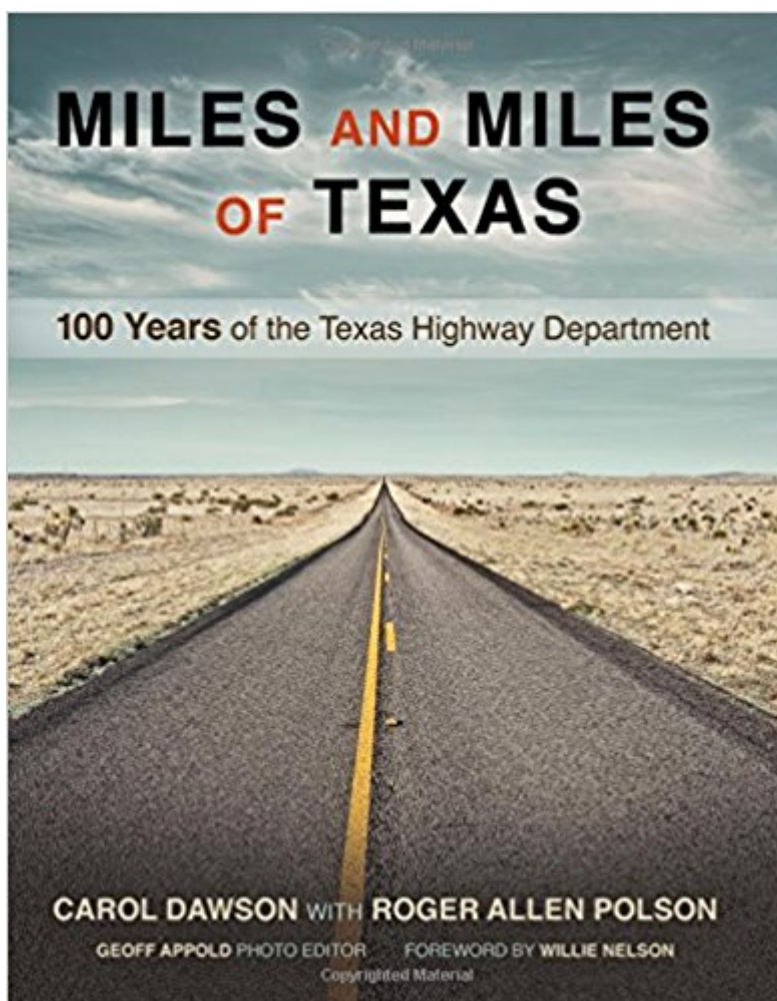


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Miles And Miles Of Texas: 100 Years Of The Texas Highway Department



Synopsis

On the eve of its centennial, Carol Dawson and Roger Allen Polson present almost 100 years of history and never-before-seen photographs that track the development of the Texas Highway Department. An agency originally created “to get the farmer out of the mud,” it has gone on to build the vast network of roads that now connects every corner of the state. When the Texas Highway Department (now called the Texas Department of Transportation or TxDOT) was created in 1917, there were only about 200,000 cars in Texas traveling on fewer than a thousand miles of paved roads. Today, after 100 years of the Texas Highway Department, the state boasts over 80,000 miles of paved, state-maintained roads that accommodate more than 25 million vehicles. Sure to interest history enthusiasts and casual readers alike, decades of progress and turmoil, development and disaster, and politics and corruption come together once more in these pages, which tell the remarkable story of an infrastructure 100 years in the making.

Book Information

Hardcover: 368 pages

Publisher: Texas A&M University Press (September 23, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1623494567

ISBN-13: 978-1623494568

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 1.4 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 8 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #303,178 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Highway & Traffic #59 in Books > Engineering & Transportation > Engineering > Civil & Environmental > Transportation #135 in Books > Business & Money > Industries > Transportation

Customer Reviews

“For their diligent research, authors Carol Dawson and Roger Polson deserve high accolades. Their deep digging has resulted in the motherlode of entertaining stories. Weaved well together, they tell the story of TxDOT and its lead actors whose visions and leadership have left a significant positive mark on Texas.” —Lawrence Olsen (Lawrence Olsen 2016-05-05) “This authoritative and surprisingly entertaining narrative is about a lot more than asphalt. In Carol Dawson and Roger Polson’s hands, the story of the Texas

Highway Department is the story of Texas itself—of Native American migration and Spanish exploration, of wars and revolutions, of skullduggery and heroism, of vicious prejudice and noble common purpose, of engineering triumphs and disasters, of greedy shortsightedness and grand shimmering visions. Stephen Harrigan, author of *The Gates of the Alamo* and *A Friend of Mr. Lincoln* (Stephen Harrigan 2016-05-13) “Road warriors and transportation buffs will be pleased with this well-illustrated, well-written volume” Kirkus Reviews (Kirkus Reviews 2017-01-25)

CAROL DAWSON is an Austin-based writer and artist. She is the author of four novels and one book of non-fiction. She teaches writing workshops, was writer-in-residence at the College of Santa Fe, and is a member of the Texas Institute of Letters. ROGER ALLEN POLSON is former executive assistant to the deputy executive director of the Texas Department of Transportation. He is recognized by the American Association of State Highways and Transportation Officials, the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, and United Press International for his writing, video, and radio productions.

Don't think that a book about highways has to be dull or boring. *Miles and Miles of Texas* is very interesting, informative and very wellwritten. Describes very clearly how the development and expansion of highways played a major role in economic and social advancement in Texas. The political machinations in highway financing and development is particularly interesting, and the pictures of the development and expansion of highways throughout Texas over a 100 year period are alone worth the price of the book. Anyone with an interest in Texas history will find this book to provide a valuable contribution to an important component of Texas history.

I love this book. The story of how the bison and mastodons created the trails leading to food and water grew into today's highways leading to food and water is fascinating and sometimes funny. The complicated story is presented simply and logically and pleasantly. Thanks and kudos to the author.

Not only a perfect coffee table addition for my ranch décor home, but full of Texas Roads facts and history. So far several hours of entertaining and educational reading have resulted.

A beautifully told story of the politics and vision behind a vast highway network vital to the development of the great state of Texas.

I have enjoyed reading and looking at the photos. I have driven some of these and remember when others were being built.

Years ago--as a teenager--my hubby worked for the TX Highway Dept. He really enjoyed receiving this book for Christmas!

Great book. Love it. Always interesting to get the history of our Texas highways. Thank you.

This is a beautiful, interesting and well researched book.

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