Buffalo’s Grain Elevators

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Grain from the Midwest, transported to the East on lake freighters, had to be stored in warehouses and then loaded onto Erie Canal barges.
Dart invented the elevator - a steam powered marine leg with revolving buckets.
Wooden elevators were replaced by terra cotta, steel, and finally reinforced concrete.
Coatsworth … Spencer Kellogg … Schaefer Brewing. Two ships could be handled simultaneously in the slip.
GLF Grain Elevator

View from River Fest Park.
Cooperative Grange League Federation … Wheeler Elevator
GLF Grain Elevator

2014 hockey tournament ... First part of a recreation center
ADM’s Great Northern

Left: Great Northern Grain Elevator / Right: Archer Daniel Midland. Note the marine tower containing the marine leg.
Great Northern Grain Elevator

Steel silos inside brick walls … Built 1897
Standard Grain Elevator

ADM’s working elevator …
Built 1928, 1942

Silo City at right
Moveable marine legs unloading the hold of a ship

Standard Grain Elevator

Modern unloading device
Silo City

“Swannie Jim” Watkins …
Rick Smith … Champ
Rick Smith bought 4 neighboring elevators to produce ethanol
Lake & Rail Grain Elevator

Built 1927 … Used to store winter red wheat
Silo City: American Grain Elevator

World’s first elevator constructed using continuous pour slip form method

... Built 1906 in two weeks
... From malting co. to flour milling co. in 1927
Silo City: Perot Malting Elevator

**Left**: Main house and silos ... **Right**: Malt house. Built 1907 ... Malt: barley is soaked to germinate and then roasted.

Purchased by Genesee Brewing through its subsidiary Fred Koch Malting Co. in 1984 ... Closed 1993
Perot Malting Elevator

Cupola above the silos … Horizontal conveyor belts for moving barley … Trap doors above the silos … Trippers direct barley through open trapdoors
Perot Malting Elevator

Basement ...
At the bottom of each silo is a steel hopper for emptying the silos.
Bridge between silos and malthouse has horizontal conveyor belt for transferring barley
Malthouse steeping tanks for starting barley germinating process
Malthouse ovens for roasting barley - the last step in the malting process
Silo City: Lake & Rail / Marine “A” elevators

Childs Street between the two ends at the Buffalo River
Silo City: Marine “A”

Built by the Abell family of Buffalo in 1925 ... Closed 1960s
Marine “A”
Missing steel hopper at bottom of silo
Marine “A”

Being converted into a rock climbing facility: Silo City Rocks

... Photo from Gearjunkie Website
Marine “A”

Being converted into a rock climbing facility:
Silo City Rocks
And ...
The End.

Questions? Comments?