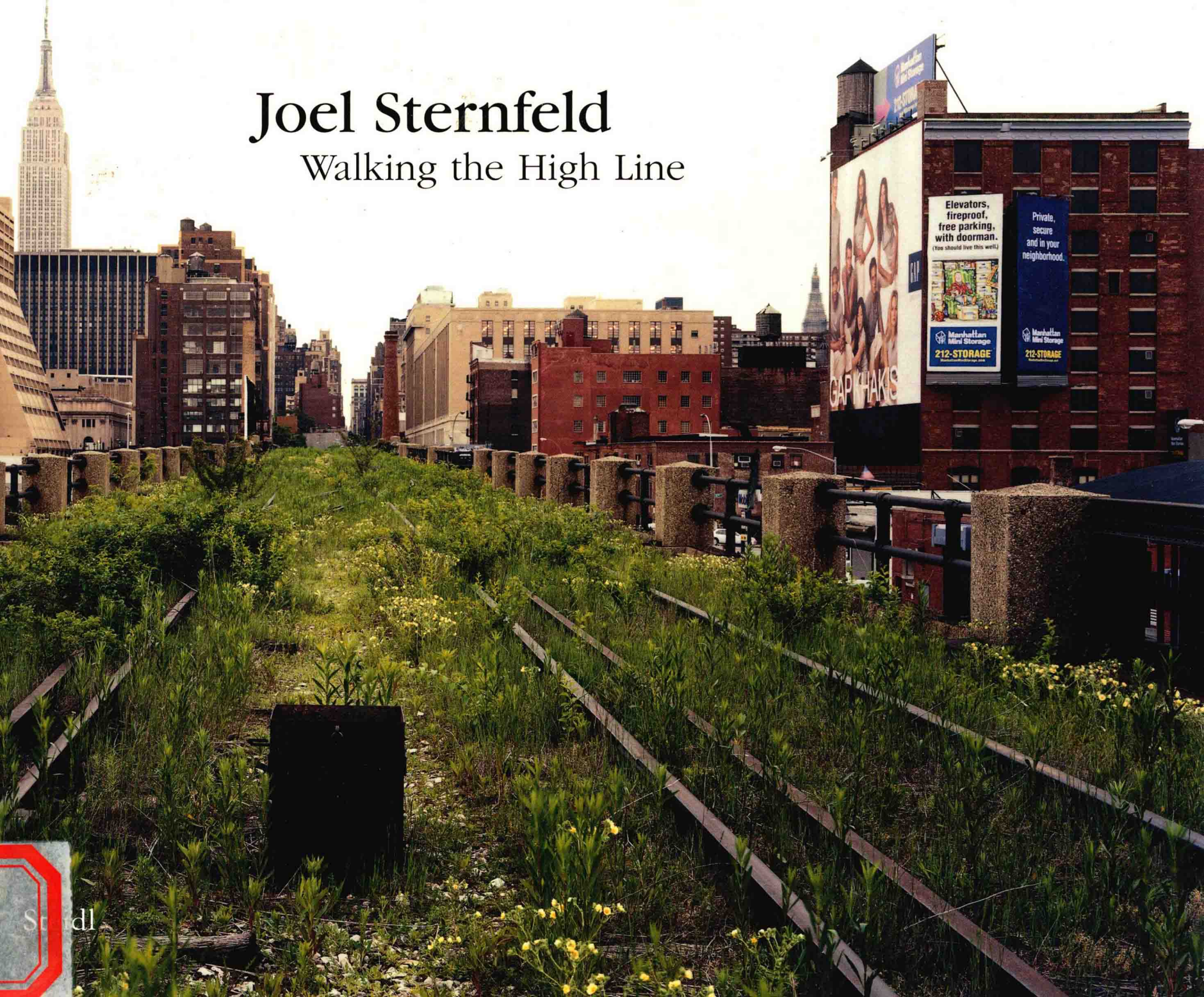


Joel Sternfeld

Walking the High Line



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Walking the High Line

With essays by Adam Gopnik
and John Stilgoe



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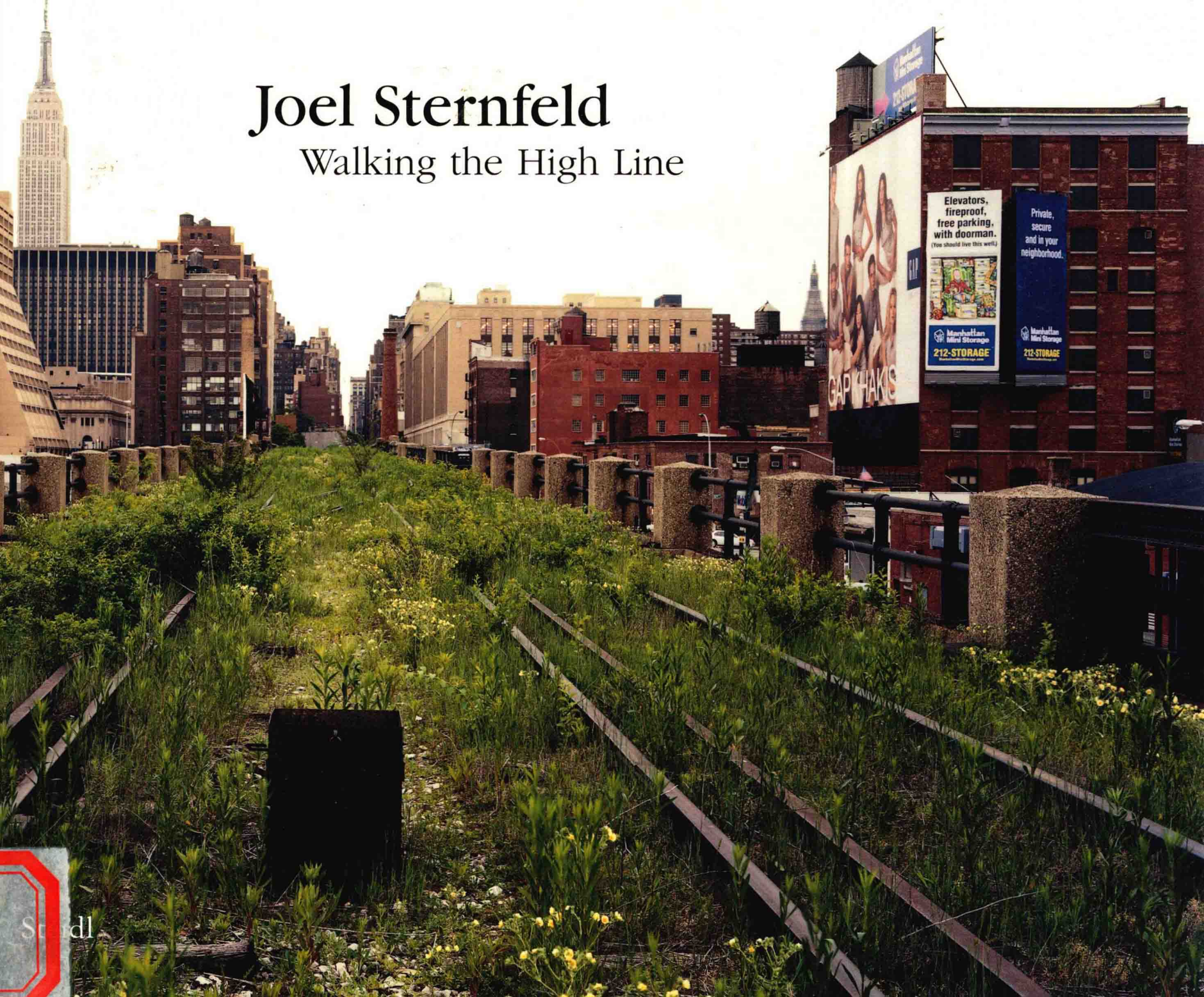
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Stop

In the dark days following the September 11th attacks in New York in 2001, Joel Sternfeld came to Gerhard Steidl with the hope of quickly making a book.

For the previous two years Sternfeld had been photographing an abandoned elevated railroad that ran down Manhattan's West Side. He was working with a group, The Friends of the High Line, that wanted to save it and turn it into a park.

Powerful real estate and political interests seeking to tear it down and commercially develop the land beneath it were using the chaos of the period to rush forward their plans.

Steidl agreed – six weeks later there were finished books in New York. It was a small volume but it played a crucial role in allowing New Yorkers to see for the first time the beauty of a secret railroad in all the seasons. Like the photographs made by William Henry Jackson in the 1870's of Yellowstone that led the Congress to establish a national park, the pictures proved pivotal in the making of the High Line Park.

Long out of print, here is the original *Walking the High Line* and a new time line history of the railroad and its transformation.

Joel Sternfeld is an artist known for work which explores utopic and dystopic possibilities. He has been the recipient of two Guggenheim fellowships and a Prix de Rome. Amongst his published books are *American Prospects*, *On This Site*, *Sweet Earth* and *Oxbow Archive*.

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