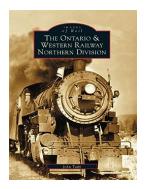
## The Ontario And Western Railway Northern Division: Unveiling Vintage Images Of Rail

Welcome to a captivating journey through time when the Ontario and Western Railway (O&W) Northern Division was the heart and soul of transportation. In this article, we delve into an extraordinary collection of rare images that provide a window into the heyday of this iconic railway system that connected communities, sparked economic growth, and left a lasting legacy etched in the history books.

With its origins dating back to the mid-19th century, the Ontario and Western Railway played a pivotal role in the development of New York State and neighboring regions. Established in 1887, the O&W gradually expanded its vast network, spanning over 550 miles, with the Northern Division capturing the imaginations of those fortunate enough to witness its operations.

Now, let's embark on a visual expedition brimming with nostalgia as we discover the captivating images that bring to life the Ontario and Western Railway's Northern Division.

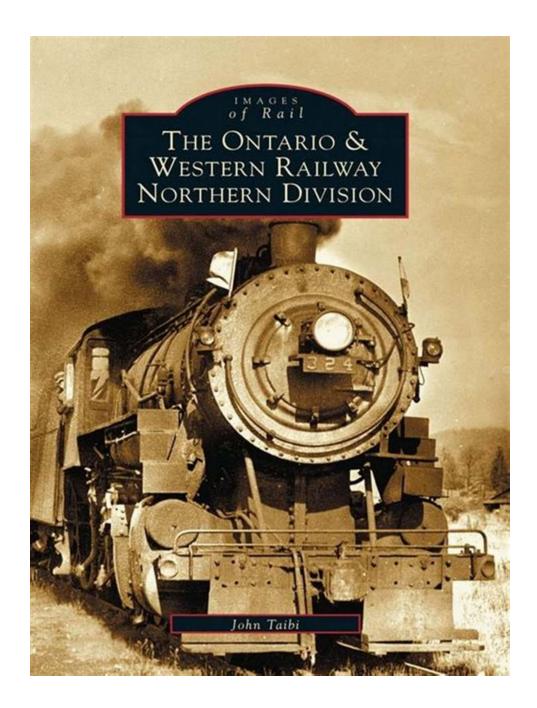


#### The Ontario and Western Railway Northern Division (Images of Rail) by Grace Divine (Kindle Edition)

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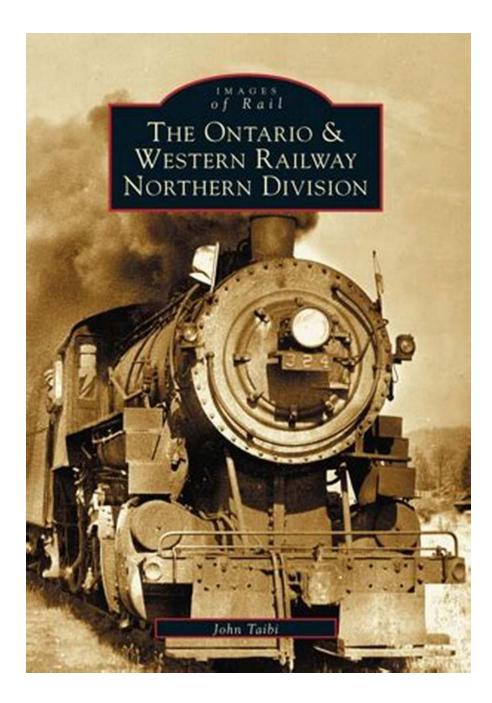


#### Image 1: The Magnificent Cornwall Bridge



Behold the illustrious Cornwall Bridge, a spectacular engineering marvel that showcased the O&W's commitment to innovation. This image captures the grandeur of the bridge spanning the majestic Hudson River, connecting Cornwallon-Hudson and West Cornwall. The Cornwall Bridge served as a vital link for both passengers and freight and played an integral role in establishing the O&W's reputation for reliability and efficiency.

#### Image 2: Expedition to the Forests



Step back in time to witness the O&W's foray into the dense forests of the Northern Division. With a fleet of steam locomotives and specialty freight cars,

the railway penetrated deep into the wilderness, opening up opportunities for timber and mining industries. This rare image offers a glimpse into the industrious spirit that powered the region's economic growth, carried by the iron horse of the Ontario and Western Railway.

