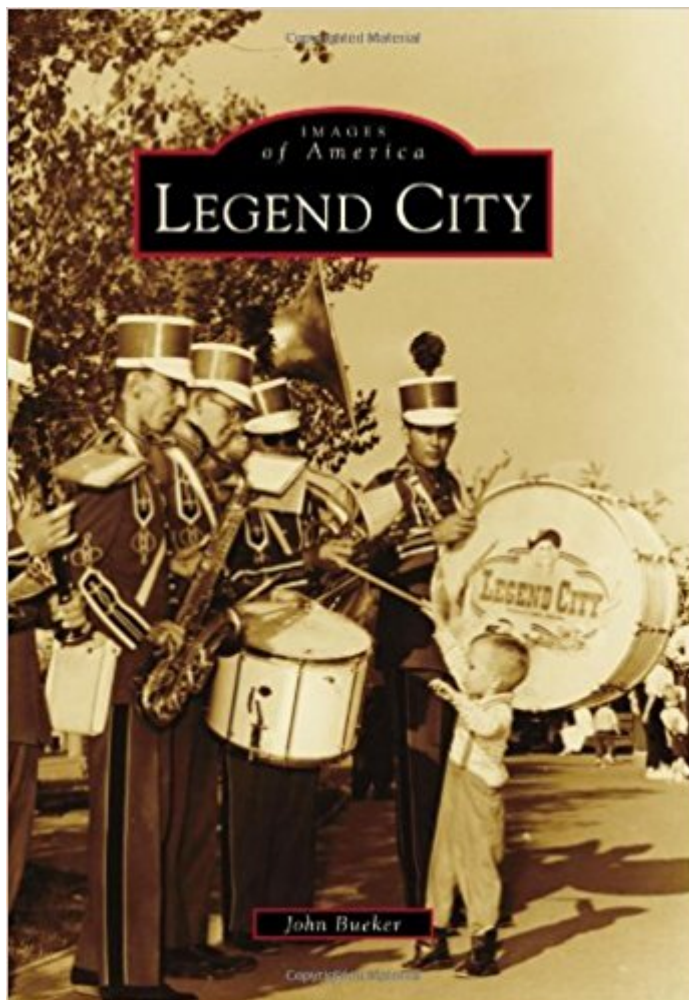


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# Legend City (Images Of America)



## Synopsis

Conceived and built in the early 1960s by local artist and advertising man Louis E. Crandall, Legend City was an ambitious and star-crossed mid-century attempt to bring a world-class theme park to the Phoenix metropolitan area. Despite daunting financial challenges and an unforgiving Arizona sun, the park managed to survive for two full decades, entertaining countless Arizonans and forging an enduring place for itself in the hearts and minds of local residents. A sad tale of broken dreams and economic failure on the surface, the story of Legend City is actually an exhilarating and fascinating chapter in the cultural history of Arizona.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Author John Bueker was raised in the Phoenix area in the 1960s and 1970s, and he absorbed the local culture and developed a marked affinity for Phoenix nostalgia. He started a Web site tribute to Legend City in 2001 and has, over the years, assembled an extensive collection of images and tales of the long-lost Arizona amusement park.

I'm a native of Phoenix and I remember going to Legend City when I was a kid. While the Legend City I remember visiting was less about the old-west theme park and more about thrill rides (as things changed over the years), I remember going on the Lost Dutchman Mine ride, the skyway and other attractions as well as the weekend appearances by Wallace and Ladmo. I must have been 6 or 7 years old when it closed so my memories aren't that vivid anymore and out of curiosity I've

searched the web for information and photos so I can reminisce. I have looked at other books in this series but never felt compelled to buy any of them. I don't even remember how I found this particular one but I just had to have it. There is a ton of material here and a lot of photos and stories about the history of the park I wasn't aware of. It makes me wonder whether something like this could be pulled off with the right financial backing. I know a lot of people complain about the heat but what it was closed in the summer and open the rest of the year, such as the reverse of what parks in colder climates do.

If you lived in the Phoenix area during the sixties and seventies, then you remember Legend City. Legend City was our theme park. Entrepreneur Louis Crandall envisioned a theme park similar to Disneyland. Legend City opened in the early sixties and lasted for twenty years. Through a succession of owners and bankruptcies Legend City entertained a generation of Arizonans until it closed its doors for the last time in September of 1983. In this book, John Bueker tells a brief history of the park. He has also included a unique collection of photographs which document the park, the rides, the attractions, and the people of Legend City. If you remember Legend City, this book will be a nostalgic reminder of that time long ago when Phoenix had its own theme park.

Excellent, excellent, excellent! Very pleased with this purchase, brought back tons of memories!

Growing up in AZ in the 60's-70's there are only so many of us that know of Legend City and of the Wallace and Ladmo Show. This is a piece of AZ history that is gone but not forgotten. Thankyou to who ever printed this. These are X-Mas gifts for this year. I know they will be appreciated. I even bought one for myself. They arrived in a timely manor, mint cond, good communication from seller, and yes I'd recommend this to a friend.

Great book a lot of history. I worked there for a few years and I am so glad to have something that shows what it was all about.

Thanks

Nice book, hardback would've scored another star.

An interesting book, especially for all who have memories of Legend City. It was fun while it lasted!

And the book helps it to live on.

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