

Westinghouse Statue Project Committee Schenectady, New York

5 years ago, citizens erected two life size statues of Thomas Edison and Charles Steinmetz along Erie Boulevard, Schenectady. This was done so that our citizens would never forget the great heritage that we have here since the early days of creating and harnessing electricity. But the story has not been finished.

To better tell the story we are now erecting a larger-than-life-sized statue of local citizen, inventor, entrepreneur and philanthropist, George Westinghouse, Jr. We have raised most of the money necessary to sculpt, cast, erect, light, landscape and tell the story of George Jr.

If you would like to be a part of this rewarding project remembering a man who forever shaped our world, send your tax-deductible donation to **"The Albany Barn" (501(c)3) to 400 Craig St., Schenectady, NY 12307 attn: McCauley Cannizzo, memo "Westinghouse Statue"**.

(1) Donations of \$2500+ will receive a 1/12 bronze maquette of the Westinghouse statue on a wooden base.



(2) For donation of \$250, an autographed book by local author Bill Patrick Metrofix.

Here is what author Bill Patrick states about his book:

METROFIX

THE COMBATIVE COMEBACK OF A COMPANY TOWN

[About the Author](#) [About the Book](#) [Gallery](#)

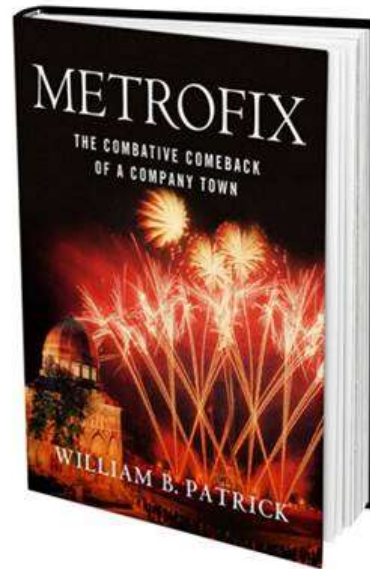
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How do you fix a city?

Metrofix: The Combative Comeback of a Company Town shows what went right and what went wrong when General Electric moved most of its businesses out of Schenectady, New York. Between 1960 and 2000, this company town would lose 30,000 residents, and like so many other cities in post-industrial America, faced overwhelming forces that pushed it toward imminent ruin.

With historic photos, deeply-researched details, and thought-provoking portraits of some of its most dynamic citizens, *Metrofix* is an inspirational story that shows how hundreds of dedicated citizens pulled their city back from the brink of disaster and did, in fact, change their world.

[Learn More](#)



George Westinghouse, Jr.

An inventor and industrial giant, was born in Central Bridge, Schoharie County, October 6, 1846, and moved to Schenectady as a young boy. The seventh child of George Westinghouse, Sr., George Jr. left home in 1863 to fight in the Civil War. His machinery shop experience made him invaluable to the Navy, where he was an engineer on steam gunboats.

After the war, George returned home to attend Union College and work in his father's shop in Schenectady. In October 1865 he registered his first patent for a rotary steam engine, and by 1869 had invented the air brake, which revolutionized rail travel.

Westinghouse with Nikola Tesla, battled Thomas Edison in the AC vs DC electricity wars and prevailed. He became renowned for humane and progressive treatment of his employees. At his death in 1914, Westinghouse, the holder of 400 patents, was wealthy, and by all accounts, a very beloved man.

Sculptor & Caster: Dexter Benedict October 2022

The Westinghouse Family

The Westinghouse family and its farm machinery business, most notably the modernized threshing machine, played an important role in Schenectady's history throughout the late 1800's.

George Westinghouse Sr., born in Vermont in 1809, moved to Montgomery County, N.Y., where he married Glenville native Emeline Vedder on July 4, 1830. They had five children while living there, and five more, including famous inventor and industrialist George Jr., after moving to Central Bridge in Schoharie County around 1840.

The family moved to Schenectady in 1856 where the Westinghouse business, the Schenectady Agricultural Works, became the city's second largest employer. The success was due in large part to the threshing machine developed by George Sr. in the 1840s. Six members of the family held patents.

Members of the First Reformed Church of Schenectady, the Westinghouse family remained a large presence in the city until older brothers sold the company near the turn of the 20th century. George Sr. died in 1884, Emeline in 1895, and they are buried in Vale Cemetery in Schenectady with five of their children and various other family members.