

# Asphalt Through the Ages:

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Photo 6

# Road Oiling

Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



In this issue, the *Asphalt Through the Ages* photos are a tribute to a group of asphalt workers called "Road Oilers."

These men were critical workers in the early penetration macadam road building era. They were the ones responsible for pouring the hot asphalt over the different layers of aggregate. The asphalt then flowed down through, and bound, the aggregate layer.

To have been willing to do this work, these men must have had a special calling. Note how much asphalt they got on their clothes during their work.▲

Photo 1

A close-up of a Road Oiler on a 1914 penetration macadam pavement job in Florida.

Photo 2

Another view of the same job as photo 1. Note the asphalt melters in the background.

Photo 3

A job in Trenton, New Jersey in 1911. In the foreground is a close-up of the pour-pot they used.

Photo 4

Hand pouring hot asphalt penetration macadam on Long Island, New York, on Route 60 about 1910. Note how the gloves and pants are covered in asphalt.

Photo 5

This is in Tennessee in 1910. Here they are using the normal pour pot of that era. Note the man's pants.

Photo 6

This is a shot from 1911. Sometimes the Road Oilers were replaced with the early distributors but the same men probably were used to broom the asphalt.