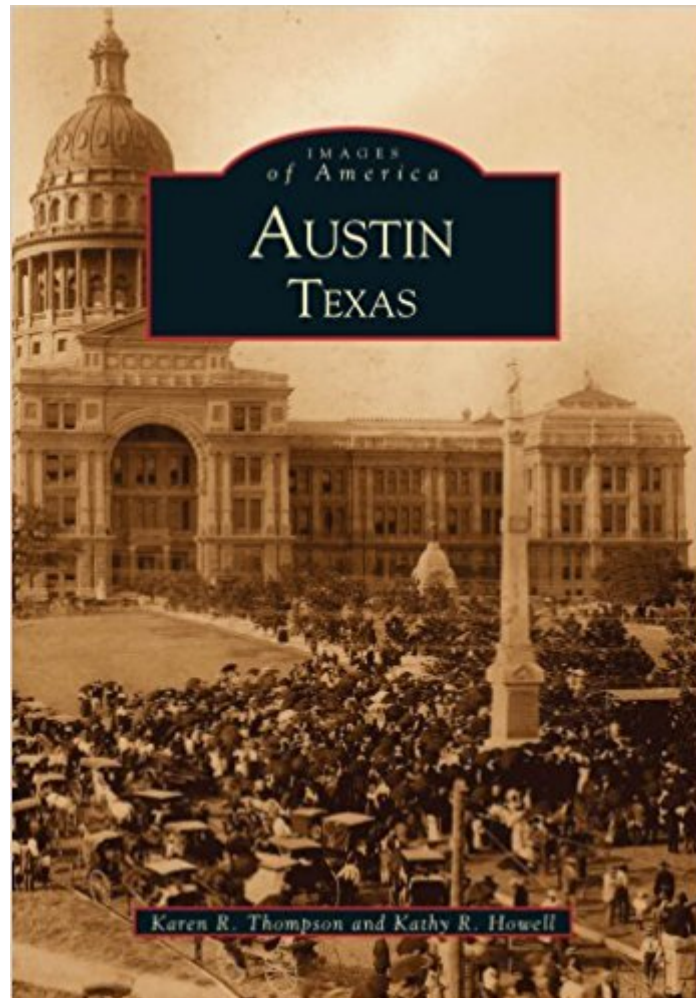




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Austin (TX) (Images Of America)



Karen R. Thompson and Kathy R. Howell



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Synopsis

When General Sam Houston's Texas army defeated Mexican General Santa Anna at the Battle of San Jacinto on April 21, 1836, the Republic of Texas was born. Austin, located on the banks of the Colorado River, was laid out as the capital city in 1839, and has remained the capital since statehood in 1846. Featured here in over 200 vintage photographs is the history of this independent city, and the people who made it what it is today. Land agent Stephen F. Austin brought the first Anglo settlers to the Spanish territory in 1821 and guided them until independence in 1836. Seen here are the images that capture the spirit of those original pioneers and their achievements, including the French Legation, the construction of the capitol, and the Texas governor's mansion, the oldest governor's residence west of the Mississippi. Also pictured are the familiar faces of Austin's long history, including Austin's first mayor, Edwin Waller, and past governor Alan Shivers.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Authors Karen R. Thompson and Kathy R. Howell, a mother-daughter team, are 5th and 6th generation Austinites. Ms. Thompson has been collecting photographs of Texas history for over 40 years, and showcases many of those images here in this new book, all of which have never before been published.

As the words to the song say, this is the consummate Austin history book. Whether you are a new Austinite like myself, or an oldtimer, this book is sure to please as do all the books in the Images of America series. With its proliferation of great photos old and new, you will surely find something of

interest. There are pictures of schools and hotels of the past with descriptions below, stores from their original inception to their closings (or burnings down!), and pictures (look at those long skirts) and horse and buggies that will amaze you. This is primarily a pictorial history of Austin; it is anything but dry. Rather, it gives insight into the people, places and things that formed Austin to be the exciting Capital city that it is. One thing I did notice was that women played an early important role in this State! Highly recommended!

A very good book.

My son asked for this book for Christmas. We all looked at it and really enjoyed it . Others wanted a copy too !

A great book about Austin, Texas.

Austin (TX) (Scenes of America) This product is far below the usual standards for titles from the Scenes of America series, with the book itself being half the size of a normal book in the series. This book should not have been issued--it is more a personal scrapbook than a worthy history. Apparently, the authors had access to only a few friends from a few families in order to obtain photos for the book. Missing are photos of many important and well known public buildings, grand old homes (some with historical markers, like the world-renowned Bremond block) and other interesting architecture in the city. For starters, I would suggest the authors do actual research in the Austin Public Library archives and review, for starters, the wonderful "Waterloo Scrapbook" series for excellent photos and actual local history from a variety of neighborhoods and perspectives. There are many other published books that are sources for important photographs and historical details available in the state archives as well.

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