ferry was no longer needed and the interstate highway system made trucking more flexible and cost efficient, therefore, the Freight Shed closed.

In 1956, the freight building was remodeled for the U.S. Postal Service and served as the Post Office for the village of Yorktown until 2000 when the Post Office relocated up the hill after the wharf became unsafe.

It was decided to preserve the Freight Shed by moving it inland approx. 100 yards and demolishing the wharf. The Freight Shed has been remodeled again in keeping with its original character to serve the community as the focal point for the new redevelopment of the waterfront.