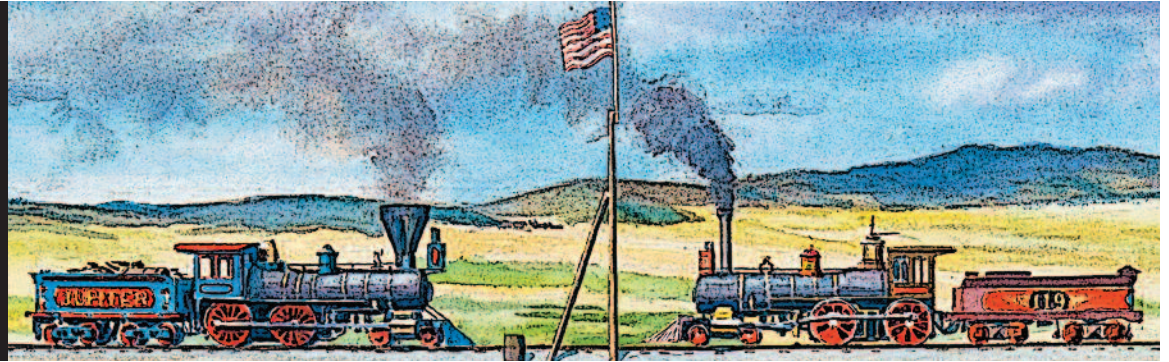


# The Unknown Transcontinental Railroad

## Reading List for Further Study



### ■ Books

- Ambrose, Stephen E., *Nothing Like it in the World – The Men who Built the Transcontinental Railroad 1863 – 1869*, (Simon & Schuster, 2000), ISBN: 0-684-84609-8

Ambrose tells a good story about this historic event. Sometimes the book tends to be more story than historic fact.

- Bain, David Haward, *Empire Express – Building the First Transcontinental Railroad*, (Penguin Putnam, 1999), ISBN: 0-670-80889-X

Of the contemporary, non-fiction accounts of the Transcontinental Railroad this is the one to read. It is long – 711 pages – however, Bain has done a very good job.

- Bain, David Haward, *The Old Iron Road: An Epic of Rails, Roads and the Urge to Go West*, (Viking Adult, 2004), ASIN: B0091PCMEC

A follow-up to *Empire Express*, Bain and his family tour the route of the Transcontinental Railroad and early wagon trails. A fascinating account of the West today.

- Borneman, Walter R., *Rival Rails: The Race to Build America's Greatest Transcontinental Railroad*, (Random House, 2010), ISBN: 1400065615

The race between the Union Pacific and Central Pacific was but the beginning of transcontinental railroad building. The stories associated with the next wave a Western lines are just as telling as the original. Borneman has done solid research, which, in numerous cases, dispels fiction surrounding western railroad development.

- Brown, Dee Alexander, *Hear That Lonesome Whistle Blow: Railroads in the West*, (Holt, Rhinehart & Winston, 1977), ISBN: 0-030-16936-4

Railroad construction in the West was not limited to the Union Pacific and Central Pacific. Brown provided narrative relating to the other Transcontinental Railroads. Additionally, he looks at the social and cultural impact of Western railroad development, especially as it relates to Indian displacement.

- Klein, Maury, *Union Pacific – Vol. 1, The Birth of a Railroad 1862 – 1893*, (Doubleday & Co., 1987), ISBN: 0-385-17728-3

- Klein, Maury, *Union Pacific – Vol. 2, The Rebirth 1894 – 1969*, (Doubleday & Co., 1989), ISBN: 0-385-17735-6

Klein was commissioned by the Union Pacific to write this history. Don't let the commission stand in your way when reading these books. Klein had full access to company records and does a solid job telling the U.P.'s story. His perspective is more business oriented than that of Bain in *Empire Express*. Both volumes have been released in paperback. It is also reported that Klein is working on a third volume to cover 1970 to the present.

