Visit the Paulus Hook section of Jersey City and discover the site of the Little Basin, the Morris Canal's eastern terminus at New York Harbor. Continue your walk along the Hudson River Front Walkway with spectacular view of the harbor and the city skyline. To expand your visit explore nearby Liberty State Park, ride the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail or take a ferry ride across the river to Manhattan. An all day visit might include an excursion to the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island or the Liberty Science Center.
In the early 1800s Paulus Hook, a rocky outcrop separated from the Bergen Ridge by swampy marsh land, was one of the few places along New Jersey’s Hudson River waterfront that offered deep water access to New York Harbor. When the Morris Canal was extended in 1836 canal engineer Ephraim Beach chose the Hook as the location of the basin that would give the canal access to one of the country’s finest ports. By the 1840s Paulus Hook had become Jersey City. Soon the surrounding marsh land was being filled in and railroads began to vie for space along the shoreline.

This early 20th century photo shows canal boat 794 as it exits tide Lock 22 East into Jersey City’s Little Basin while a group of bystanders watch from the Washington Street bridge.