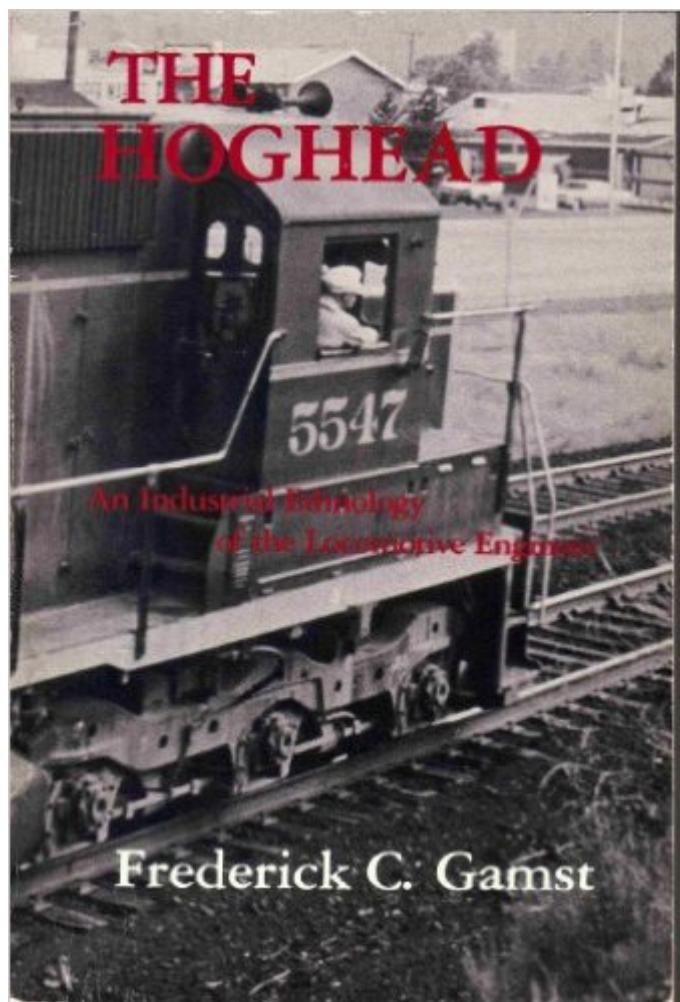


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Hoghead: Industrial Ethnology Of The Locomotive Engineer (Case Study In Cultural Anthropology)



Book Information

Series: Case Study in Cultural Anthropology

Paperback: 160 pages

Publisher: Holt McDougal; First Edition edition (March 1980)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0030526361

ISBN-13: 978-0030526367

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 5.8 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (2 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is as far as I know, the ONLY serious study concerning what railroad work entails and how railroaders become enculturated into their crafts. It is written specifically from the perspective of the Locomotive Engineer (Engine Driver, for those of you living outside the USA). Author Frederick Gamst writes in his preface that he conducted his research between 1955 and 1961, during 6 1/2 years employment in engine service, as well as fieldwork between 1970 and 1975. Gamst refers to the individuals, unions, and companies by fictitious names in this book to protect privacy, also undoubtedly not to discourage participation in the future. The railroad he worked for and later further researched is fictitiously called the "Central City and Urbana Railroad". According to other works by Gamst I have read, it appears to have been the Western Division of the Southern Pacific. For those with no experience whatsoever in Anthropology or Sociology, don't despair! Dr. Gamst explains the importance and meaning of industrial ethnology as well as he explains railroad terms, customs, and behaviors. Chapters include: 1. Introduction (Scope of the Book, In the Rail World, Industrial Ethnology) 2. The Railroad and its Setting (Development of the railroads and the United States, Railroads in Contemporary American Society, The Geographical Setting of the CC & U) 3. Hiring Out (Enculturating the Railroader, Becoming a Student, Examining the Diesel-Electric, Learning the Craft, Flattening Wheels, Learning, A Retrospection) 4. Operating and Other Rules (The Book of Rules, Scope of Rules, Local Additions to Rules, Rules as Ideal and Actual Patterns, Examinations

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