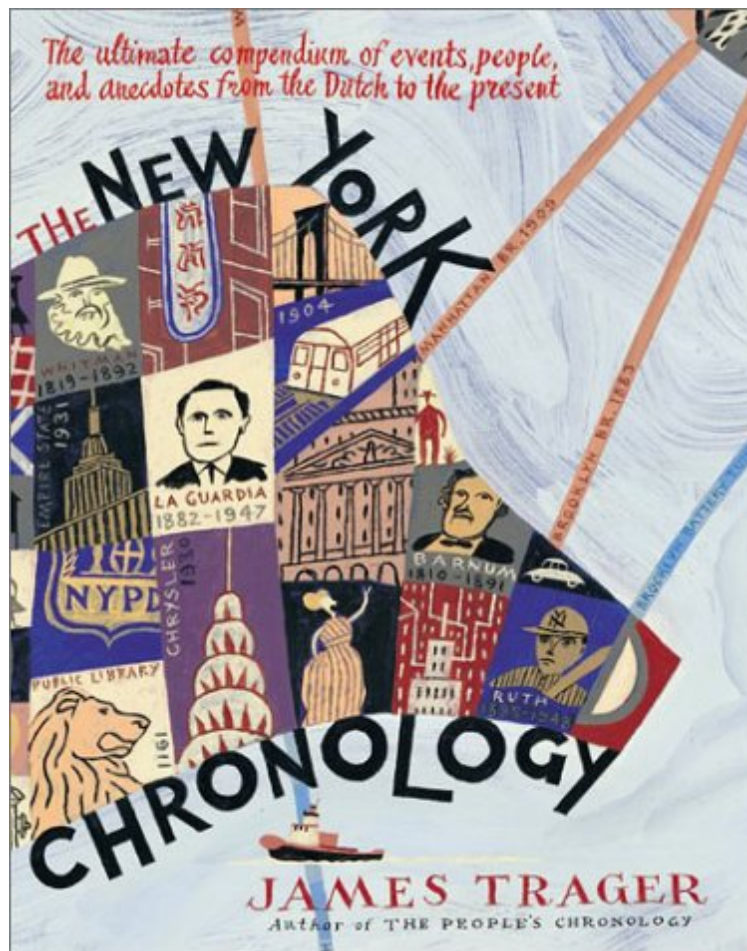


(Download) The New York Chronology: The Ultimate Compendium of Events, People, and Anecdotes from the Dutch to the Present

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James Trager

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James Trager : The New York Chronology: The Ultimate Compendium of Events, People, and Anecdotes from the Dutch to the Present before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The New York Chronology: The Ultimate Compendium of Events, People, and Anecdotes from the Dutch to the Present:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ambitious and all-inclusive history, Informative and visually interesting, a variety of charts, graphics help maintain interestBy JustMikeThis book was an ambitious undertaking and it presents over 400 years of information. I found it to be a very interesting, informative and well-documented book, full of historical facts and data that chronicles the development of New York City from the origin of the earth, to the time before white settlers appeared when the island now known as Manhattan was an Indian hunting ground, full

of rivers, hills, valleys and wildlife. The waterways were once filled with oysters and shellfish and the island was full of lush green vegetation and topographical variety. Its unique position and the physical characteristics of its harbor made it an ideal trading post for Indians and settlers alike. Even as early as late as the 1800s, much of the island remained farmland and was undeveloped. Several areas remained undeveloped until the middle of the twentieth century. It's almost hard to believe this city once had so much open space, that civilization basically stopped north of Canal Street or that Times Square was a remote outpost populated more by cattle and horses than people and that Greenwich Village was essentially farmland owned by a small handful of people at one time. Although the book does not get into all of these stories, it does a good job presenting the way the geography of the city changed over time. The book is full of illustrations, charts, and graphics that present a huge amount of interesting data. The graphics are visually appealing and help maintain the reader's interest, more than it would if it were presented in a monotonous text. I find myself referring to this book from time to time and am glad that I purchased it. I would purchase it again and recommend it to anyone interested in its subject matter. 6 of 6 people found the following review helpful.

