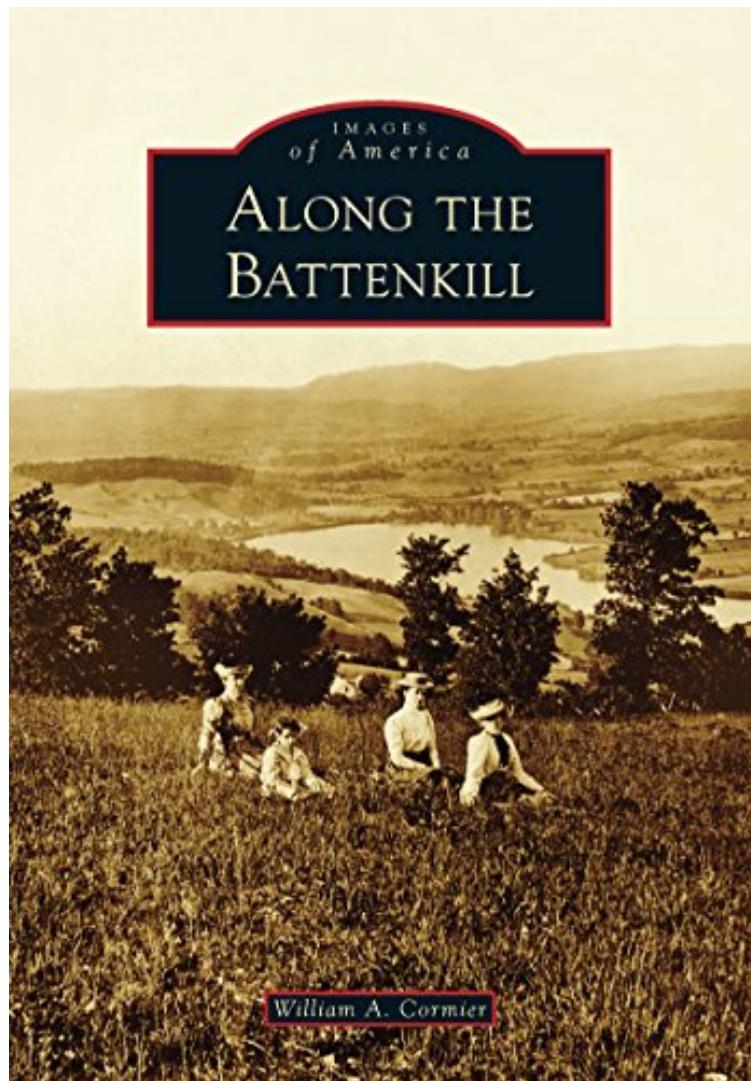


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Along the Battenkill (Images of America)

William A. Cormier

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William A. Cormier : Along the Battenkill (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Along the Battenkill (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Highly recommended. By William Smock Although this book is an album of photographs, it has more humanity, history and economics -- presented in a vivid way -- than you might expect to find in a hefty book. The captions -- names and places, plus context -- are amazingly knowledgeable. These are not random snapshots of unknown people, found in a drawer. They are a concise, engaging survey of everything that went on in the region, from hunting to manufacturing to parades. Highly recommended. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Robert D. Chagnon Very well illustrated and informative 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Jgreat book

The Battenkill Valley, in the southern part of Washington County, is the historical backdrop to many homesteading settlers as well as the Mohawk and Mahican tribes. Two retired Roger's Rangers, James Turner and Joshua Conkey, came to Salem and purchased 25,000 acres of land--known as the Turner Patent--bringing many families from Pelham, Massachusetts, to settle along White Creek and the Battenkill. With the advent of photography, the results of this pioneering spirit were captured, first on glass negative plates and later with roll film, by numerous Salem photographers from 1865 to the early 1900s. As new canals, roads, and railroads of the 1800s were built, local photographers could travel easily with their heavy photography equipment, capturing scenes of the towns and villages nestled in the Adirondack Mountains, replete with their own rivers and lakes. Now, the region thrives off agriculture, logging, mining, and tourism. The Battenkill draws hundreds of fishermen, boaters, and swimmers to the area in the spring and summer.

About the Author William A. Cormier, a retired high school principal of Salem Washington Academy, is the Salem town and village historian and the author of several local history publications. For *Along the Battenkill*, he has utilized the photograph collection of the village archives as well as those of community residents.