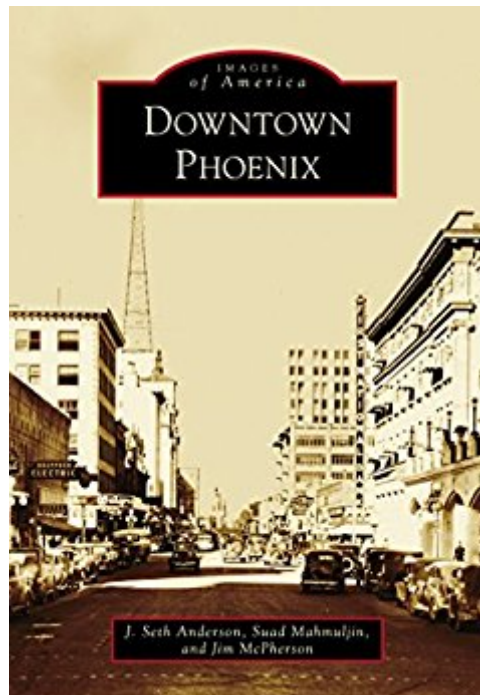




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Downtown Phoenix (Images Of America)



Synopsis

On a bed of a primordial ocean floor and in a valley surrounded by jagged mountains, a city was founded atop the ruins of a vanished civilization. In 1867, former Confederate soldier Jack Swilling saw the remains of an ancient canal system and the potential for the area to blossom into a thriving agricultural center. Pioneers moved into the settlement searching for new opportunities, and on October 20, 1870, residents living in adobe structures that lined dirt streets adopted the name Phoenix, expressing the optimism of the frontier. For decades, downtown Phoenix was a dense urban core, the hub of agricultural fields, mining settlements, and military posts. Unfortunately, suburban sprawl and other social factors of the post-World War II era led to the center's decline. With time, things changed, and now downtown Phoenix is uniquely positioned to rise again as a prominent 21st-century American city.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Pictures are wonderful brings back memories. Born and raised in Phoenix.

Great for local history buffs or anyone who grew up locally and remembers the old Phoenix.

Again I ordered this book for my adult son who likes historical books on the way cities and houses used to be. He was very pleased with it.

I have to admit that I follow J. Seth Anderson's blog and am familiar with his writing. As such, I was incredibly excited to read this. First, the images in this book are amazing. I imagine he had to go to great lengths and do a ton of research to find these pictures. I used to live in Downtown Phoenix, right by the Hotel San Carlos, the Rialto and Orpheum Theatres (pages 44, 47 and 117) actually, and I feel my heart flutter when I see those pictures. Everything is so different now, but it's so cool to see what it used to look like in the 1920s! I can imagine exactly where those photos were taken, even though the surroundings have completely changed. And, oh my gosh! HANNY'S! Hanny's (pg 59) is my favorite bar ever! I celebrated my graduation from Arizona State University there! This book just goes to show that Phoenix is not a boring city with no history. It has been vibrant and alive for a long time, and I love that this book makes me feel so connected to the past. Incidentally, page 124 makes me feel connected to my old home, like I'm walking home from Carly's or the lightrail. I miss Phoenix so much! When the rhythm of my shoes leads me back to the States, I am definitely settling (back) in right in the heart of Downtown Phoenix. Thanks for a great book!

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