THE
AMERICAN
SKYSCRAPER
Cultural Histories

Edited by
Roberta Moudry
Contents

List of Illustrations .......................... page vii
List of Contributors .......................... xi
Acknowledgments .............................. xv

Introduction ................................. 1
Roberta Moudry

PART ONE. MAKERS AND USERS

1 The Beaux-Arts Architect and the Skyscraper: Cass Gilbert, the Professional Engineer, and the Rationalization of Construction in Chicago and New York .................. 19
Gail Fenske

2 Law Makes Order: The Search for Ensemble in the Skyscraper City, 1890–1930 .............. 38
Keith D. Revell

3 The Female “Souls of the Skyscraper” ................................................................. 63
Lisa M. Fine

PART TWO. IN THE IMAGE OF THE CLIENT

4 Type and Building Type: Newspaper/Office Buildings in Nineteenth-Century New York .......................................................... 85
Lee E. Gray

Edward W. Wolner

6 The Corporate and the Civic: Metropolitan Life’s Home Office Building .......................... 120
Roberta Moudry

7 The Chicago Tribune Tower Competition: Publicity Imagines Community .................. 147
Katherine Solomonson
### PART THREE. URBAN CONTEXTS

8  The Heights and Depths of Urbanism: Fifth Avenue and the Creative Destruction of Manhattan  
   Max Page  
   165

9  Built Languages of Class: Skyscrapers and Labor Protest in Victorian Public Space  
   Sarah Watts  
   185

10 The Skyscraper Ensemble in Its Urban Context: Rockefeller Center  
    Carol Herselle Krinsky  
    201

### PART FOUR. POPULAR CULTURE

11 The Shadow of the Skyscraper: Urban Photography and Metropolitan Irrationalism in the Stieglitz Circle  
   Antonello Frongia  
   217

12 The Skyscraper, Gender, and Mental Life: Sophie Treadwell's Play *Machinal* of 1928  
   Merrill Schleier  
   234

13 The Sublime and the Skyline: The New York Skyscraper  
   David E. Nye  
   255

*Selected Bibliography*  
*Index*  
271  
275