

# NEW YORK CENTRAL CABOOSE 19144



This caboose had a colorful history. It was purchased from the Penn Central Railroad to become a hot dog stand on Erie Boulevard East in DeWitt. It was later used at that location as a clothing shop. Chapter member Bob Newman “rescued,” restored, and then donated it to the CNY Chapter NRHS.

These “19000-series” cabooses were the “standard” waycar of the New York Central, but they were far from “standard.” Some were numbered in the 17, 18, or 20000s too. The originals were built from 1897 until 1923 in Oswego, East Buffalo, West Albany, and at the NYC’s Merchants Despatch Corporation shops in East Rochester. These same shops undertook a massive rebuilding of the original cabooses between 1912 and 1926. The rebuildings resulted in steel underframes and the distinctive low style cupolas. The NYC made use of the wooden cabooses up to its merger into the Penn Central in 1968. By then, they were mostly assigned to local freight service.

**LENGTH: 35 feet**  
**BUILT: NYC shops**

