

The Nature of Urban New York

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1

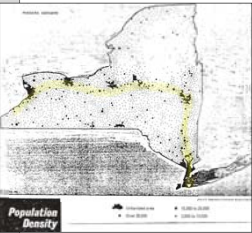
Changing Nature of Settlement in NYS

- Focus is on the locational aspects of towns and industry and movement of people to the cities.
- ✓ Pick up in the **Settlement Sequence** in the middle of **Phase III: 1865-1945 Urban-Industrial Growth** (see handout)
- ✓ Finish reading all chapters of Stradling book.

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**.
- **Skilled immigrants** are attracted by manufacturing jobs.
- **Railroads** become the chief form of transportation in 1870s.



Phases of Settlement

Part III – 1865-1945

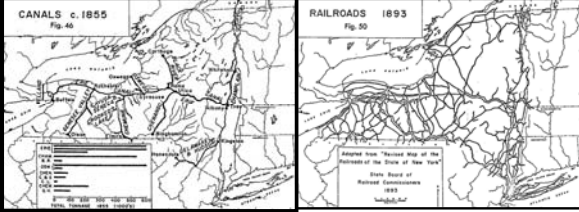
- In the early 1900s, **small towns shrink as the cities grow.**
- **Eur. immigration increases.**
- By 1920s, **autos replace the horse and wagon** as local conveyances.
- By 1940s, **motor cars dominate**:
 - trucks move products
 - automobiles allow people to live further from city centers (and their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



Urban-Economic Base

- ❖ NYS's economic base changed from **agriculture** to **manufacturing** to the **service trades** from the 1880s to the present.
- ❖ Historically the state's transportation network (roads, canals and railroads) was among the best in the world.
 - This allowed for the greater concentration of people and industry.
 - Encouraged economic activity and allowed a profit to be made (money-oriented economy).


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** focused industry on cities.
- ❖ **Factory manufacturing is set to a specific site.**
 - *What does a manufacturing activity need?*
 - It needs **workers**.
 - It needs **access** to raw materials, power and markets.
 - It needs **financial backing** (lines of credit/loans/insurance).



Garment Factory
Troy




Factory District
Brooklyn



Mill District
City of Niagara Falls

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 amassed great wealth and lived in NYC. Who were they?**
 - They included Rockefeller, Astor, Carnegie, Harriman, Frisk, Morgan, and Vanderbilt.



Manufacturing and Social Order

Change to factory manufacturing saw:

- a. **The emergence of a new middle class:** factory workers had more disposable income and leisure time.
- b. **Changes in the social order evolved:** the roles of family, gender and religion.
- c. **Fundamental changes in society, culture and politics resulted,** esp. in industrial cities.
- d. **Labor unions were formed;** protests and strikes occurred; law-makers were lobbied; unions became powerful politically.
- e. **In NYS these factors lead to the beginnings of the women's rights, social reform, and worker's rights movements.**

Labor and Social Reforms

The labor union movements were strongly supported in NYS.

Kate Mullany, a Troy-based laundry worker in 1860s, started the first all-female "**Female Collar Laundry Union**" to protest poor working conditions.

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



10

Labor and Social Reforms

- **Social reform movements**, esp. those dealing with the ills of urban areas, **were started in NYS.**
- **Working class neighborhoods grew near factories.** They soon became crowded and polluted. Living conditions were bad.
- **Wealthy moved away from working districts.**
- **NYC became the focus of the social reform movements**, esp. housing and social welfare. **Jacob Riis** is a noted NYC activist.



LOWER EAST SIDE
TENEMENT
MUSEUM






New York City in 1900


Women's Rights NHP


Women's Rights

National Historical Park
New York




It commemorates the **first Women's Rights Convention** held in **Seneca Falls, NY** in 1848 and tells the story of struggles for civil rights, human rights, and equality.






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



State Heritage Sites

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

There are 20 areas in the system, each focusing on a particular aspect of NYS's past.



Brochure: <http://parks.ny.gov/historic-preservation/documents/HeritageAreasBrochure.pdf>
 NYS Parks & Recreation web site <http://www.nysparks.state.ny.us/historic-preservation/heritage-areas.aspx>

Heritage Sites

1. **Albany** *Business & Capital*
2. **Buffalo** *Flowering of Culture*
3. **Buffalo African-American Heritage Corridor**
4. **Hudson-Mohawk – RiverSpark** *Labor & Industry*
5. **Kingston** *Transportation*
6. **Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt** *World's Oldest and Largest Concord Grape Region*
7. **Long Island North Shore** *North Shore Estates*
8. **Mohawk Valley Heritage Corridor** *Numerous Landscapes along an Historic Route.*
9. **New York City - Harbor Park** *Maritime Trade & Immigration*
10. **Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Corridor** *Abolitionist movement and escape route to Canada*

Heritage Sites

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