

Synopsis

Steel and the steel industry are the backbone of Chicago's southeast side, an often overlooked neighborhood with a rich ethnic heritage. Bolstered by the prosperous steel industry, the community attracted numerous, strong-willed people with a desire to work from distinct cultural backgrounds. In recent years, the vitality of the steel industry has diminished. Chicago's Southeast Side displays many rare and interesting pictures that capture the spirit of the community when the steel industry was a vibrant force. Although annexed in 1889 by the city of Chicago, the community has maintained its own identity through the years. In an attempt to remain connected to their homelands, many immigrants established businesses, churches, and organizations to ease their transition to a new and unfamiliar land. The southeast side had its own schools, shopping districts, and factories. As a result, it became a prosperous, yet separate, enclave within the city of Chicago.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The story of this diverse, working-class neighborhood is beautifully compiled by authors Rod Sellers and Dominic A. Pacyga. Together they have written an informative history that combines intriguing photographs and the local history of a community that has always believed in the American dream. Those who remember the heyday of the neighborhood will treasure Chicago's Southeast Side for many years to come.

Fantastic book about the area where I was born & raised. Many personal connections for me, such

as the trunk on p.16 belonging to my grandfather. He used it when he came to Chicago from Texas. Today the trunk is in my sister's dining room! I don't know who the woman sitting on the trunk is but there is a picture of my grandfather on p.114. He is a man kneeling at the bottom left of the bottom picture on the page. There is also a picture of my aunt, one of my grandfather's five daughters, on p.93. She is second from the right in the bottom picture. This book should be required reading for the school children on the East Side, it is historically very accurate. If you are looking for a book that details the ground up development of a major industrial center and the people that made it happen, this is it.

Having grown up in both South Deering and Jeffery Manor, and going to school on the East side, I was caught up in the pictures, history at its best.

Very good treatment of an old community...a commemoration of a way of life that may now only be conveyed by older generations and by books such as this.

Makes a real connection with my ancestors in Chicago; the narrative was insightful. Recommend to any and all with an interest in Chicago history.

I bought this principally because my Mom, Dad, and nearly my entire family were born on the southeast side. Mom and I loved the book.

I rec'd the wrong book and I never heard if it was rec'd back to you. When this is cleared up I want to try again

YOU HAD TO BE THERE, AND MY PARENTS WERE, DURING THE 1920'S-1950'S. THE IMAGES AND TEXT IN THE BOOK BROUGHT BACK FLOODS OF MEMORIES, AND THEY TALKED ABOUT IT FOR HOURS. WAS GREAT TO HOW IT STIRRED SOMETHING SO FAR BACK IN THEIR PAST (IN THEIR 80'S NOW). BOOK IS DECENT LENGTH, THOUGH ONE HOPES IT WOULD OF BEEN LONGER SINCE IT WAS EFFECTIVE READING AND PHOTOS. QUITE ENJOYABLE PRODUCT FOR THE MONEY, I HIGHLY RECOMMEND IT FOR PEOPLE WHO GREW UP IN THE REGION. (SAME REVIEW FOR BOOK #1 IN THE SERIES).

Anyone from the southeast side of Chicago will love this book. It's full of great pictures of the places

we grew up with. It makes a great gift for someone who's hard to buy for. I bought one for my older brother and he is enjoying all the memories it brings to mind.

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