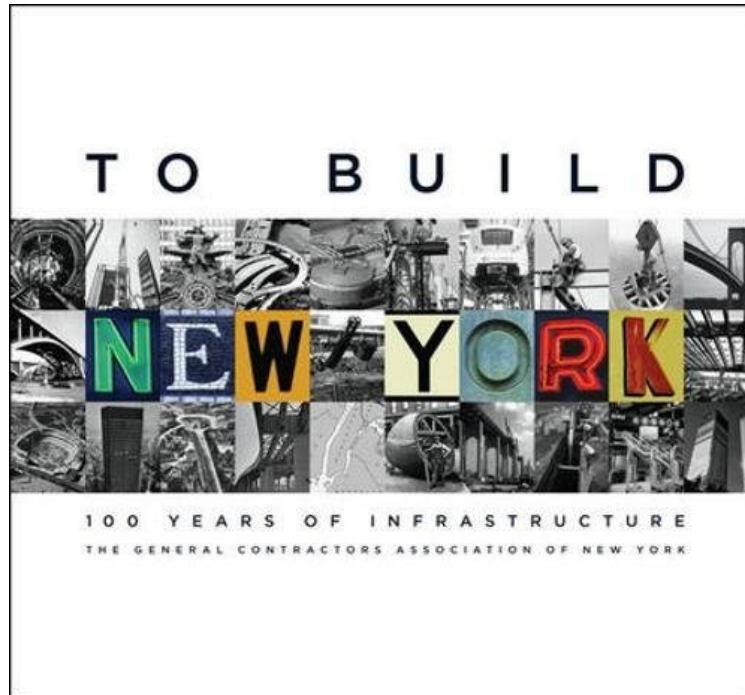


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To Build New York: 100 Years of Infrastructure

*The General Contractors Association of New York, David Kusnet
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The General Contractors Association of New York, David Kusnet : To Build New York: 100 Years of Infrastructure before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised To Build New York: 100 Years of Infrastructure:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ... very interesting read on the infrastructure of the worlds greatest city. By Nigel Barker A very interesting read on the infrastructure of the worlds greatest city. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. great book By Debi My son is going to school in NY for civil engineering! Great book for someone who is interested in civil engineering, or just likes NY. Quick ship! Would buy again! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. How did our infrastructure happen? By David M. Weiss This book put out by the General Contractors Association (GCA) commemorates its centennial: 1909 - 2009. It is chock full (133 pages of the book proper) of incredibly sumptuous pictures of the building of New York City taken over the last hundred years. The GCA is an association of contractors primarily involved in heavy construction of public works. So we find stories of their contribution to bridges, tunnels and roads; mass transit; ports and harbors; power plants and dams; waterworks and sewage systems; and big buildings. This is a truly wonderful book. It tells the story of the modern development of NY's infrastructure in words and glorious pictures, entwines it with the growth of the city, and in the process highlights the critical importance or the role the GCA has played. There is an excellent historical perspective as well. It's a remarkable period that has seen us go from horse drawn transportation to jets, from tenements and unsanitary conditions in firetraps to a healthier environment, largely free of the diseases and fires that plagued neighborhoods and cities in previous centuries. There's an excellent discussion of some construction technologies: * for digging at and below ground; * for tunneling sideways for water, transportation, and utilities. This gives us an understanding of

geological conditions, caissons for digging below the water line.* for underpinning and protection of what was already there.* of new materials including concrete and the impact of the switch from bagged to bulk concrete. Some interesting sidebars as well: did you know that Al Smith hired Robert Moses, recommended FDR as his successor, and worked with LaGuardia on the city's construction. So all in all there's a lot to learn here as well.

A Spectacular Blend of Photographs, Facts, Anecdotes, and Personal Stories that Tell How the World's Greatest City Was Built! Without its vast infrastructure, New York would not have been able to forge five boroughs into one city, welcome millions of newcomers, and become the financial and cultural capital of the world. Covering the period from 1909-2009, *To Build New York* is an informative, engaging account of the who, what, when, where, how, and why of New York's infrastructure--together with stories of the people who did all the work. This superb urban chronicle offers readers a revealing inside look at the building of New York's roads and highways, bridges and tunnels, the subway system and rail lines, airports and aqueducts, skyscrapers, electric power grid, sewage treatment plants, and other facilities. Written in a vivid and highly entertaining style, *To Build New York* features: An authoritative account of New York City's physical development from 1909 to 2009 More than 100 illustrations, including archival never-before-published photographs and details Numerous facts, anecdotes, and behind-the-scenes information about how and why certain elements of the infrastructure came to exist Fascinating sidebars that describe the technologies devised for the construction projects in each area of infrastructure A Foreword by Michael R. Bloomberg Panoramic in scope yet filled with hundreds of amazing particulars, *To Build New York* is the story of the creation of the world's greatest city--told from the point of view of the inventive, hardworking people who built it.

Issued by the General Contractors Association of New York (GCA), this attractive centennial volume chronicles 20th-century Big Apple infrastructure construction beginning in 1909, when the GCA was formed. Presenting historic photographs (more than 100, some never before published), time lines, contemporary news, and anecdotes, the book moves chronologically from the openings of the Queensboro and Manhattan bridges to improvements in mass transit, roads and tunnels, water and sewers, urban renewal, and rehabilitation. Its appealing visual format strikes a favorable balance between information excess and readability. A GCA directory, which names founding companies and modern offshoots, and photos of past association presidents and memorabilia take up about 20 pages at the end. This informative and well-designed publication, particularly of value for historical ready-reference facts, photos, and in-the-trenches perspectives, is recommended for academic and larger public libraries. Russell T. Clement Northwestern Univ. Lib., Evanston, IL (*Library Journal*) About the Author The General Contractors Association of New York, established in 1909, provides comprehensive answers and definitive solutions to the questions and concerns of New York City's heavy construction contractors and engineers.