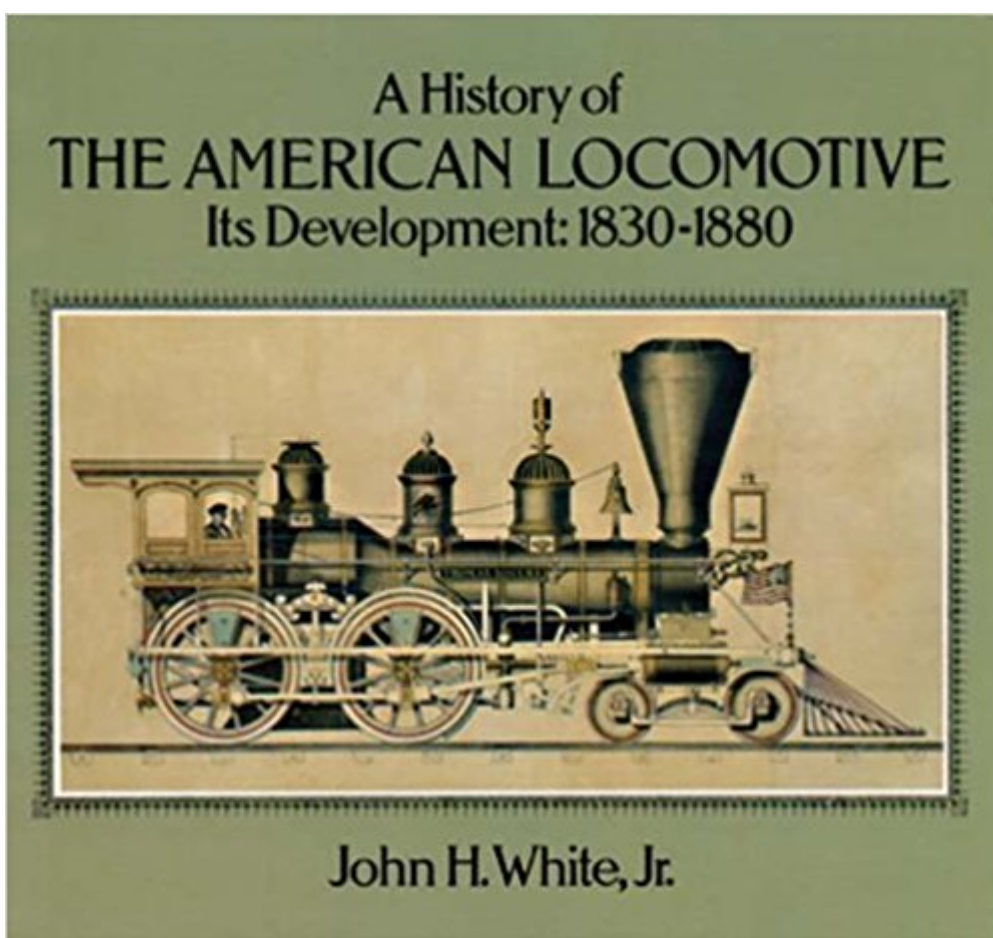


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A History Of The American Locomotive: Its Development, 1830–1880 (Trains)



Synopsis

Important and beautifully illustrated volume chronicles the explosive growth of the American locomotive from British imports to grand ten-wheelers of the 1870s. Over 240 vintage photographs, drawings, and diagrams tell the exciting tale. Introduction. Appendices. Index.

Book Information

Series: Trains

Paperback: 528 pages

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Customer Reviews

Arrived in perfect pristine "like new" condition. The evolution of the steam locomotive during those scant 50 years is comparable to the Fairchild germanium transistor to what we see today. Imagine a chord of loco fuel costing \$4.00, and a locomotive engineer making the Big Money, at \$2.50 day, and loco's rated by miles-per-chord. Railroads built America, in an amazingly short time. This is history, and if you found yourself intrigued by "Hell On Wheels", this incredibly well documented book will take you behind the scenes to the "Nuts and Bolts" of how these machines evolved. No tales of the graft and politics here .. just historical developement stuff, well written for anyone to easily comprehend and appreciate. The original sticker price was \$24.95 .. get a copy for your American History library. 5 Stars

Written by a former curator of the Smithsonian, the documentation and research is extraordinary. It covers with explicit detail the beginnings of the American railroad experience from the first English imports to our own evolution to satisfy our unique landscape and transportation needs. I especially

appreciated how different components were addressed in detail, such as boilers, trucks, valves, forgings, etc. Nice section on representative locomotives over the early years. My only complaint is that the illustrations are out of synch with the text, requiring frequent page turnings back and forth. A pad of sticky notes is recommended.

good book.

Good book, detailed and well documented covers a lot of history during the early years of American railroad.

John White's collected research documents the development of the American railroad locomotive from its beginnings early in the Nineteenth Century to the present time.

Fascinating book, exhaustive research. Great bedside read!

Very good book on the development of locomotives in the 19th century. Loaded with diagrams and pictures to go along good explanation of how a loco is put together and what the parts do.

"The History of the American Locomotive" is a highly detailed study of locomotives in the mid 19th Century. Its 504 pages contain hundreds of b&w photos and engineering drawings. There are chapters on locomotive builders, construction materials, types of locomotives, performance, fuel, boilers, running gear, and other miscellaneous parts. It also has detailed studies on twenty-four representative locomotives from 1829 to 1870 (with an average of 8 1/2 pages each). This is a very technical study intended for those who are already familiar with the subject(s), but he writes well enough that the general reader can still enjoy it. If you are a 19th century railroad buff (and like this kind of detail) then you will love Mr. White's other books "The American Railroad Freight Car" and "The American Railroad Passenger Car". John White was the Curator of Transportation at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. 19th Century railroad history buffs will also enjoy George Hilton's "American Narrow Gauge Railroads"

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