



Purpose Established by the Public Works Historical Society, the Abel Wolman Award recognizes the single best new book published in the field of public works history. This award is intended to provide encouragement and recognition to historians whose research and publications have made outstanding contributions to the history of public works.

Eligibility Books published in the prior calendar year covering one or more public works topics are eligible. Public works is defined as the physical structures and facilities that are developed, owned, and operated by public agencies to house governmental functions and provide water, power, waste disposal, transportation, and similar public services.

Selection The selection committee is comprised of professional historians and public works practitioners appointed by the Public Works Historical Society. The criteria used in the selection process include:

- academic significance to the historical community,
- practical application to the public works profession,
- dissemination of information not provided by other means
- unique or innovative presentation of topic.

Nomination Process Individual authors or their publishers may submit a book for consideration. Nomination submittals must include six copies of the publication and any supporting documentation, along with the nomination form. Materials should be sent to APWA National. Materials submitted in support of nomination will not be returned.

Deadline March 1, 2010

Presentation The award is presented to the author at the Society's annual luncheon held in conjunction with the APWA International Public Works Congress & Exposition.

- Former Recipients**
- 2009** *Paving the Way: New York Road Building the American State 1880-1956* by Michael R. Fein
- 2008** *Building Louisiana: The Legacy of the Public Works Administration* by Robert D. Leighninger, Jr.
- 2007** *Building New Deal Liberalism: The Political Economy of Public Works, 1933–1956* by Jason Scott Smith
- 2006** *Shock Cities: The Environmental Transformation and Reform of Manchester and Chicago* by Harold L. Platt
- 2005** *Hazardous Metropolis: Flooding and Urban Ecology in Los Angeles* by Jared Orsi
- 2004** *Building Gotham: Civic Culture & Public Policy in New York City 1898–1938* by Keith D. Revell
- 2003** *Water and American Government* by Donald J. Pisani
- 2002** *Empire on the Hudson: Entrepreneurial Vision and Political Power at the Port of New York Authority* by James W. Doig
- 2001** *The Sanitary City* by Martin V. Melosi
- 2000** *Waste and Want: A Social History of Trash* by Susan Strasser
- 1999** *Bay Cities and Water Politics: The Battle For Resources in Boston and Oakland* by Sarah S. Elkind
- 1998** *Water-Evolution of Water Supply and Sanitation in Finland from the mid 1800s to 2000* by Dr. Tapio S. Katko