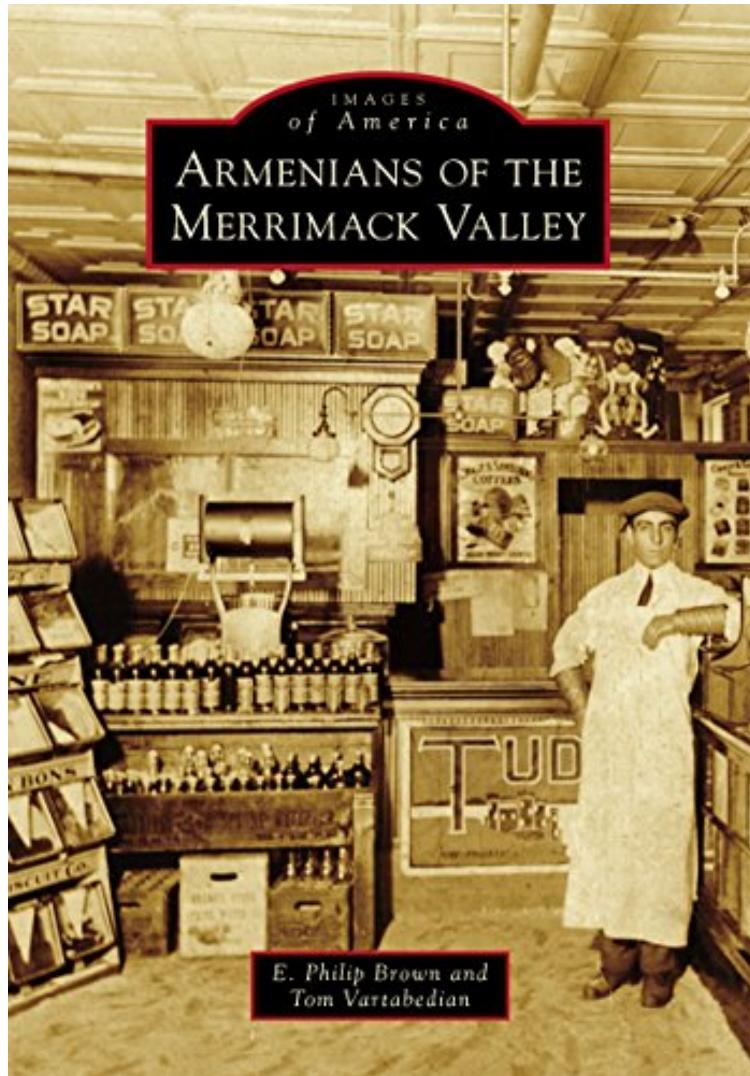


Armenians of the Merrimack Valley (Images of America)

E. Philip Brown, Tom Vartabedian
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E. Philip Brown, Tom Vartabedian : Armenians of the Merrimack Valley (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Armenians of the Merrimack Valley (Images of America):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. A terrific walk through historyBy Book loverLoved all the pictures and descriptions. Very informative and interesting book capturing the history of Armenians in the Merrimack Valley in Massachusetts.

When one thinks of the Merrimack Valley, shoe shops and mills come to mind. For that reason, it was a hotbed for Armenian immigrants following World War I and the genocide that robbed Armenia of half its population, with some

1.5 million victims lost at the hands of the Ottoman Turkish Empire and another million people uprooted from their homes and scattered to a Diaspora. Many of these refugees came to the Merrimack Valley settling in the cities of Haverhill, Lawrence, and Lowell to eke out a better life for themselves and their families. Aside from sweatshop labor, they sought work as barbers and mercenaries, business owners and handymen, going to night school for better English standards and keeping their rich heritage and culture intact with their churches and community centers. Despite the discrimination they faced with their strange names and lifestyles, the Armenians remained tenacious and resilient, contributing to the overall welfare of their new promised land.

"As a passionate voice of the Armenian community of Merrimack Valley, Vartabedian's recently released book showcasing the community he so dearly cherishes is also one that he hopes his children and community will be most proud of, as he faces the fight of a lifetime." The Armenian Weekly About the Author E. Philip Brown is a social studies instructor at Haverhill High School and author of Haverhill Sports Trivia. Tom Vartabedian is a retired writer and photographer with the Haverhill Gazette and an Armenian community activist, especially in the field of genocide education.