

introduction

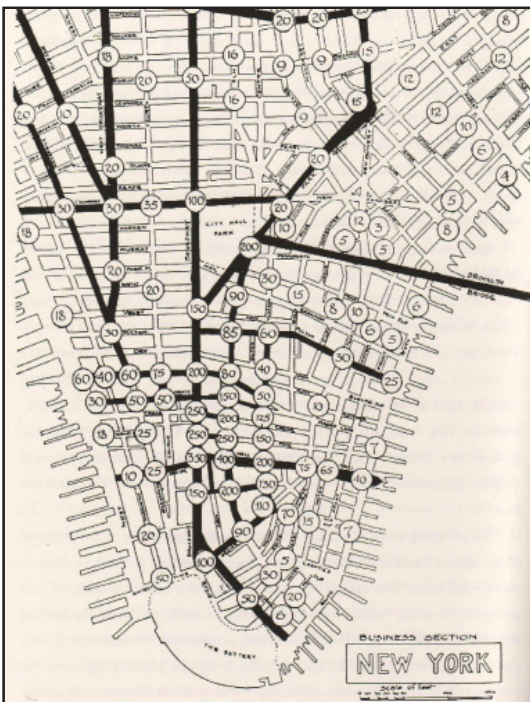


THE SKYSCRAPER MUSEUM, located in Battery Park City in lower Manhattan, celebrates the high-rise history of New York and examines the forces and individuals that have shaped the city's successive skylines.

Dedicated to progressive and innovative education, the Museum has developed this **DBQ DOSSIER** as a teaching tool that explores architecture and urban development through a wide range of materials from the Museum's collection and other historical documents that illuminate the economic boom of the 1920s and the contrasting Depression era.

The materials are organized to include—

- **An image document**, also offered for individual download online, these curated DOSSIERS of images together illustrate a given theme in New York and U.S. history
- **A student guide** written in the style of a Regents' document-based question, each image from the DOSSIER is presented on a single worksheet, complete with a straightforward explanation and questions that will help students understand the main idea of the document. Important: For images that appear to small on student sheet, distribute enlarged images individually or project on overhead screen.
- **A teacher's guide** providing useful background information, ideas to scaffold each image for struggling students, and sample student pages with completed questions



DBQ DOSSIER 1 is designed to help students understand and evaluate the economic factors and land use policies that influence the construction of skyscrapers and the development of dense central business districts such as lower Manhattan and Midtown.

DBQ DOSSIER 2 focuses on the economic cycles of “boom and bust” of the “Roaring Twenties” and the Great Depression and the dramatic impact of speculative real estate investment... on the New York skyline.

Though each DOSSIER is tied together by a single theme and composed in a traditional DBQ format, teachers may prefer using the images or the worksheet pages independently to enhance their own curriculum. The *Teaching Tools* package contains ideas for differentiated, cooperative activities that can be used with every DOSSIER and will help students build their image analysis and critical thinking skills. Used as pre-visit activities, they also build understanding and engagement with the exhibitions in our lower Manhattan gallery space.