When the automobile first made long-distance travel practical for the average American, a dramatic change began in the country's physical and cultural landscape. Road design and construction were challenged to keep pace with the automobiles rapidly advancing capabilities and number. And as real mobility sank into the popular consciousness, the way of life of Americans changed forever. This spectacularly illustrated history traces the transformation of America's roads from rutted wagon trails into ever smoother, faster and safer highways. Along with the sweat and ingenuity of increasingly ambitious construction, it explores the new roadside culture that sprang up to greet a society on the move. Places to eat, sleep, refuel, and see sights became as much a part of the highway travel experience as the road itself, and the histories of the most familiar roadside businesses are recounted here. More than 300 historical photographs provide fascinating documentation.

My Personal Review:
"This is the most complete book I've seen about the development of roads in the United States. The American Highway also has great histories and photos of gasoline retailers like Mobil and Phillips 66, early roadside restaurants such as Dairy Queen, A & W and Stuckey's, and motels (Holiday Inn, Travelodge, etc.). Hundreds of historical photos, from the pioneer days, modern-day turnpikes, up to the interstates. It's a must-have book for anyone interested in highway travel. I would highly recommend this book." Dr. Jeff Thompson

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