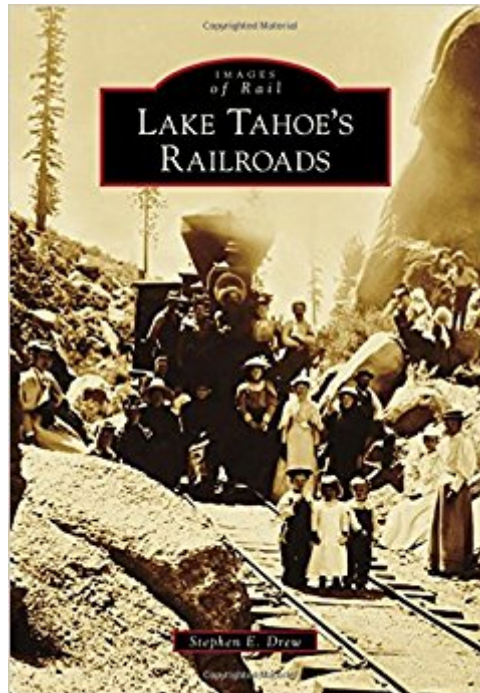




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Lake Tahoe's Railroads (Images Of Rail)



Synopsis

Lake Tahoe is the majestic mountain lake that spans the boundary line of California and Nevada. The lake's clarity and scenic beauty are legendary. In the 1870s, the Nevada Comstock Lode created an insatiable appetite for Lake Tahoe's virgin pine forests. The timbers would shore up underground mining and build communities approaching 40,000 inhabitants. Railroads on three shores delivered the logs lakeside, where they were towed by steam-powered tugs to sawmills, to lumber flumes, and again by rail to their final destinations. As the mines and giant lake pines subsided, railroads pushed farther north after 1898 into new timber stands in the Lake Tahoe and Truckee River basins. Other rail lines were sold, barged across the lake, and repurposed for the burgeoning new industry of tourism. For the next 40 years, railroads marketed Lake Tahoe as their unique scenic destination.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"I'm sure most of the people that vacation at Lake Tahoe have no idea how busy railroading in the immediate area was in the not too distant past. This book takes a most enjoyable look at how the demand for wood in the forests that surround the lake led to some very interesting railroading that supported some pretty serious logging concerns." Railfan and Railroad"For those merely curious about the topic, Lake Tahoe's Railroads will become a cherished introduction to an often forgotten, yet fascinating subject." Nevada in the West Magazine

Stephen E. Drew has been researching railroads of the Comstock and Lake Tahoe region for 45 years. He recently retired after 35 years as chief curator of the California State Railroad Museum. He is the author of Nevada's Virginia & Truckee Railroad in Arcadias Images of Rail series. His images are drawn from obscure archives and prized family photo albums.

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