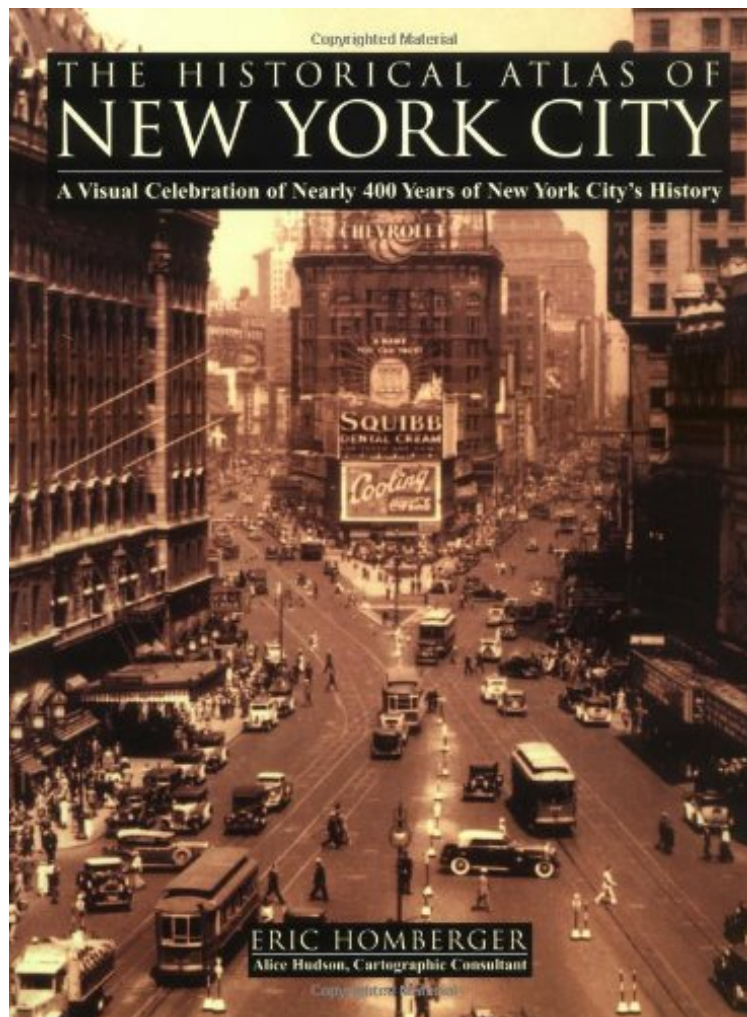


(Download pdf) The Historical Atlas of New York City: A Visual Celebration of Nearly 400 Years of New York City's History

The Historical Atlas of New York City: A Visual Celebration of Nearly 400 Years of New York City's History

Eric Homberger

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Eric Homberger : The Historical Atlas of New York City: A Visual Celebration of Nearly 400 Years of New York City's History before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Historical Atlas of New York City: A Visual Celebration of Nearly 400 Years of New York City's History:

24 of 26 people found the following review helpful. thoroughly enjoyable introduction to the great city By audrey frances It would be impossible to do justice to the history of New York City in a couple of hundred pages, so approaching this book with realistic expectations is important. With that in mind, this book is a wonderful overview of a fascinating metropolis, beginning with the formation of the land mass and continuing through its inhabitation by the

Manahatta, the Dutch, the Brits and the Americans. Key historical eras are covered including the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, and many areas of interest are addressed such as immigration, politics, sports, the arts and architecture. There are many photographs, drawings, charts and maps, and I appreciated that the scales were similar so that a reader can compare various maps easily. Articles are well-written and graphics are clean and well-designed. I would call this more an historical almanac of NYC, but whatever you call it, it is a fun and interesting read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Robert Giampietro Thank you very much! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting even for non-NYCers By CJ Given as a gift to a NYC native. He liked it.

