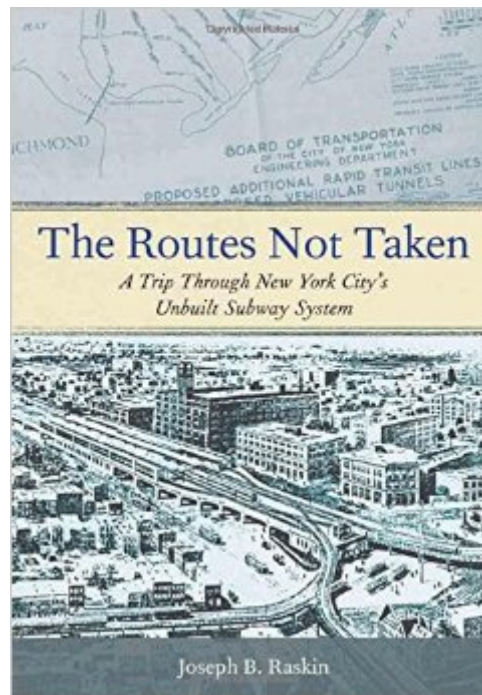


The book was found

The Routes Not Taken: A Trip Through New York City's Unbuilt Subway System



Synopsis

Delves deep into the underbelly of the NYC subway system to reveal the tunnels and stations that might have been. Robert A. Van Wyck, mayor of the greater city of New York, broke ground for the first subway line by City Hall on March 24, 1900. It took four years, six months, and twenty-three days to build the line from City Hall to West 145th Street in Harlem. Things rarely went that quickly ever again. *The Routes Not Taken* explores the often dramatic stories behind the unbuilt or unfinished subway lines, shedding light on a significant part of New York City's history that has been almost completely ignored until now. Home to one of the world's largest subway systems, New York City made constant efforts to expand its underground labyrinth, efforts that were often met with unexpected obstacles: financial shortfalls, clashing agendas of mayors and borough presidents, battles with local community groups, and much more. After discovering a copy of the 1929 subway expansion map, author Joseph Raskin began his own investigation into the city's underbelly. Using research from libraries, historical societies, and transit agencies throughout the New York metropolitan area, Raskin provides a fascinating history of the Big Apple's unfinished business that until now has been only tantalizing stories retold by public-transit experts. *The Routes Not Taken* sheds light on the tunnels and stations that were completed for lines that were never fulfilled: the efforts to expand the Hudson tubes into a fullfledged subway; the Flushing line, and why it never made it past Flushing; a platform underneath Brooklyn's Nevins Street station that has remained unused for more than a century; and the 2nd Avenue line long the symbol of dashed dreams deferred countless times since the original plans were presented in 1929. Raskin also reveals the figures and personalities involved, including why Fiorello LaGuardia could not grasp the importance of subway lines and why Robert Moses found them to be old and boring. By focusing on the unbuilt lines, Raskin illustrates how the existing subway system is actually a Herculean feat of countless political compromises. Filled with illustrations of the extravagant expansion plans, *The Routes Not Taken* provides an enduring contribution to the transportation history of New York City.

Book Information

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: Fordham University Press; 1st edition (December 1, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823253694

ISBN-13: 978-0823253692

Product Dimensions: 10.1 x 1 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (27 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #790,822 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #88 in Â Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Mass Transit #305 in Â Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > History > Railroads #485 in Â Books > Engineering & Transportation > Transportation > Railroads

Customer Reviews

Thereâ™s a building at 2nd Avenue and 33rd street with a plaza in front, itâ™s open to the public and very popular with smokers. I never could figure out why anyone would waste the space on a plaza; surely the owners must have lost money on the unused space. But according to this book, the zoning rules required the building to have the plaza; the city wanted to use it for a subway entrance! The building was from the 1970â™s, a time when Mayor Lindsay and Governor Rockefeller had planned the 2nd Avenue Subway line, all the way to downtown Manhattan. It would be almost 40 years before it was built, a delay that resulted from a combination of financial troubles and a fractured city government. Meanwhile, the plaza remains. Joseph Raskin has opened a big can of worms with this book. He brings to light the massive number of subway lines that were planned throughout the area but stayed just that; plans and nothing more. Never mind the 2nd Avenue subway line, thatâ™s been in the works for years. Iâ™m taking about a subway line that wouldâ™ve run all the way to the East Bronx. If youâ™ve ever been there (which is unlikely unless you live there) youâ™ll know you canâ™t get there without a car. There was even a plan to build a subway line straight across the city to the Hudson River. Raskinâ™s research for this book places most of the blame on Mayors who didnâ™t care for the subway that much. As the city expanded outward, there was a push to build more roadways for the cars and less emphasis on public transport. And what could exemplify the âœsubways donâ™t countâ• attitude like the great Robert Moses, who wrecked the Bronx with his Cross Bronx Expressway? Perhaps the blame should fall on the people as well; more and more New Yorkers drank the cool aid about the âœhouse and carâ• dream after WWII.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Routes Not Taken: A Trip Through New York City's Unbuilt Subway System Pop-Up NYC Map by VanDam - City Street Map of New York City, New York - Laminated folding pocket size city travel and subway map, 2016 Edition (Pop-Up Map) Helvetica and the New York City Subway System: The True (Maybe) Story (MIT Press) The New York Times Monday Through Friday Easy to Tough

Crossword Puzzles: 50 Puzzles from the Pages of The New York Times (New York Times Crossword Puzzles) Subway Adventure Guide: New York City: To the End of the Line New York City Subway Trains: 12 Classic Punch and Build Trains World Cruising Routes: 7th edition: 1000 Sailing Routes In All Oceans Of The World (World Cruising Series) Under the Sidewalks of New York: The Story of the Greatest Subway System in the World The New York Times Acrostic Puzzles Volume 9: 50 Challenging Acrostics from the Pages of The New York Times (New York Times Acrostic Crosswords) Corruption and Racketeering in the New York City Construction Industry: The Final Report of the New York State Organized Crime Taskforce The Absolute Beginner's Guide to the New York Subway Streetwise Manhattan Bus Subway Map - Laminated Metro Map of Manhattan, New York - Pocket Size (Streetwise Maps) Tunneling to the Future: The Story of the Great Subway Expansion That Saved New York Taken by Two (Taken and Torn Book 1) The Man Who Walked Through Time: The Story of the First Trip Afoot Through the Grand Canyon Retire in New York City: Even if You're Not Rich Streetwise Paris Metro Map - Laminated Subway Paris Map & RER System for Travel - Pocket Size The New York Times Tons of Puns Crosswords: 75 Punny Puzzles from the Pages of The New York Times The New York Times Guide to the Best 1,000 Movies Ever Made (Film Critics of the New York Times) The New York Times Supersized Book of Sunday Crosswords: 500 Puzzles (New York Times Crossword Puzzles)

[Dmca](#)