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RAILROADS OF COLORADO Your Guide to Colorado's Historic Trains and Railway Sites

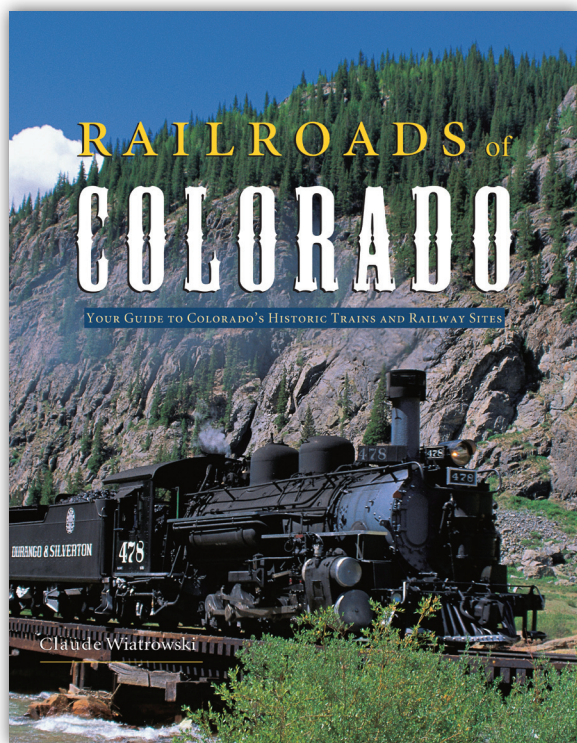
BY: Claude Wiatrowski

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 27 black-and-white images, 1 map, index, and appendix

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Railroads of Colorado

Take a trip through Colorado's historic towns on its fabled railroad lines in FarCountry's newest release, *Railroads of Colorado: Your Guide to Colorado's Historic Trains and Railway Sites*.

Hop aboard and join author Claude Wiatrowski as he details Colorado's historic railroad legacy, from the first primitive railroad line, to modern-day marvels such as the Pike's Peak Cog Railway. *Railroads of Colorado* is the definitive guide to Colorado's rail history, and features historical black-and-white and color photographs.

"I am amazed at the impossible places to which Colorado's railroads were built," said author Claude Wiatrowski. "In much of the west, railroads followed relatively gentle river valleys while Colorado's many railroads crossed craggy mountain passes again and again. Standing on an old mountainous railroad pass, I can always imagine these people and marvel at what they did."

Colorado's railroads lead to the development of many mountain towns. In fact, many of the towns that exist to this day were once only accessed by railway.

"The steam cars reached everywhere in Colorado's mountains—many towns were served by two or more railroads," Wiatrowski noted. "Though most of the railroads are long gone, Colorado's mountains would be a much lonelier place had the railroads not been built."

Many towns embrace the rich history of railroads from a time long gone. Some of the antique lines still run today and provide opportunities for modern day adventurers to step back in time.

Wiatrowski writes:

"There were railroads projected but never started; railroads graded but on which rail was never laid; a railroad that ran only a single train; standard-gauge and narrow-gauge railroads; railroads with conventional and geared steam locomotives; an electrically powered railroad; a railroad that included "and San Juan" in its name but never got there because steep winding high railroads; railroads that snaked over switchbacks; and railroads that undulated around hairpin loops of track.

Suddenly, the American West was in danger of losing a great treasure—a microcosm of all the western mountain railroads—not just a museum re-creation, but the real thing.”

Railroads of Colorado is available at local bookstores and gift shops, through online retailers, or from FarCountry Press at 1.800.821.3874, www.farcountrypress.com.



About the Author

Claude Wiatrowski has written or provided photos for several books on Colorado history. An avid railroad enthusiast, he has a Ph.D. in electrical engineering and is interested in all aspects of the history of technology. In addition to writing books, Dr. Wiatrowski produces videos on historic railroads. His productions have won him Telly and Teddy awards and one was selected by the Library of Congress Local Legacies Program.

For an interview, please contact the author at: trainclaude@earthlink.net.

About FarCountry Press

Celebrating its 32nd year in 2012, the award-winning publisher specializes in softcover and hardcover color photography books showcasing the nation’s cities, states, national parks, and wildlife. FarCountry also publishes several popular children’s series, as well as guidebooks, cookbooks, and regional history titles nationwide.

The staff produces about 15 books annually; the backlist has grown to more than 300 titles.

For more information visit, www.farcountrypress.com, or call: 800.821.3874.

For a press kit (cover image, interior photos, review copy), contact Heather Ripkey, sales assistant, heather@farcountrypress.com, 406.422.1267.

Take a peek inside



**CHAPTER 1
A MAGICAL PLACE**

In 1871, my wife, Margaret, and I were destined to explore the heart of the Colorado Rockies. Our first stop was in the town of Silver Lake, Colorado. The town was a small settlement at the time, but it was a place of great beauty. The mountains were so close that you could see the peaks of the Rockies from the town. The air was so fresh and clean that it was a pleasure to breathe it. The people were so friendly and hospitable that it was a pleasure to be there. The town was a magical place, and it was a place that we would never forget.



Along the narrow-gauge railroad tracks, the town of Silver Lake is a beautiful sight. The town was a small settlement at the time, but it was a place of great beauty.



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As the twentieth century dawned, the precious mineral resources of Colorado started being shipped to other parts of the country. The railroads did not have the capacity to handle the volume of traffic that was being generated. The railroads had to be expanded to handle the volume of traffic that was being generated. The railroads had to be expanded to handle the volume of traffic that was being generated. The railroads had to be expanded to handle the volume of traffic that was being generated.

In 1898, Colorado had to build a standard-gauge railroad. The Southern Division of the Colorado & Wyoming Railway was the one that was chosen. The railroad was built to handle the volume of traffic that was being generated. The railroad was built to handle the volume of traffic that was being generated. The railroad was built to handle the volume of traffic that was being generated.



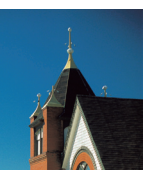
Home, Town, and Steamtown • 85

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Steamtown USA • 87



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**CHAPTER 2
EXPLORING THE RIVER OF LOST SOULS
The Narrow-Gauge Circle**

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