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0521828058 - Building New Deal Liberalism: The Political Economy of Public Works,

1933-1956

Jason Scott Smith

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Building New Deal Liberalism

The Political Economy of Public Works, 1933-1956

This book provides the first historical study of New Deal public works programs and their role in transforming the American economy, landscape, and political system during the twentieth century. Reconstructing the story of how reformers used public authority to reshape the nation, Jason Scott Smith argues that the New Deal produced a revolution in state-sponsored economic development. The scale and scope of this dramatic federal investment in infrastructure laid crucial foundations – sometimes literally – for postwar growth, presaging the national highways and the military-industrial complex. This impressive and exhaustively researched analysis underscores the importance of the New Deal in comprehending political and economic change in modern America by placing political economy at the center of the “new political history.” Drawing on a remarkable range of sources, Smith provides a groundbreaking reinterpretation of the relationship between the New Deal’s welfare state and American liberalism.

Jason Scott Smith is an assistant professor of history at the University of New Mexico. He previously held a Mellon Fellowship in American Studies at Cornell University, where he was a visiting assistant professor in the department of history and the department of government. In 2001–02 he was the Harvard-Newcomen Fellow at the Harvard Business School, where he taught courses on the history of capitalism. His work has appeared in a number of journals, including the *Journal of Social History*, *Pacific Historical Review*, *Reviews in American History*, and the *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*.

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*The Political Economy of Public Works,
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JASON SCOTT SMITH

University of New Mexico



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Common Abbreviations in Text and Notes

Organizations

ACA	Advisory Committee on Allotments
AALL	American Association for Labor Legislation
AFL	American Federation of Labor
AGC	Associated General Contractors of America
CCC	Civilian Conservation Corps
CWA	Civil Works Administration
ERCA	Emergency Relief and Construction Act
FERA	Federal Emergency Relief Administration
FWA	Federal Works Agency
GSA	General Services Administration
NIRA	National Industrial Recovery Act
NPB	National Planning Board
NRA	National Recovery Administration
NRPB	National Resources Planning Board
PECE	President's Emergency Committee for Employment
PWA	Public Works Administration
PWR	Public Works Reserve
RFC	Reconstruction Finance Corporation
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority
WRA	War Relocation Authority
WCCA	Wartime Civilian Control Administration
WPA	Works Progress Administration (after 1939, Work Projects Administration)

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Common Abbreviations

Archives

FDRL

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

OF Official File

PPF President's Personal File

PSF President's Secretary's File

JERS

Japanese American Evacuation and Resettlement
Records

LC

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

NA

National Archives, Washington, D.C.

NA-College Park

National Archives, College Park, Maryland

RG

Record Group

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