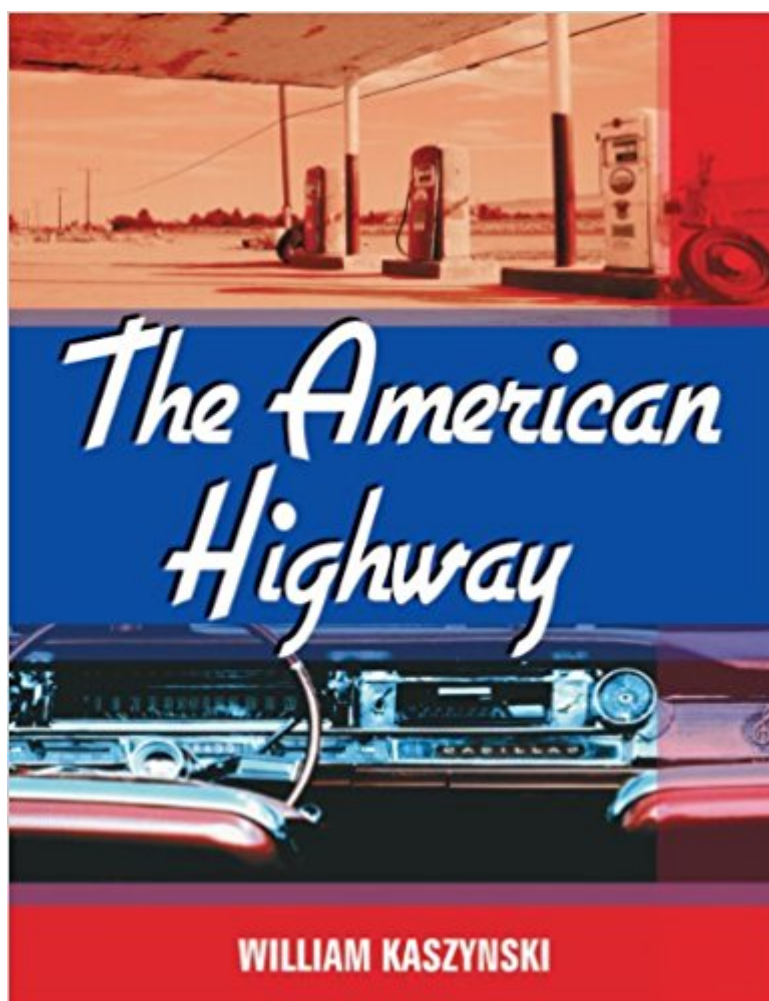


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The American Highway: The History And Culture Of Roads In The United States



Synopsis

When the automobile first made long-distance travel practical, a dramatic change began in the country's physical and cultural landscape. Road design and construction were challenged to keep pace with the rapidly advancing capabilities and numbers of cars. As real mobility sank into the popular consciousness, the American way of life changed forever. This spectacularly illustrated history traces the transformation of America's roads from rutted wagon trails into safe highways. The sweat and ingenuity of increasingly ambitious construction and the roadside culture that sprang up to greet a society on the move are both explored. Places to eat, sleep, refuel, and see sights became as much a part of the travel experience as the road itself, and the histories of the most familiar roadside businesses are recounted here. More than 300 historical photographs provide fascinating documentation.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A St. Paul lawyer, Kaszynski tracks a story of the persistent demands by individuals to travel, the pressure for roads by automobile manufacturers, the need for roadside services and more. Leaving no pothole unfilled, his pages flourish with descriptions and illustrations of highway systems, gasoline stations, auto camps, roadside eateries, and tourist advertising, enhanced by insight into their cultural and economic contribution to our society. Finally, he predicts that the past will repeat itself. The insatiable desire of Americans to express their individual freedom behind the wheel of an automobile will manifest itself by yet further transformation of our highway systems. Accurate,

clearly and quietly written, and illustrated with over 300 photographs, this book offers readers an enlightening, entertaining, and educational drive on America's roads. Recommended for all libraries. DJohn E. Hodgkins, Yarmouth, ME Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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I got this for my husband who is a "car nut" and he totally enjoyed reading about the history of highways in the U.S. Lots of pictures.

gift

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This is an old book and old pictures, but it does tell the story of the American Highway.

"This is the most complete book I've seen about the development of roads in the United States. The American Highway also has great histories and photos of gasoline retailers like Mobil and Phillips 66, early roadside restaurants such as Dairy Queen, A & W and Stuckey's, and motels (Holiday Inn, Travelodge, etc.). Hundreds of historical photos, from the pioneer days, modern-day turnpikes, up to the interstates. It's a must-have book for anyone interesting in highway travel. I would highly recommend this book." Dr jeff thompson

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