

GOING, GOING, → GONE!

by John H. Vargo, Publisher



The tug *Stephanie Dann* pushing the section up river to the Port of Coeymans for refurbishment. In this photo taken by Dave Rocco, the section is passing under the Newburgh/Beacon Bridge, just recently rebuilt as well.

Dave Rocco the very photographer who took these fantastic photos, had just gotten out of surgery for his elbow when all this took place. Never the less, he spent hours and hours in Tarrytown waiting for the right moments to take these photos. No question about it, he is a dedicated man!

Approximately four years ago the super crane, shown here in photo one, was in California being used to complete the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Tappan Zee Constructors, (the general contractor), with tremendous planning and foresight, decided to bring the super crane east to be used in the construction of the new bridge, as well as demolition of the old Tappan Zee Bridge.

While all this was being organized a little known part of the plan was to remove entire sections of the old Tappan Zee Bridge and ship the sections upstate to be used as replacements for outdated or damaged bridges.

Photos opposite: →

The Super crane being placed in position on the east side of the Hudson River to remove the targeted section. (The intended section to be remove was in the way of the completion of the new bridge.) The iron workers then sliced the section across each end of the selected bridge section horizontally, then vertically at the base of the section. while all this was going on the super crane was strapped to the section in preparation for lifting the bridge up and then down onto a barge.

