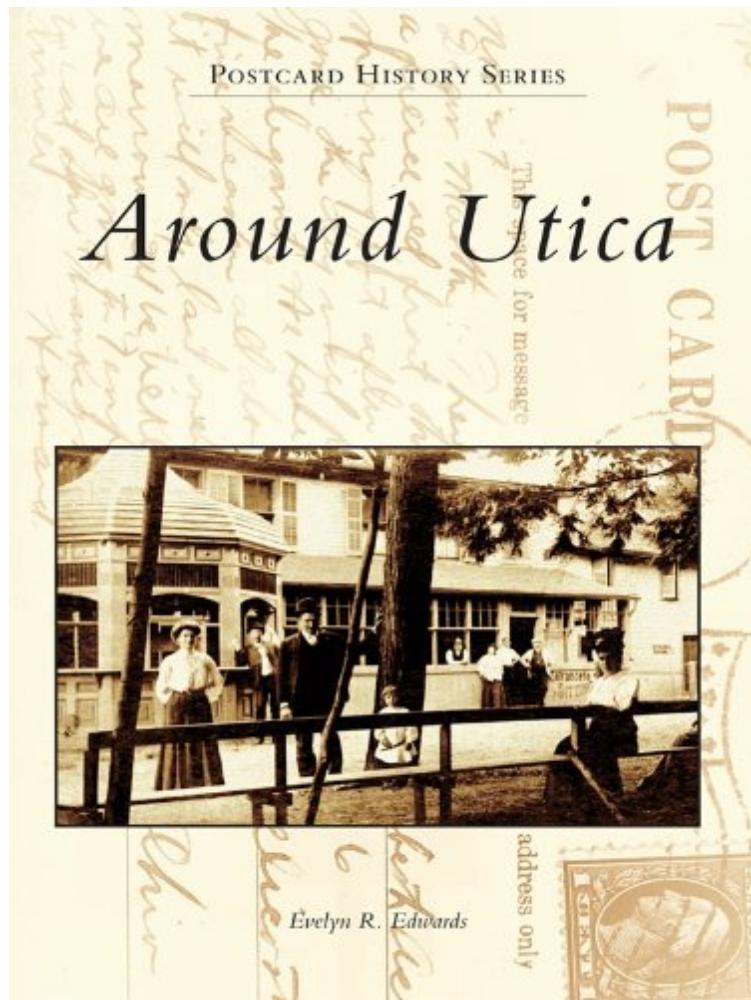


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Around Utica (Postcard History Series)

Evelyn R. Edwards
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Evelyn R. Edwards : Around Utica (Postcard History Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Around Utica (Postcard History Series):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Lovely Look at a Beautiful CityBy Ethics ProfI grew up in Utica, so I was eager to see this book. My only regret is that it didn't have a more representative selection of historical photos. There was much history that took place in Utica - hard to believe now - but it was said at one time that the "decisions of the world were made in Utica." The residential architecture on its main street (Genesee) and in areas like Rutger Park, etc., is grand and impressive and reflects the city's importance to the country at the end of the nineteenth century. Unfortunately, this book shows only a few of those gorgeous homes. While this volume recalls much of the grandeur of Utica at the time, there's just not enough of it. It's not really an overview of the area as much as it is a celebration of one person's collection of photographs, and it is limited by his interests. That said, the book is still beautiful. There are photos that give a glimpse of the beautiful elm trees that once graced the streets there. Oxford Road in New Hartford is

pictured, almost empty except for the marvelous home near St. John's Church which was rumored to be a stop on the Underground Railroad. And my grandparents used to speak of Forest Park, which is featured in this collection. I had no idea where it was until I saw this book. (It was on Oneida Street near Hillcrest Manor - who knew!) So, while this is a limited collection, it is still worth the price!

Around Utica features the work of A. J. Manning, who traveled with his camera through picturesque central New York in the early 1900s. Manning recorded historic events, such as Sherman Notification Day in 1908, honoring William Howard Taft's vice presidential nominee James Schoolcraft Sherman; catastrophes, such as the fires at Utica Free Academy and the YMCA; and nostalgic scenes of everyday life. His images were produced in small quantities as real-photo postcards, which today are quite rare and much sought after by collectors.

About the Author Among the collectors of Manning's postcards is Evelyn R. Edwards, who also authored an earlier photographic history entitled *The Sauquoit Valley*. A member of four local historical societies, she has been an avid deltiologist for two decades. From her collection she has selected some 200 outstanding glimpses of life for *Around Utica*, a work that will delight anyone wishing to know more about the past.