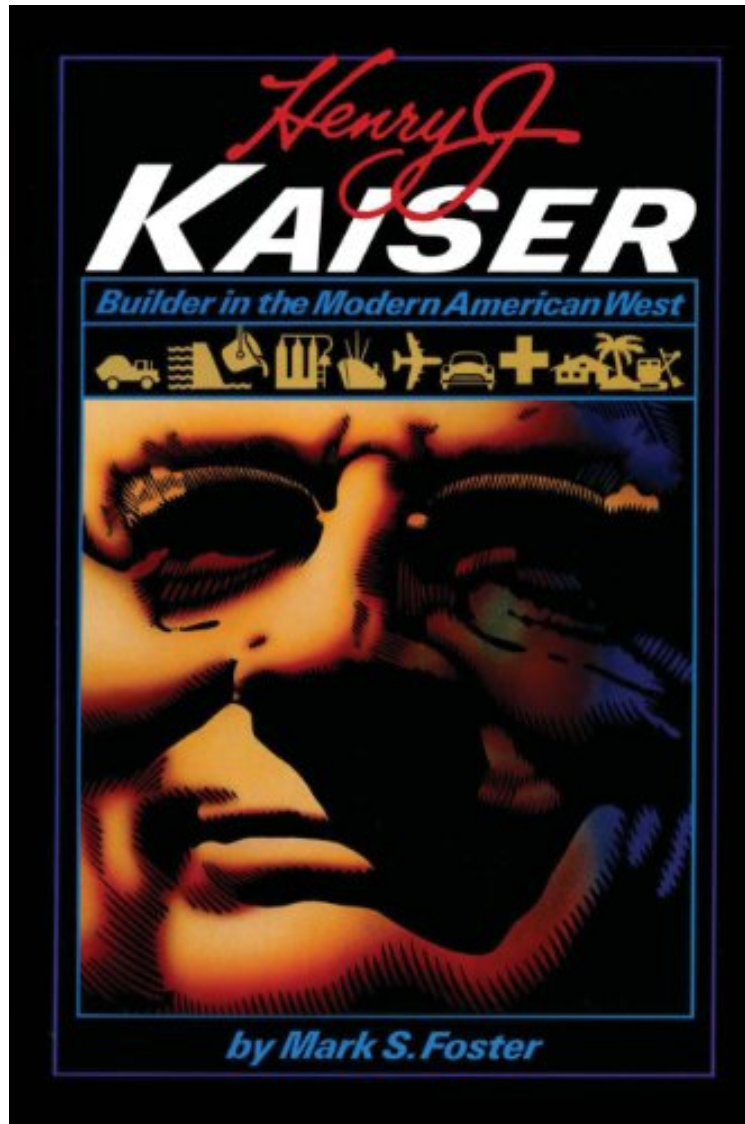


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Henry J. Kaiser: Builder in the Modern American West (American Studies)

Mark S. Foster

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Mark S. Foster : Henry J. Kaiser: Builder in the Modern American West (American Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Henry J. Kaiser: Builder in the Modern American West (American Studies):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Westward Ho !!By Steve CooperKaiser could not have built all that we have had he lived today. Surmounted so many, many obstacles without a college degree. Basically single mindedly brought the Western states into what it is today.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Service and

Great Book for those who want to ...By Sam3I have read and purchased three of these for others!! Good Service and Great Book for those who want to know some great history in our nation!!0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerAn exceptional story of an exceptional man.

In the 1940s Henry J. Kaiser was a household name, as familiar then as Warren Buffett and Donald Trump are now. Like a Horatio Alger hero, Kaiser rose from lower-middle-class origins to become an enormously wealthy entrepreneur, building roads, bridges, dams, and housing. He established giant businesses in cement, aluminum, chemicals, steel, health care, and tourism. During World War II, his companies built cargo planes and Liberty ships. After the war, he manufactured the Kaiser-Frazer automobile. Along the way, he also became a major force in the development of the western United States, including Hawaii. Henry J. Kaiser: Builder in the Modern American West is the first biography of this remarkable man. Drawing on a wealth of archival material never before utilized, Mark Foster paints an evenhanded portrait of a man of driving ambition and integrity, perhaps the ultimate "can-do" capitalist. He covers Kaiser's entire life (1882ndash;1967), emphasizing many business ventures. He demonstrates that Kaiser was the prototypical "frontier" entrepreneur who often used government and union support to tame the "wilderness." Though today the Kaiser industries are no longer under family management, the Kaiser legacy remains great. Kaiser played a major role in building the Hoover, Bonneville, Grand Coulee, and Shasta dams. The Kaiser-Permanente Medical Care Program still provides comprehensive health care for millions of subscribers. Kaiser-planned communities remain in Los Angeles; San Francisco; Portland, Oregon; and Boulder City, Nevada. Kaiser Engineers was actively engaged in hundreds of huge construction jobs across the nation and around the world. U.S. and business historians, scholars of the modern West, and general readers will all find much to absorb them in this well-written biography.

From Library Journal Kaiser (1882-1967) was a captain of industry whose playing field spanned many sectors of the American economy--dam and road building, shipbuilding, steel, aviation, and more. His standing as a lesser-known in a business pantheon that would include such names as Ford and Carnegie makes this work of some scholarly importance. With emphasis on Kaiser's activities in the American West, this first published biography is a painstaking work of research. However, for the average reader, especially one out of touch with Kaiser's most innovative era (1930s and 1940s), the translation from reams of research to text loses excitement. Academic and comprehensive business or American studies collections should consider.- David M. Turkalo, Social Law Lib., Boston Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Mark S. Foster is Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Colorado at Denver.