

STATEN ISLAND JAIL
 A NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST
 WILL BE UP FOR JUNE 30

JAIL CLOSURES ACROSS NEW YORK CITY

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B R O O K L Y N

NAVAL YARD BRIG

In 1984, the NYC Department of Correction opened a new jail in a former navy yard brig to "relieve dangerous overcrowding in city jails." The converted brig was adjusted to potentially imprison 800 people.

The brig jail closed in 1994 but reopened eight months later. After two months the jail closed for good and 400 people were transferred to Rikers Island. 2005.

S T A T E N I S L A N D

RICHMOND COUNTY JAIL

In 1837, Staten Island built their county jail, with the Staten Island county sheriff operating the jail system. After many attempts, the NYC DOC finally acquired Richmond county jail operations in 1942.

In 1953, the DOC Commissioner planned to close the Richmond County Jail, using cost savings as an explanation, and Staten Island residents unsuccessfully sued to halt its closure.

On July 1, 1953, the jail closed and the 35 people imprisoned inside were transferred to the Tombs in Manhattan.

In 1959 the Richmond County Jail was **DEMOLISHED**.

R I K E R S

JAMES A. THOMAS CENTER

JATC was built in 1933 as Rikers' first permanent jail. Although JATC was closed in 2000, the building still stands.

GEORGE MOTCHAN DETENTION CENTER

GMDC was closed in June of 2018 after operating at less than 50% capacity due to a backlog of repairs. The closure did not result in layoffs or a reduction in DOC staff.

Jails are for demolishing!
 A project of Critical Resistance
 New York City

M A N H A T T A N

HOUSE OF DETENTION FOR WOMEN

In 1932, 289 women previously detained in *Harlem Prison* and in the workhouse on Welfare Island were transferred to the new House of Detention for Women.

In 1971 a new jail was opened on Rikers, called "New York City Correctional Institution for Women" and 422 people were moved from the House of Detention for Women to Rikers Island - facing protests from people claiming the transfer would lead to isolation from the community and calling Rikers "a huge penal colony."

The House of Detention was **DEMOLISHED** in 1973.

F L O A T I N G J A I L S

In 1988, two former British troop barges, the *Bibby Resolution* and the *Bibby Venture* were bought by the City and floated in the Hudson River and East River as jails. The barges later sat empty from 1992 to 1994, and in 1994 Mayor Giuliani sold the barges to a European company, saying "they were a drain on the budget."

Two former Staten Island ferries, the *Walter Keane* and the *Harold A. Wildstein* were moored at Rikers Island beginning in 1987. The DOC stopped using the boats at Rikers in 1997, and the ferries were sold for scrap.

T H E B R O N X

BRONX HOUSE OF DETENTION FOR MEN

The Bronx House was opened in 1937 as the Bronx County Jail, and an additional wing, expanding the jail, was completed in 1963.

As the average daily population of imprisoned people in NYC began to drop in the late 1990s, the city began consolidating people on Rikers Island.

The jail was closed in 2000 and **DEMOLISHED** in 2007.

Q U E E N S

QUEENS HOUSE OF DETENTION

In 1959, the city jail population reached a record high of 8,613 people. A new jail opened in 1961 in Kew Gardens and was set to replace the Queens County Jail in Long Island City, then 75 years old.

However, the old jail was kept open due to alleged "overcrowding" and did not close for good until 1975.

In 2002, the Kew Gardens jail was also closed in response to budget cuts. While the jail has not been re-opened, the city continues to spend money to maintain the jail.