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presents

## From Mannahatta to Manhattan Four Centuries In the Life of An Island City

A panel of New York City authors and experts discusses the city's evolution, highlighting the connections between landscape ecology, infrastructure investment, and real estate, that continue to shape patterns of development today.



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- **Sam Roberts (Moderator)**
- **Jason M. Barr**
- **Gerard Koepfel**
- **Eric W. Sanderson**


**Tuesday, January 17, 2017**  
**6:30 PM on the Sixth Floor**

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### Moderator:

**Sam Roberts** covers urban affairs and writes obituaries for the *New York Times* and is the host of *The New York Times Close Up* on NY1 News. He is the author of *A History of New York in 101 Objects*, *The Brother: The Untold Story of the Rosenberg Case*, *Only in New York*, and other books.



### Panelists:

**Jason M. Barr** is an Associate Professor of Economics at Rutgers University-Newark. He is the author of *Building the Skyline: The Birth and Growth of Manhattan's Skyscrapers* (Oxford, 2016). He is one of the leading scholars on skyscraper economics. His research has been discussed widely in the media, including in the *New York Times*, *The Economist*, National Public Radio, *The Washington Post*, and *The New York Observer*. He has taught economics at Rutgers University-Newark, Dartmouth College, and Columbia University. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from Cornell University and a Ph.D. from Columbia University.



Website: <http://www.buildingtheskyline.org>

**Gerard Koepfel** is the author of *Water for Gotham: A History*, *Bond of Union: Building the Erie Canal and the American Empire*, and *City on a Grid: How New York Became New York*. He was an associate editor of the second edition of *The Encyclopedia of New York City*, and has contributed to numerous other books. His writing on various aspects of New York history and infrastructure also appears in newspapers, magazines, journals, museum exhibits, and on historical signage in city parks. Before writing history, he was a journalist, primarily as an editor at CBS News. He was born on the Manhattan grid and for many years has lived a few blocks in from its southern boundary.



Website: <http://gerardkoepfel.com>

**Eric W. Sanderson** is a Senior Conservation Ecologist at the Wildlife Conservation Society. He received his Ph.D. in ecology from the University of California, Davis, in 1998. He has edited three scientific volumes and written numerous scientific papers. His work has been featured in the *New York Times*, *National Geographic Magazine*, CNN, NPR, and *The New Yorker*. In 2009 he published a book, *Mannahatta: A Natural History of New York City*, illustrated by Markley Boyer. From May 20 – October 12, 2009, he curated an exhibition based on the Mannahatta Project on display at the Museum of the City of New York. His most recent book is *Terra Nova: The New World After Oil, Cars, and Suburbs*, published in 2013 by Abrams Books. He is currently working on the Welikia Project ([welikia.org](http://welikia.org)) about the historical ecology of Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx and Staten Island.



Elevators access the Sixth Floor after 6 PM

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