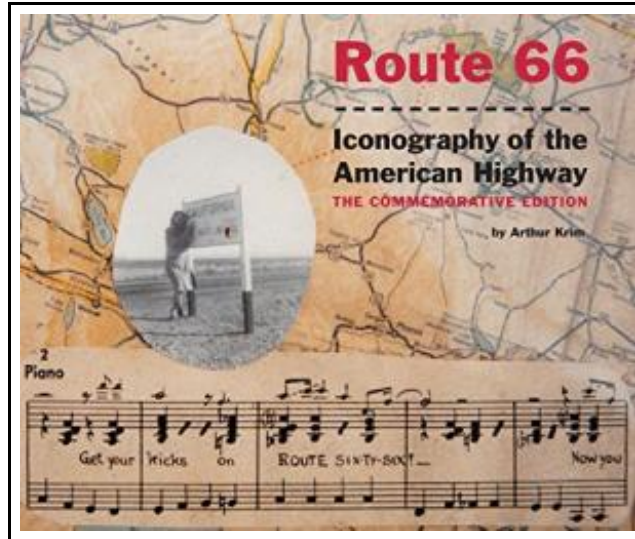


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George F. Thompson Publishing, United States, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Commemorative ed.. 244 x 203 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Route 66 was the iconic highway of twentieth-century America, stretching from downtown Chicago to the Mississippi River at East St, Louis and proceeding through the Indian lands of Oklahoma and the Southwest to Los Angeles and the Pacific Coast, connecting Americans physically and culturally. In this engaging, meticulously researched, and fully illustrated study, Arthur Krim explores the fascinating history and complex symbolism behind this most famous American highway--both on the ground and in the mind. Route 66 traces the iconography of US 66 first as an idea, then as a fact, and finally as an enduring symbol found in classic American books and films, songs and television programs, and pop art. While the antecedents of Route 66 are to be found in the prehistoric trade and hunting paths of the Indian peoples, in the Spanish expeditions of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and the wagon trails and in railroad routes of the nineteenth century, construction of Route 66 during the twentieth century ushered in the revolutionary era of the modern American highway and of cross-country automobile travel. In his innovative study, Krim discloses how the highway transcended its gravel and concrete physicality to become an enduring metaphor for the American spirit of exploration and discovery, freedom and hope that is historically found by its people heading west. He draws on a wealth of scholarly and visual materials to examine how Route 66 evolved through each passing generation, from Main Street boosters during the road s early development to John Steinbeck s *The Grapes of Wrath* during the Dust Bowl years, from Bobby Troup s unforgettable (*Get Your Kicks on*) Route 66 to renditions of the song by...

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