A New York Public Library Outstanding Reference Book A visual celebration of nearly 400 years of New York City's history. To celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of Greater New York, what Alfred Kazin calls "a treasure of a book" is now a gorgeous paperback. The New York Times Book Review raved that The Historical Atlas of New York City "may be as close to a printed CD-ROM as paper can get." Now, this visual cornucopia of full-color maps, charts, photographs, and drawings covering four hundred years of the city's history is a trade paperback. Neighborhood by neighborhood, the Atlas takes the reader back through history, detailing such crucial events as the initial settlement of 270 people in thirty log houses; John Jacob Astor's meteoric rise from humble fur trader to the richest and most powerful man in the city; Frederick Law Olmsted's design for Central Park; and the fascinating ethnic mix of modern Queens. For both history buffs and the twenty-five million people who visit New York each year, The Historical Atlas of New York City is the guide to America's first city.

.com Eric Homberger's The Historical Atlas of New York City shows what can be achieved within a very narrow frame of discussion. With just one city to depict, Homberger explores the rich variety of details in the city's 400-year history with vivid drawings and illustrations as well as beautifully rendered maps. The atlas takes on the geologic history of New York, major eras (Indian, Dutch, and British), and the formative 19th century, as well as the consolidation of Greater New York, neighborhood histories of Coney Island and Greenwich Village, and the Big Apple exploits of 1945 through 1996. But there's room for the small stuff, too, such as the political and cultural role of New York's taverns in the late 1700s. --Stephanie Gold From Library Journal "Atlas" is almost a misnomer for this encyclopedic overview of the history of New York City. Homberger (American studies, Univ. of East Anglia; Scenes from the Life of a City: Corruption and Conscience in Old New York, LJ 9/1/94) details the growth and development of the Big Apple from earliest times, with attention to geological formation, pre-Colonial settlement, and transformation to first city of the young republic. Detailed color maps abound, accompanied by a running commentary of major historical and cultural eras. Many of the most detailed maps are rendered schematically for easier reading. Each period treated features historical photos and illustrations along with accompanying map(s). Some of the best-known aspects of the city, e.g., the UN, Rockefeller Center, receive individual treatment, as do neighborhoods such as Harlem, Greenwich Village, the Lower East Side, and Chinatown. Two fascinating illustrations are stylized diagrams of Broadway, the longest street in the city, and Fifth Avenue, arguably the city's main street. A detailed, illustrated chronology of important events in the city's history concludes the volume. A visual delight; highly recommended for all libraries. Edward B. Cone, New York City Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist This atlas surveys the history of New York City in more than 50 double-page spreads combining a map with brief text, illustrations, and other graphics. Each spread focuses on a particular theme such as "Stuyvesant's City," "From Iron Age to Skyscraper," "Broadway," and "Latest Arrivals" (the new immigrants). Each of the seven chapters into which the atlas is divided covers a particular historical period and is introduced by a brief illustrated overview of the period. An illustrated chronology follows the atlas proper, providing a conspectus of the city's history. Other supplementary features at the back include a section of short biographies of more than 50 outstanding individuals associated with the city, a bibliography keyed to the chapters, and a page with two lists: "New York in American Literature" (a book list) and a selective listing of museums. An informative and visually attractive introduction to the history of the city, this atlas is quite selective in its coverage and has limited reference value compared with more comprehensive guides to the city. A spot check of the index turns up no references to Mayor Jimmy Walker and no mention of the Metropolitan Museum of Art or the Museum of Modern Art, although they do appear on maps. Babe Ruth and Mickey Mantle are mentioned on the "Our Team" pages, but not Joe DiMaggio. Among other famous New Yorkers that fail to appear in the index are Caruso, Toscanini, Joe Papp, and Woody Allen. James Baldwin is not on the literature book list, and some classic sources on the city are not cited in the bibliography, such as The Columbia Historical Portrait of New York. Nonetheless, many fascinating aspects of the rich history of the city are explored in the atlas: its geology, Harlem, Central Park, the rise of the great department stores, the subway, and public housing, to mention a few. Many public and academic libraries may prefer to add this title to their circulating collection rather than to the reference shelves.