Marvelous!...flaws and all By enubrius James Trager has been writing fascinating, unique, histories for a lot of years. I first encountered him through "The Food Book" (which has apparently transformed into "The Food Chronology") which offered an awesome compendium of food lore both simple and arcane. (I still get a kick out of reminding my friends that a lobster is really nothing more than a glorified cockroach!) I have used his "People's Chronology" as a bible on any number of writing projects from trivia contests to advertising copy. And now he has compiled "The New York Chronology", once again exhibiting a mind-boggling grasp of hard facts and fascinating trivia. Since the book runs over 900 double-columned pages, I haven't read all of it. And that's as it should be. Sure, you could read it as a straight narrative, but the real pleasure comes from opening it a random, reading one or two entries, and being enthralled enough to realize you've gone several pages beyond your original intent. However, in a compendium this big, and this full, some errors are bound to appear. While there have been two or three "facts" that I have been a bit skeptical about, (were Romney Brent and Nigel Bruce REALLY both born in Mexico?) there is at least one I know to be in error. The "movie" entry for 1943 lists the Loretta Young/Brian Aherne flick "A Night to Remember" as being about the sinking of the Titanic. While there was a British film of that name about that tragedy, the '43 film was a comedy/mystery taking place in Greenwich Village. As you can see, however, the "flaws" I've uncovered thus far are almost exclusively in entries about minor subjects. They should not keep anyone from buying, reading, and treasuring this marvelous labor of love! IMPORTANT UPDATE: 3 days later: Having delved more deeply into the chronology, I DO have to alert the reader to some more errors (alas!) Just at random, "The Boys From Syracuse" -the musical- was NOT based on the lives of the Shubert brothers (although the title was used for a book about them), it's based on "The Comedy of Errors". The ACTOR Mako was the star of "Pacific Overtures". He is not, and never has been, an ACTRESS (Thank God! Have you SEEN him? He's brilliant, but not very comely.) And, I seriously doubt that Otto Haebach wrote the lyrics to the title song in "Oklahoma". Mr. Trager knows a hell of a lot, but about show-biz, not so much. Nevertheless, I'll stand by my rating if only for the exhaustive work in the tome. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Useful if doing research. By Tess's Dad I found a lot of very useful information which I needed for research. This book covers so much in so little detail that many will find it a waste of time.

For a city like no other comes a book like no other. The New York Chronology tells the epic story of how a remote trading outpost and fishing village grew into the "world's capital" as we know it today. In tens of thousands of chronological entries, James Trager marches year by year through both the defining and incidental moments in the city's history, from the arrival of Florentine navigator Giovanni da Verrazano in 1524 to the sad closing of Ratner's Delicatessen on the Lower East Side "after 97 years of serving blintzes, kasha, latkes, and matzoh brei." With impeccable scholarship, humor, and an astonishing level of detail, Trager's information-packed entries straddle 32 separate categories that define this great metropolis. Turn to any year and you'll get a vivid sense of what life was like for New Yorkers at that time -- the political and financial developments that shaped their lives; the books, magazines, and newspapers they read; the restaurants, nightclubs, shows, and sporting events that entertained them; the fitful progress of their neighborhoods, schools, hospitals, public works, transportation systems, and so much more. Of course, New Yorkers themselves hold center stage, and The New York Chronology is loaded with eye-opening and colorful stories about its famous, infamous, and long-forgotten inhabitants. From society events and publicity stunts to scandals and murders, here are scores of offbeat tidbits that you simply won't find in a more conventional history. Handsomely illustrated with more than 130 photographs and drawings, it is an entertaining and essential book for New York lovers -- a homage as grand as the city itself.

From Publishers Weekly This exhaustive register lists New York happenings from the 1524 exploration of the Hudson River mouth by Giovanni da Verrazano to the 2002 closing of Ratner's Delicatessen on the Lower East Side. Trager, of previous chronology fame (he is also the author of The People's Chronology, The Food Chronology and The Women's Chronology), gathers here every political, cultural and financial event that "went into making New York New York." The concise but often surprisingly detailed entries appear chronologically and each is decorated with one

of 32 subject area hieroglyphs-like the cross-boned sword and quill that designates "political events" or the sadly appropriate ticking clock for "everyday life." Other subject areas include commerce, transportation, science, religion, crime, "food availability" and "theatre, film." For each year, the trivial shares the same page as the phenomenal. In 1908, for example, Riverside Avenue is renamed Riverside Drive and ferry traffic reaches its peak with 201 million passenger trips; in 2001, the World Trade Center towers collapse and Toys 'R' Us opens a new store "with a 60-foot-high Ferris wheel, 700 employees, and 110,000 square feet of space." Designed for casual browsing and specific searches (it includes an alphabetical index), this thorough reference is, in both detail and length, an ode to the city's greatness. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. As smart and know-it-all as New York itself. (Cindy Adams)Dazzling... a miracle of research, vision and wit. You cannot turn a page without coming upon nuggets of delight. (Anthony Lewis, author of Gideon's Trumpet)A towering work on a towering city. A most informative and valuable book. (Gay Talese, author of Unto the Sons)About the AuthorJames Trager has examined world history in The People's Chronology, culinary history in The Food Chronology, and women's history in The Women's Chronology. He is also the author of two histories of New York City, West of Fifth and Park Avenue: Street of Dreams. He has lived in Manhattan for more than fifty years.