



Roads and Anthropology: Ethnography, Infrastructures, (Im)mobility

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Roads and the powerful sense of mobility that they promise carry us back and forth between the sweeping narratives of globalisation, and the specific, tangible materialities of particular times and places. Indeed, despite the fact that roads might, by comparison with the sparkling agility of virtual technologies, appear to be grounded in twentieth century industrial political economy they could arguably be taken as the paradigmatic material infrastructure of the twenty-first century, supporting both the information society (in the ever increasing circulation of commoditized goods and labour), and the extractive economies of developing countries which the production and reproduction of such goods and labour depends. *Roads and Anthropology* is the first collection of road ethnographies, edited by two pioneers in the anthropological explorations of infrastructures, the essays published in this book aim to pave the way for that rising field of anthropological research.

This book was published as a special issue of *Mobilities*.

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Editorial Review

About the Author

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Penny Harvey is Director of CRESC (ESRC Centre for Research on Socio-Cultural Change) and Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Manchester. She is co-author (with Hannah Knox) of Roads (forthcoming Cornell University Press), and co-editor of *Objects and Materials: A Routledge Companion* (Routledge 2013).

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