



## Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America

By Ann Norton Greene

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

**Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America** By Ann Norton Greene

Historians have long assumed that new industrial machines and power sources eliminated work animals from nineteenth-century America, yet a bird's-eye view of nineteenth-century society would show millions of horses supplying the energy necessary for industrial development. Horses were ubiquitous in cities and on farms, providing power for transportation, construction, manufacturing, and agriculture. On Civil War battlefields, thousands of horses labored and died for the Union and the Confederacy hauling wagons and mechanized weaponry.

The innovations that brought machinery to the forefront of American society made horses the prime movers of these machines for most of the nineteenth century. Mechanization actually increased the need for horsepower by expanding the range of tasks requiring it. Indeed, the single most significant energy transition of the antebellum era may have been the dramatic expansion in the use of living, breathing horses as a power technology in the development of industrial America.

Ann Greene argues for recognition of horses' critical contribution to the history of American energy and the rise of American industrial power, and a new understanding of the reasons for their replacement as prime movers. Rather than a result of "inevitable" technological change, it was Americans' social and political choices about power consumption that sealed this animal's fate. The rise and fall of the workhorse was defined by the kinds of choices that Americans made and would continue to make?choices that emphasized individual mobility and autonomy, and assumed, above all, abundant energy resources.

 [Download Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial Ame ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial A ...pdf](#)



# **Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America**

*By Ann Norton Greene*

## **Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene**

Historians have long assumed that new industrial machines and power sources eliminated work animals from nineteenth-century America, yet a bird's-eye view of nineteenth-century society would show millions of horses supplying the energy necessary for industrial development. Horses were ubiquitous in cities and on farms, providing power for transportation, construction, manufacturing, and agriculture. On Civil War battlefields, thousands of horses labored and died for the Union and the Confederacy hauling wagons and mechanized weaponry.

The innovations that brought machinery to the forefront of American society made horses the prime movers of these machines for most of the nineteenth century. Mechanization actually increased the need for horsepower by expanding the range of tasks requiring it. Indeed, the single most significant energy transition of the antebellum era may have been the dramatic expansion in the use of living, breathing horses as a power technology in the development of industrial America.

Ann Greene argues for recognition of horses' critical contribution to the history of American energy and the rise of American industrial power, and a new understanding of the reasons for their replacement as prime movers. Rather than a result of "inevitable" technological change, it was Americans' social and political choices about power consumption that sealed this animal's fate. The rise and fall of the workhorse was defined by the kinds of choices that Americans made and would continue to make?choices that emphasized individual mobility and autonomy, and assumed, above all, abundant energy resources.

## **Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #1148287 in Books
- Brand: Brand: Harvard University Press
- Published on: 2008-11-30
- Released on: 2008-09-22
- Ingredients: Example Ingredients
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.48" h x 1.11" w x 5.84" l, 1.14 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 336 pages



[Download Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial Ame ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial A ...pdf](#)



---

## Download and Read Free Online Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene

---

### Editorial Review

#### Review

A lively parade of horses and the people who worked with them fills this rich portrait of living things functioning as machines. By focusing on horsepower and horse culture as energy technologies, Greene tells a fresh and fascinating story. (Susan D. Jones, University of Minnesota)

An exceptional book that helps us understand the full dimensions of the working horse's contributions to American society. (Joel A. Tarr, co-author, *The Horse in the City: Living Machines in the 19th Century*)

Horses At Work is an important contribution to the histories of both urban and rural America. Greene's deep understanding of the animals themselves adds a crucial dimension to the fascinating story she tells. (Katherine C. Grier, University of Delaware)

Greene explains the paradoxical thriving of the 19th-century horse with a pleasing balance of narrative analysis and colorful detail. (Caleb Crain *New York Times Book Review* 2008-11-30)

#### About the Author

Ann Norton Greene is a Lecturer and Administrator in the Department of History and Sociology of Science at the University of Pennsylvania.

### Users Review

#### From reader reviews:

##### Gertrude Barrett:

What do you with regards to book? It is not important along with you? Or just adding material when you need something to explain what the one you have problem? How about your extra time? Or are you busy person? If you don't have spare time to try and do others business, it is make one feel bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? Everyone has many questions above. They have to answer that question because just their can do which. It said that about e-book. Book is familiar on every person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on guardería until university need this specific Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America to read.

##### Alice Ybarra:

This book untitled Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America to be one of several books in which best seller in this year, here is because when you read this guide you can get a lot of benefit on it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book store or you can order it through online. The publisher with this book sells the e-book too. It makes you more easily to read this book, because you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to your account to past this book from your list.

**Julio Keith:**

Reading a book to become new life style in this 12 months; every people loves to study a book. When you examine a book you can get a lots of benefit. When you read guides, you can improve your knowledge, since book has a lot of information onto it. The information that you will get depend on what sorts of book that you have read. If you need to get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you act like you want to entertain yourself look for a fiction books, these kinds of us novel, comics, along with soon. The Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America provide you with new experience in reading a book.

**Dale Eich:**

Beside this Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America in your phone, it might give you a way to get nearer to the new knowledge or facts. The information and the knowledge you might got here is fresh in the oven so don't always be worry if you feel like an older people live in narrow village. It is good thing to have Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America because this book offers to you personally readable information. Do you oftentimes have book but you seldom get what it's about. Oh come on, that wil happen if you have this in the hand. The Enjoyable set up here cannot be questionable, including treasuring beautiful island. So do you still want to miss it? Find this book along with read it from now!

**Download and Read Online Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene #BC9WPTH0XMF**

## **Read Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene for online ebook**

Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene books to read online.

### **Online Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene ebook PDF download**

**Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene Doc**

**Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene MobiPocket**

**Horses at Work: Harnessing Power in Industrial America By Ann Norton Greene EPub**