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The History Of The New York Central System (Great Rails Series)





Synopsis

100+ color and b&w illus. 9 x 12.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Very much enjoyed this book. I had read about the B&O in Civil War years, and, as I am a native Pennsylvanian living around Pittsburgh, therefore wanted to understand the history of the Pennsylvania and the New Your Central, the 3 major competitions to the Midwest. This book answered all. It is interesting to see how the major RRs pieced themselves together through acquisition and building. Sadly, we see the fate of the RR in its old age and wonder if things could have gone a different way.

It was very well written. However, a little more of the history in the 20th century would have helped to offset the very detailed and informative history in the 1800's.

It started with 16 miles of track connecting the Hudson and Mohawk rivers, and grew into one of our country's largest and most prestigious systems. This is the system that hosted the "Twentieth Century Limited," a train as exotic and celebrated as the Orient Express - and it was sometimes called the American Orient Express. We learn here of the meaning of the "Water Level Route" and how significant that was for passenger safety and comfort, and of how the endless competition with the Pennsylvania Railroad was finally resolved. It's a great book, with over 100 rare pictures of this exciting rail history chapter.

From the front jacket cover:"The History of the New York Central System tells the story of an amazingly long-lived and vigorous railroad that grew from 16 miles of track between the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers into a far-flung network that stretched as far west as Chicago. Profusely illustrated, with rare and colorful photographs, The History of the New York Central System is a valuable addition to the history of America's romance with it's railroads."

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