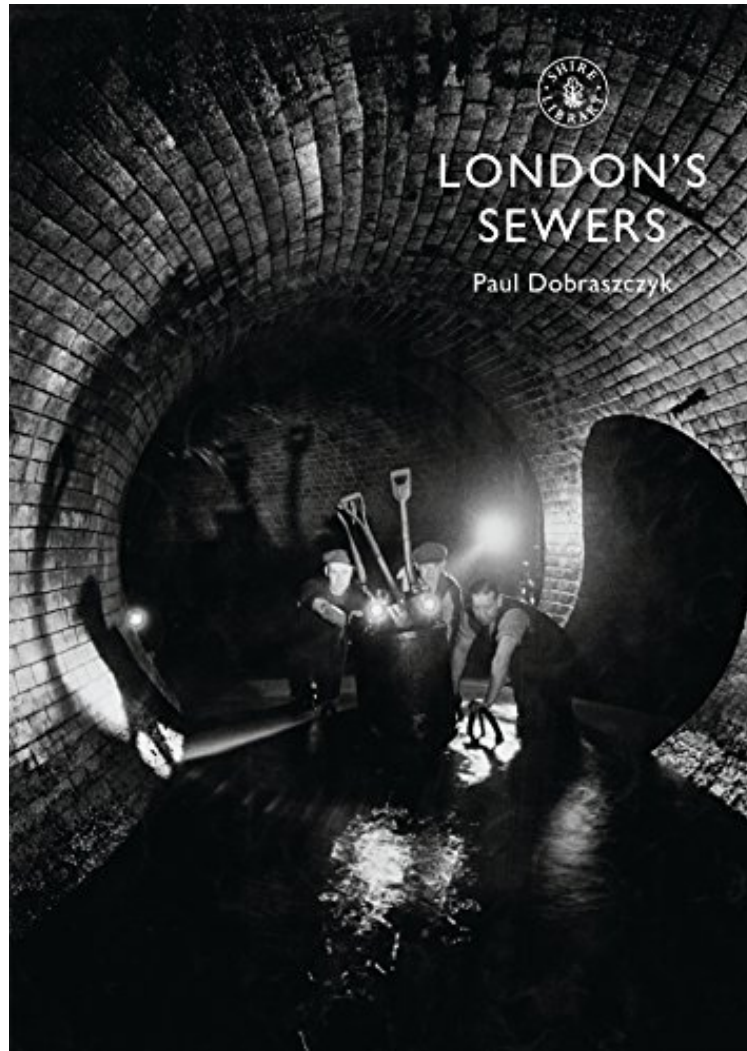


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London's Sewers (Shire Library)

Paul Dobraszcyk

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Paul Dobraszcyk : London's Sewers (Shire Library) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised London's Sewers (Shire Library):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. How cholera and the Big Stink led to the creation of London's modern sewer system By Marcheta I became interested in the building of the London sewers in the 1860s while reading Anne Perry's William Monk novel "Dark Assassin". This book explained how London's failure to manage its sewage over the centuries led to the Thames becoming an open sewer by the mid-1800s. This resulted in several outbreaks of cholera and the Big Stink of 1858. Many of the terms used in the Perry book, such as navvies and toshers, are further explained in this book. There are lots of maps showing the historical handling of waste by dumping it into London's

river system, which eventually worked its way to the Thames. There are photographs and illustrations that showed what the people and machinery involved looked like. The Victorian pumping stations, aka the Cathedrals of Sewage, at Crossness and Abbey Mills are unbelievably elaborate - works of art. I passed this book to my sister, who is currently reading the same Monk novel.

Named by The Guardian as One of the Top 10 Science and Technology Books for June 2014 Victorian London was filthy. The city was growing at an exponential rate, and the existing systems of waste disposal could not cope, resulting in a sanitary crisis. The solution was a new drainage system for the entire city, which was constructed mainly in the 1860s. Paul Dobraszczyk charts the development and construction of this immense project, using both contemporary and modern imagery to illustrate the complex engineering and magnificent architecture built deep underground to service the modern city of London.

Named by The Guardian as One of the Top 10 Science and Technology Books for June 2014 About the Author Paul Dobraszczyk is an art historian specializing in the architecture and visual culture of the Victorian period, from underground spaces to graphic design, ornamental cast iron to census forms. He has published widely on these subjects, including two books: *Into the Belly of the Beast: Exploring London's Victorian Sewers* and *Iron, Ornament and Architecture in Victorian Britain*. He lives in Great Britain.