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Opening hand

Knoxville Glove Company factory razed to make way for condo, marina development

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The former Knoxville Glove Co. factory in South Knoxville is now a memory after construction crews demolished the aging building this week.

The old factory building, which has been a fixture on Blount Avenue for decades, is being razed to make way for Cityview at Riverwalk, a waterfront condominium development.

The \$30.5 million condo and marina project is a joint venture of Atlanta developers Camden Management Partners Inc. and Focus Development Inc.

Interest in the 122-unit complex is strong. About 80 condos have been sold, including 20 units that have sold since the groundbreaking in late August, said Kimberly Dixon Hamilton of Downtown Realty, the Knoxville broker handling the sales.

The one-, two- and three-bedroom units sell for \$165,000 to more than \$400,000.

Knoxville Glove, which makes industrial work gloves, moved its operation to 2538

Sutherland Ave. in March after being at the Blount Avenue site since the early 1960s.

A demolition crew began knocking down the vacant factory building Wednesday. Workers at some nearby businesses sat outside watching as heavy equipment ripped through the brick walls.

The site should be cleared and ready for construction by the end of September. Construction of the condos will start in early October if not before, Hamilton said.

The project should be completed by early 2008.

River Towne Condominiums, a 50-unit development at the west end of Scottish Pike, is the first new waterfront condo project to be completed.

The five-story building sits at what will be the east end of a public walkway that would be part of the city's South Knoxville Waterfront Project.



CLAY OWEN / NEWS SENTINEL

The Knoxville Glove Co.'s factory on Blount Avenue in South Knoxville has been razed for the Cityview at Riverwalk waterfront condo complex. Knoxville Glove, which makes industrial work gloves, moved its operation to 2538 Sutherland Ave. earlier in the year.



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Knoxville Glove Co. workers cut leather gloves in April 1962. The company's vacant factory on Blount Avenue has been razed to make way for waterfront condominiums. The company has relocated to Sutherland Avenue.

Waterfront is a priority of the city administration. Last summer the city announced a 20-year plan for turning the south bank into a mix of new housing, commercial development, parks and other public facilities.

Business writer Roger Harris may be reached at 865-342-6342.



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