

ERIE CANAL GATEWAY HARBOR

location: Tonawanda, NY

owner: City of Tonawanda

awards: American Planning Association: Outstanding Planning,
American Society for Landscape Architects: Design Merit,
NYS Governor's Waterfront Rediscovery Award

publications: Landscape Architecture, January 2005



The Tonawanda Canal Harbor project is one of seven Erie Canal harbors being developed by the New York State Canal Corporation. TWLA's approach to the project was to uncover and reveal Tonawanda's Erie Canal heritage. The greatest challenge was the fragmented nature of the site. Bridges, streets, and waterways intersect the site, obscuring the linear continuity. A continuous pedestrian spine now links three distinctive outdoor spaces. Original canal remnants are incorporated within the design of the new stone amphitheater and a gateway feature marks and interprets historic alignments. Tonawanda Canal Harbor has emerged as the national icon and premiere destination of the newly revitalized Erie Canal.

