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Beaumont Hill: Southern Pacific's Southern California Crossing

John R. Signor

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Mountain railroading in Southern California has always been synonymous with names like Tehachapi, Cajon Pass and Beaumont Hill. While the two former passes have been the subject of several published histories, Beaumont Hill, Southern Pacific's gateway to Southern California, from the east, has been largely overlooked. The publication of this book fills that void. After years of exhaustive research, John R. Signor presents the full story of over a century of history and operations at Beaumont Hill.

From its fragile beginnings in the 1870's up to today's heavy double-stack traffic, every facet of Beaumont Hill's long and colorful history has been explored. In the early days, learn about the desperate search for water to satisfy thirsty locomotives, of flashfloods and sandstorms, and how the blistering heat affected day-to-day operations. Trace the evolution of motive power from the diminutive American and Consolidation-type engines of the late nineteenth century through today's high-tech diesels. Follow the rise and decline of such name trains as the Sunset Limited, the Golden State Limited, the Argonaut, and the Imperial. Get the inside scoop on management decisions concerning double-tracking, signal systems, Centralized Traffic Control, and electrification.

Beaumont Hill: Southern Pacific's Southern California Gateway takes you trackside to witness the pageant of over a century of train operations. See multi-engined freights charge upgrade, first, with the sturdy Consolidations of the early 1900's, followed by the mighty cab-forward Mallets of the late steam era and finally on into the diesel age. See Kaiser ore trains struggle upgrade with 20 locomotives, alone. See the ponderous beet drags moving west from the Imperial Valley, and streamliners of another era - in black and white and in color. Not to be overlooked are the more pastural activities of the branch lines radiating out of Colton (including Pacific Electric's electrified operations), and the agricultural oriented operations in the Imperial Valley and along the Inter-California Railway. Crisp maps detail the activities of places like Beaumont, Colton and Indio at their zenith, be it in the 1910s or the late 1940s.

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James Batts:

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Curt Stewart:

The feeling that you get from Beaumont Hill: Southern Pacific's Southern California Crossing is a more deep you searching the information that hide inside the words the more you get enthusiastic about reading it. It does not mean that this book is hard to be aware of but Beaumont Hill: Southern Pacific's Southern California Crossing giving you joy feeling of reading. The article writer conveys their point in certain way that can be understood by simply anyone who read it because the author of this reserve is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your vocabulary increase well. So it is easy to understand then can go to you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We highly recommend you for having that Beaumont Hill: Southern Pacific's Southern California Crossing instantly.

Kelly Mays:

Spent a free the perfect time to be fun activity to complete! A lot of people spent their sparetime with their family, or their friends. Usually they accomplishing activity like watching television, about to beach, or picnic inside the park. They actually doing same thing every week. Do you feel it? Do you need to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Might be reading a book might be option to fill your totally free time/ holiday. The first thing you ask may be what kinds of publication that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the book untitled Beaumont Hill: Southern Pacific's Southern California Crossing can be good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

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