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OIL AND URBANIZATION ON THE PACIFIC COAST: RALPH BRAMEL LLOYD AND THE SHAPING OF THE URBAN WEST

MICHAEL R. ADAMSON

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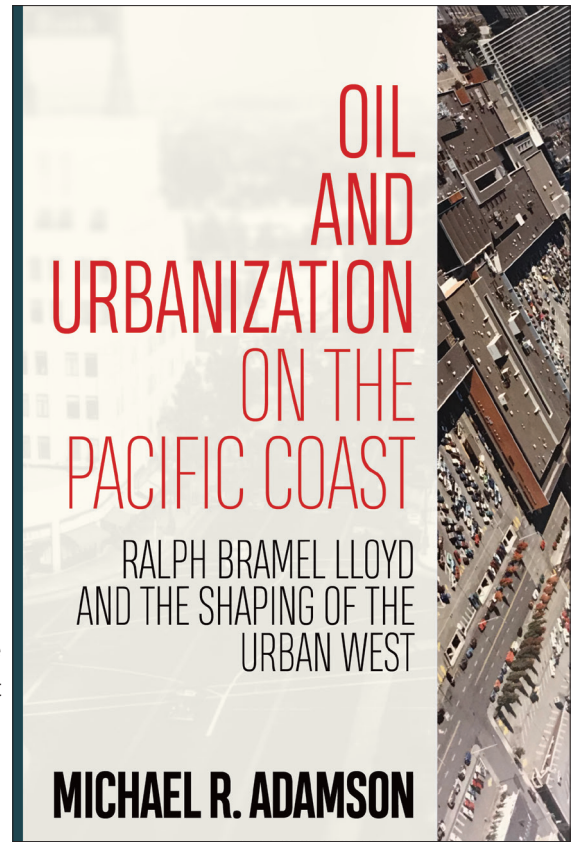
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*Oil and Urbanization on the Pacific Coast* tells the story of oilman Ralph Bramel Lloyd, a small business owner who drove the development of one of America's largest oil fields. Lloyd invested his petroleum earnings in commercial real estate—much of it centered on automobiles and the fuel they require—in several western cities, notably Portland, Oregon. Putting the history of extractive industry in dialogue with the history of urban development, Michael R. Adamson shows how energy is woven into the fabric of modern life, and how the "energy capital" of Los Angeles exerted far-flung influence in the US West.

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**MICHAEL R. ADAMSON** is the author of *A Better Way to Build: A History of the Pankow Companies*. Based in the San Francisco Bay Area, he is an independent scholar whose essays on business and urban history and US foreign economic policy have appeared in many peer-reviewed journals and scholarly collections.

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"This meticulously researched biography makes a valuable contribution to American business history by showing how Ralph Lloyd navigated a changing energy and real estate environment. It explores the interactions between oil field development and urban development, both on the scene in Ventura as a boom town and away from the scene in Los Angeles and Portland as opportunities for investment."

CARL ABBOTT, AUTHOR OF *HOW CITIES WON THE WEST: FOUR CENTURIES OF URBAN CHANGE IN WESTERN NORTH AMERICA*

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