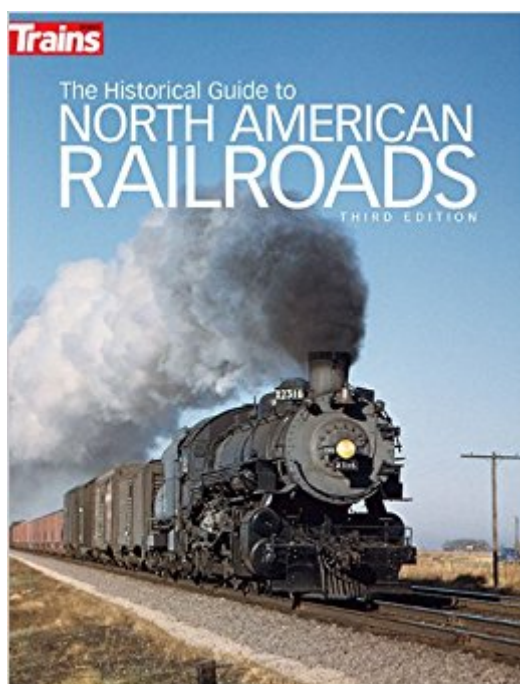




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# **The Historical Guide To North American Railroads, 3rd Edition (Trains Books)**



## Synopsis

Great photos, new maps, and history for 150+ railroads make The Historical Guide to North American Railroads, 3rd Edition the perfect guide for modelers, railfans, and history buffs! This updated edition features a new, larger format and a comprehensive index that makes searching for information quick and easy. Each listing includes historical information, a photo, a route map, and key statistics regarding miles of operation, locomotives, and rolling stock, and much more.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is an excellent overview of its subject matter and much of George Drury's content remains. All of the pertinent roads are covered and the editing is excellent. I agree with another reviewer that the maps could be better, especially since Kalmbach has moved to a larger format for this edition and since Trains magazine and its sister publications have published so many excellent maps within their pages, this is a bit disappointing. Oh, and to the reviewer that noted that the content of this book is word for word from Wikipedia, he should check the references at the end of the Wikipedia articles as many of the posted railroad histories on Wikipedia are actually copied from this book or previous editions of it.

Purchased this book for my husband. He does not read books. Let's make that clear, he does not read books. However, the rest of our household are readers. For the first few days, he would not put

this book down. There are enough pictures to keep his interest and enough detail to support the pictures. He said it is a good book and very interesting. He works for a railroad and learning the history behind the industry is appealing for him. I am thankful for those three days. Those nice quiet three days. When a 4th edition is released, we will buy again!

I recently have gotten into railroad history, and this book has more on a lot of railroads than most. Unfortunately, most are 'fallen flags', which is logical since it is a history, and the railroads has merged and merged and merged. No master ancestry tree, but there are other books that can provide that, and a master tree would be really big.... I liked that it provided number of loco's/cars at a railroad's zenith. And let me add that while a lot of railroads are no longer in existence, the book has listings of a surprising large number of new railroads that have sprung up. Note - this is not a book on tourist railroads you can go ride on.

It's amazing how much information is contained in this book. The photos are wonderful, the type easy to read, and the glossy pages make it feel like a much more expensive coffee table book. Some descriptions of historical hardships get bogged down with too many details like people's names who were in charge of bankruptcy proceedings etc which, I found, confuse the backgrounds. But that's a nitpick. Overall, this gives railfans and model railroaders a wealth of information on so many hard-to-remember fallen flags that you'll find yourself re-reading the book in no time; there is THAT much interesting to read. Well done TRAINS!

Being totally taken by the original "historical guide" published in the 1990s I wasn't too sure about this new edition at first, but have to say that Kalmbach have really done an excellent job at bringing this reference work up to date while also adding colour and many new entries (while dropping a few others). If you have any interest in the history of North American railroads at all, this is a great book. It provides general information on many single companies and thus lets you arrive at the bigger picture by adding it all up. The only thing I miss is the carry-it-everywhere format of the old guide - this is more of a coffee table book.

If you're into the history of the railroad lines, this is the book for you. The many railroad lines, past and present, are listed alphabetically for easy reference. I go to it frequently to refresh my memory.

Another excellent addition to my library of train books.

it has a lot of history in it & a great book

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