- Kraus, George, *High Road to Promontory: Building the Central Pacific across the High Sierra*, (American West Publishing Co., 1969), ASIN: B000H0QRPK

A good recounting focused on the Central Pacific. The narrative is supported with numerous personal quotes and reports from key historic figures.

- White, Richard, *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America*, (W.W. Norton & Co, 2012), ISBN: 0393342379

White draws lines between the failures of today's corporate environment and the scandals, greed and corruption that ran rampant in transcontinental building. He also argues that the railroads were build purely for greed as opposed to market driven need.

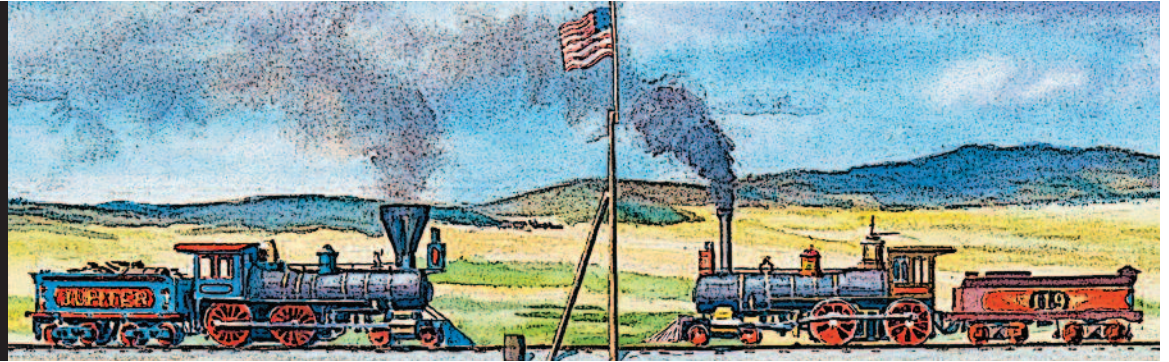
### ■ Websites

For more information on the Transcontinental Railroad, visit these websites:

- Union Pacific Railroad - [www.uprr.com](http://www.uprr.com)
- The Central Pacific Railroad Virtual Museum - [www.cpr.com](http://www.cpr.com)
- PBS's American Experience – Transcontinental Railroad - [www.pbs.org](http://www.pbs.org)
- *Trains* magazine – [trn.trains.com](http://trn.trains.com)

# The Unknown Transcontinental Railroad

## Reading List for Further Study 2



### ■ Books

- Ames, Charles E., *Pioneering the Union Pacific – A Reappraisal of the Builders of the Railroad*, (Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1969), LCCCN: 69-13448
- Athearn, Robert G., *Union Pacific Country*, (Rand McNally & Company, 1971), ISBN: 978-080-325-8297
- Best, Gerald M., *Iron Horses to Promontory*, (Golden West Books, 1969), ISBN: 978-087-095-0018
- Halpern, Monica, *Railroad Fever – Building the Transcontinental Railroad 1830-1870*, (National Geographic Society, 2004), ISBN: 978-0-7922-6767-6
- Kreck, Dick, *Hell on Wheels – Wicked Towns along the Union Pacific Railroad*, (Fulcrum Publishing, 2013), ISBN: 978-1-55591-948-1
- Nardo, Don, *The Golden Spike – How A Photograph Celebrated The Transcontinental Railroad*, (Capstone Press, 2015), ISBN: 978-0-7565-4997-8
- Otfinoski, Steven, *Building the Transcontinental Railroad – An Interactive Engineering Adventure* (Capstone Press, 2015), ISBN: 978-1-4914-0406-5
- Shepherd, David, *We were there At the Driving of the Golden Spike*, (Dover Publications Inc., 2013), ISBN: 978-0-486-49259-1

### ■ DVD

- Kalmbach Media Co., *Journey to Promontory: How the Transcontinental Railroad Unified the Nation in 1869*, (*Trains Magazine*, 2018)
- Kalmbach Media Co., *The Golden Spike Route Today: 150 Years after Promontory, Union Pacific's busy main line*, (*Trains Magazine*, 2019),