

A Century of Transition



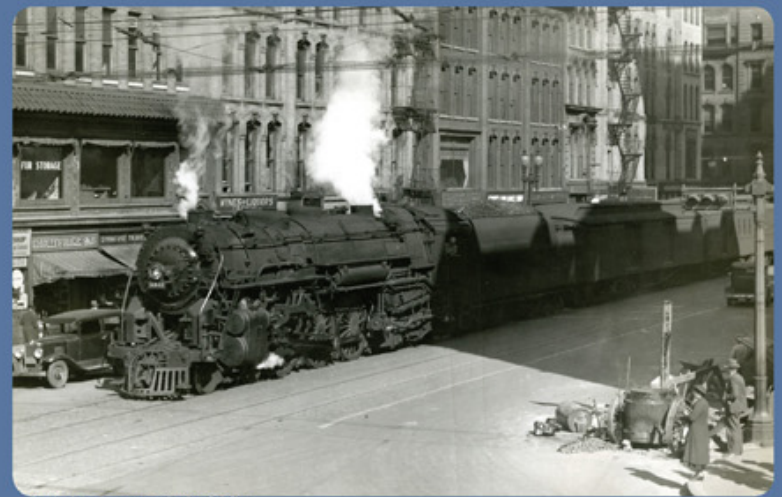
Junction of the Erie and Oswego Canals. SYRACUSE, N. Y.

THE ERIE CANAL

The Erie Canal created a major economic corridor that sparked canal building across the nation. It established New York as a leader in transportation development.

RAILROADS & STREETCARS

Railroads began to operate in the 1830's and soon became the preferred method for shipping. Rail was also important for moving people. Up to 1941, Syracuse operated a dense network of streetcars and interurban trains connecting neighborhoods and other towns with downtown.



Empire State Express crossing South Salina



Early H. H. Franklin Truck - circa 1905



Salina Street - 300 block - circa 1912

EARLY AUTO

By the early 1900s, Syracuse streets began to experience congestion associated with the railroads, streetcars and newly introduced automobiles. To improve road conditions the Delaware & Lackawana Railroad began operating on an elevated structure and the New York Central Railroad was shifted north and elevated along the alignment of today's I-690.

