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Rock Island Requiem: The Collapse of a Mighty Fine Line

By Gregory L. Schneider

University Press of Kansas. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Rock Island Requiem: The Collapse of a Mighty Fine Line, Gregory L. Schneider, Celebrated in history and song, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company--the Rock Island Line--was a powerful Midwestern railroad that once traversed thirteen states with its fast freights and Rocket passenger trains but eventually succumbed to government regulation and a changing economy. Gregory Schneider chronicles the Rock Island's painful decline and along the way reveals some of the key problems within the American railroad industry during the post-World War II era. Schneider takes readers back to a time when railroads still clung to a storied past to offer new insight into the devastating impact of economic policymaking during the 1960s and 1970s. Schneider recounts the largest railroad liquidation in American history--as well as one of the most successful reorganisations in American business--to depict the demise and ultimate collapse of Rock Island as part of a broader account of hard times in the railroad industry beginning in the 1970s. Schneider weaves a complex story of how business, politics, government bureaucracy, and individual greed helped to limit the economic possibilities of the railroad industry and catapult the Rock...



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