

URBAN NYS I

The Urban-Industrial Complex

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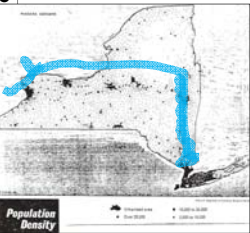
Urban NYS

- We will take the historical geographer's perspective.
- Focus on the locational aspects of towns and industry.
- Pick up in the **Settlement Sequence** in the middle of **Phase III: 1865-1945 Urban-Industrial Growth**

Phases of Settlement

Part III – 1865-1945

- **Axis of settlement spreads to Lake Erie.**
- New urban places sprout as **commercial centers** (*not farming centers*).
- Shift of people to cities as **industrial sector grows**.
- **Immigrants** are attracted by manufacturing jobs.
- **Railroads** become the chief form of transportation in 1870s.



Phases of Settlement

Part III – 1865-1945

- In the early 1900s, **small towns shrink as the cities grow.**
- **European immigration increases**, esp. in NYC.
- By 1920s, **autos replace the horse and wagon** as local conveyances.
- By 1940s, **motor vehicles dominate**:
 - trucks move products
 - automobiles allow people to live further from city centers (and their jobs)
 - suburbs are created

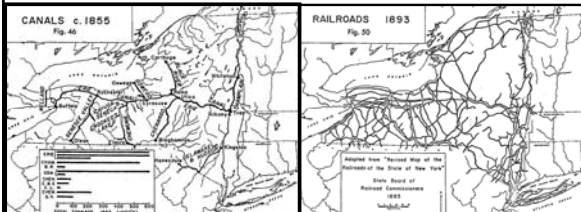
Urban-Economic Base

From the 1880s to the present, NYS's economic base changed from **agriculture** to **manufacturing** to the **service trades**.

The transportation network of roads, canals and railroads is among the best in the world.

Allowed for the greater concentration of people and industry.

Canals and Railroads in the 1800s



Easy transportation allowed all parts of NYS to be linked to either NYC or Buffalo. Two-thirds of all imports to the US and one-third of all exports passed through NYC.

Manufacturing

- The factory system of manufacturing focused the industry on cities.
- **Factory manufacturing was set to a specific site.**
 - It needed **workers**.
 - It needed access to **raw materials, power** (waterpower and coal), and **markets**.
 - It needed **financial backing** (lines of credit/loans/insurance)

Manufacturing, Commerce and Trade

- By the early 1900s, NYS was a leader in:
 - Steel production (Buffalo)
 - Clothing (NYC and Troy)
 - Machinery (Syracuse and Schenectady)
 - Paper manufacturing (Adirondacks)
- **The giants of industry**, (as Rockefeller, Astor, Carnegie, Harriman, Frisk, Morgan, and Vanderbilt) **amassed great wealth and lived in NYC.**

Manufacturing

Change to factory manufacturing saw:

- **The emergence of a new middle class:** factory workers had more disposable income and leisure time.
- **Changes in the role of family, gender and religion evolved.**
- **Fundamental changes in society, culture and politics resulted**, esp. in industrial cities.
- **In NYS these factors lead to the beginnings of women's rights, social reform, and worker's rights movements.**
- **Labor unions were formed;** protests and strikes occurred; labor leaders got involved with politics.

Labor and Social Reforms

The labor union movements were strongly supported in NYS.

Kate Mullany, a Troy- based laundry worker, started the first all-female Collar Laundry Union to protest worsening working conditions.

Labor leaders got involved in politics as a means to have favorable laws passed.

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Labor and Social Reforms

- **Social reform movements, especially those dealing with the ills of urban areas.**
- Working class neighborhoods grew near factories. They soon became crowded.
- Wealthy moved away from working districts.
- **NYC became the focus of the social reform movements.**
- **Jacob Riis** is a noted NYC activist.

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State Heritage Sites

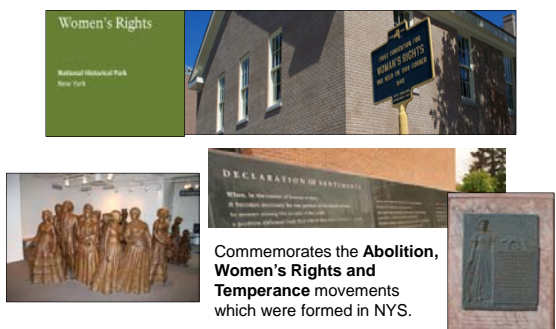
To ensure its history, preserve places of importance and document events, NYS established the Heritage Area System in 1982 .

There are 18 areas in the system, each focusing on a particular aspect of NYS's past.



NYS Parks & Recreation web site
<http://www.nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-preservation/heritage-areas.aspx>

Women's Rights NHP



Commemorates the **Abolition, Women's Rights and Temperance** movements which were formed in NYS.

Heritage Sites

- **1. Albany** *Business & Capital*
- **2. Buffalo** *Flowering of Culture*
- **3. Hudson-Mohawk – RiverSpark** *Labor & Industry*
- **4. Kingston** *Transportation*
- **5. Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt** *World's Oldest and Largest Concord Grape Region*
- **6. Long Island North Shore** *North Shore Estates*
- **7. Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor** *Numerous Landscapes along an Historic Route.*
- **8. New York City - Harbor Park** *Maritime Trade & Immigration*
- **9. Ossining** *Reform Movements*

Heritage Sites

- **10. Rochester - High Falls** *Natural Environment*
- **11. Sackets Harbor** *Defense*
- **12. Saratoga Springs** *Natural Environment*
- **13. Schenectady** *Labor & Industry*
- **14. Seneca Falls** *The Righteous Spirit of Reform and Women's Activism*
- **15. Susquehanna** *Immigration & Migration and Labor & Industry*
- **16. Syracuse** *Transportation and Business & Capital*
- **17. Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor** *Pioneers, Social Reform, and Industrial Progress*
- **18. Whitehall** *Defense*