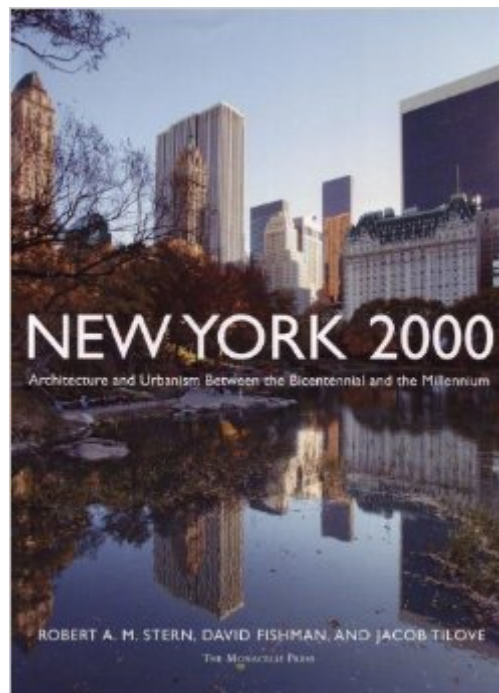


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New York 2000: Architecture And Urbanism Between The Bicentennial And The Millennium



Synopsis

Touted by Publisher's Weekly as "an unprecedented record," the new book in the New York series, *New York 2000*, is indeed an exceptional survey of this great city's architectural heritage. As the world's financial and cultural capital, New York demands the best in architectural design and balances the constant pressure to build with the need to preserve its historic fabric. Author Robert A. M. Stern and his colleagues trace the rise and fall of the real estate market, the impact of the designation of historic districts and new zoning on development, and the emergence of new commercial and residential centers. The survey is organized geographically, moving north from Lower Manhattan and covering the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, and Staten Island as well. *New York 2000* documents milestones in the city's architectural history over the past forty years—the development of Battery Park City, the rebirth of Harlem and Times Square, the creation of the cultural precinct around the new MoMA, and the reclaiming of the waterfront along the East and Hudson Rivers as recreational parkland—and celebrates the achievements of internationally recognized architects such as Sir Norman Foster, Cesar Pelli, Richard Meier, and Renzo Piano.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This mammoth 1500-page chronicle covers an astonishing number of issues pertaining to New York's architectural and urban development between 1975 and 2004. By its sheer size and range, some may say it truly reflects the City's unabashed mentality! Topics are organized geographically

and cover the five boroughs, though understandably the focus is placed essentially on Manhattan. In fact, many districts, such as Battery Park City, "MoMAland" or Times Square, are covered in such detail that the material could easily constitute a distinct publication. The authors' sources are numerous and draw notably on contemporary newspaper coverage, profuse quotations being provided. No specific methodology is mentioned however and the criteria leading to the choice of buildings included are not specified: size, cost, architectural value, media coverage? One of the co-authors was himself an important player on the New York development scene over the period covered. This situation is seamlessly dealt with, and his buildings are, at least to the eyes of a foreign reader, discussed as objectively as those of any other architect. Though this book is meant to be read, or at least referred to, and is in no way strictly destined for the coffee table, photographs are abundant, pertinent and sometimes even artistic. Surprisingly though, no map locating the buildings or even the areas discussed is provided, the authors assuming presumably readers to have an intimate knowledge of the City. The book is exceptionally well written and its prose per se provides very easy reading. Materially, it is however extremely heavy and cannot be read without resorting to a tabletop. Is this an omen for any possible future instalment _ New York 2020(?)

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