#### Image 3: Cultural Exchange at Utica's Union Station



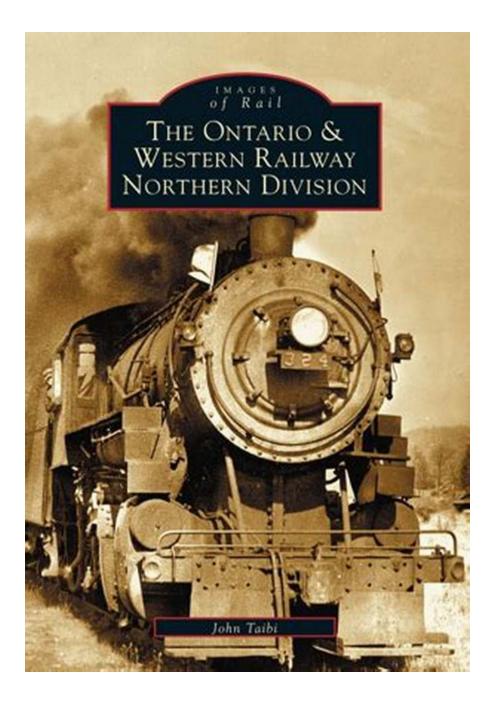
Utica's Union Station stands as a testament to the multicultural heritage that thrived along the O&W's tracks. This captivating image showcases the bustling atmosphere of the station, where people from diverse backgrounds converged. From immigrant arrivals to departures of soldiers during World War II, the O&W's Northern Division played a pivotal role as a connective thread in the fabric of society.

#### Image 4: The Great Freight Yards of Middletown



The Middletown freight yards were a vital hub of activity along the Ontario and Western Railway Northern Division. This photograph immortalizes the abundant freight traffic passing through, showcasing the diversity of goods transported by the railway. From farm produce and construction materials to automobiles and industrial machinery, the O&W provided an invaluable lifeline to communities and businesses alike.

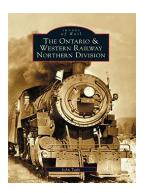
#### Image 5: Bygone Era of Passenger Elegance



Step into the past and experience the luxurious charm of passenger travel on the Ontario and Western Railway. This image depicts an elegant train traversing the picturesque landscapes of the Northern Division. From plush seating and exquisite dining cars to attentive staff, the O&W created an unforgettable experience for its cherished passengers, marking an era when train travel was synonymous with sophistication and style.

These captivating images offer us a glimpse into a bygone era when the Ontario and Western Railway's Northern Division reigned supreme, providing an essential lifeline to New York State and beyond. The legacy of this iconic railway lives on through these rare photographs, allowing us to appreciate the grandeur, innovation, and social impact of this remarkable transportation system.

So, come along and immerse yourself in the nostalgia as we celebrate the Ontario and Western Railway's Northern Division – a railway that forever shaped the landscape and left an indelible mark on the communities it served.



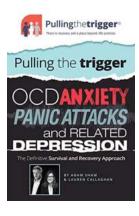
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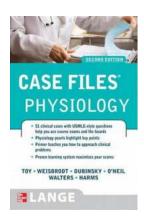


The New York & Oswego Midland Railroad-reorganized in 1879 as the New York, Ontario & Western Railway-was born out of necessity and a desire to populate and industrialize the interior regions of New York State. The railroad meandered down from Oswego, traversed the north shore of Oneida Lake, and then took a southerly route through Oneida and Norwich before turning east for a mountainous crossing to gain the village of Sidney. The railroad was not a success in its time. The New York, Ontario & Western brought a degree of financial stability to the northern division, and the line functioned through the late 1950s.

The Ontario & Western Railway Northern Division features photographs of the Ontario & Western, a railroad long on scenery but short on freight. The Ontario & Western inherited a railroad in search of revenue and a circuitous route that passed through one small community after another. Small wooden country depots dotted the line, locomotives of meager proportions pulled the trains, and dedicated employees did their best to keep the railroad solvent. The railroad is still fondly remembered today by those who rode its cars and witnessed its passing trains.



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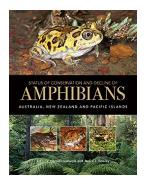
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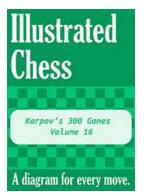
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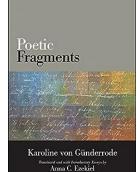
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