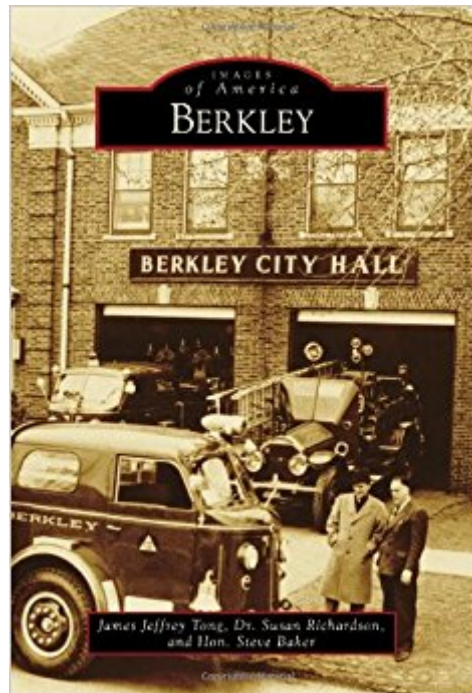




The book was found

Berkley (Images Of America)



Synopsis

Once a forbidding area of swamps and forests, Berkley was uninhabited until the early 19th century. In 1924, the Detroit News disparaged the "frontier community" and wrote that it "resembles a settlement in the oil waste of Wyoming." Still, forward-thinking residents thought Berkley had a bright future. Two factions with competing ideas raced with paperwork to the Oakland County Courthouse in Pontiac; the triumphant group, desiring a small town, camped out overnight to be the first in line. Later incorporated as a city in 1932, Berkley's history includes the invention of the Benjamin Grain Cradle, the Ku Klux Klan parading through its streets, and the devastation of the fledgling community during the Great Depression. Through it all, Berkley continues to thrive and prides itself on being the "City That Cares."

Book Information

Series: Images of America

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Arcadia Publishing (May 6, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0738599751

ISBN-13: 978-0738599755

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 0.3 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 6 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #521,800 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #625 in Books > Travel > Pictorial
#897 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > History #1091 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Travel

Customer Reviews

Images of America: Berkley contains photographs from the Berkley Historical Committee, the Walter Reuther Archives of Wayne State University, and various residents and organizations throughout the city. Authors James Jeffrey Tong, MSLS, Susan Richardson, PhD, and Hon. Steven Baker, MS, trace the evolution of Berkley from its unpromising beginnings through its present day as a family-oriented community.

Having been raised in this cozy little hamlet in the 1950s, I absolutely loved reading about its early history. And the photos are terrific. Anyone who has been to Berkley, or lived there for a while, will

enjoy this very detailed recounting of its pioneer days. Highly recommended.

What a delightful book, full of memories and revelations.. A must for anyone that grew up in Berkley and enjoy the benefits of a small town with a big heart, made up of caring, and motivated families.

Great book and the pictures helped to show how Berkley grew. I lived in Berkley until I was 18 years old and remembered a lot of the places that were showcased in the book.

A must have for anyone who grew up in Berkley! Very well done!

The book was certainly worthwhile. There is a lot of past that wasn't mentioned but hard to have it all and a lot of the people that knew it have passed on, unfortunately.

Berkley is a recent and valuable addition to the Images of America series. The pages are filled with photographs, lively captions, and careful historical commentary. The visual detail provides a sort of archeology of the social, political, and economic forces that have shaped both Berkley and the area north of Detroit. The book offers a framework for recognizing the place of small town America within the larger forces of industrialization and post-war suburbanization. Berkley emerges an icon, a concrete case that illustrates the major changes, social tensions, and values that have been at issue in the rise, fall, and persistence of the industrial midwest.

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