Boston National Historical Park

Dry Dock One



Dry Dock One Fact: USS Constitution, famously known as "Old Ironsides," was the first ship to enter Dry Dock One.

Designed by Loammi Baldwin, Dry Dock One opened in 1833 and transformed the way ships were built and repaired, greatly increasing American sea power. The frigate USS Merrimack was repaired here in 1856, six years before the Confederacy transformed her into the ironclad CSS Virginia. The Virginia would soon meet another ship repaired in Dry Dock One, USS Cumberland, at the 1862 Battle of Hampton Roads.

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