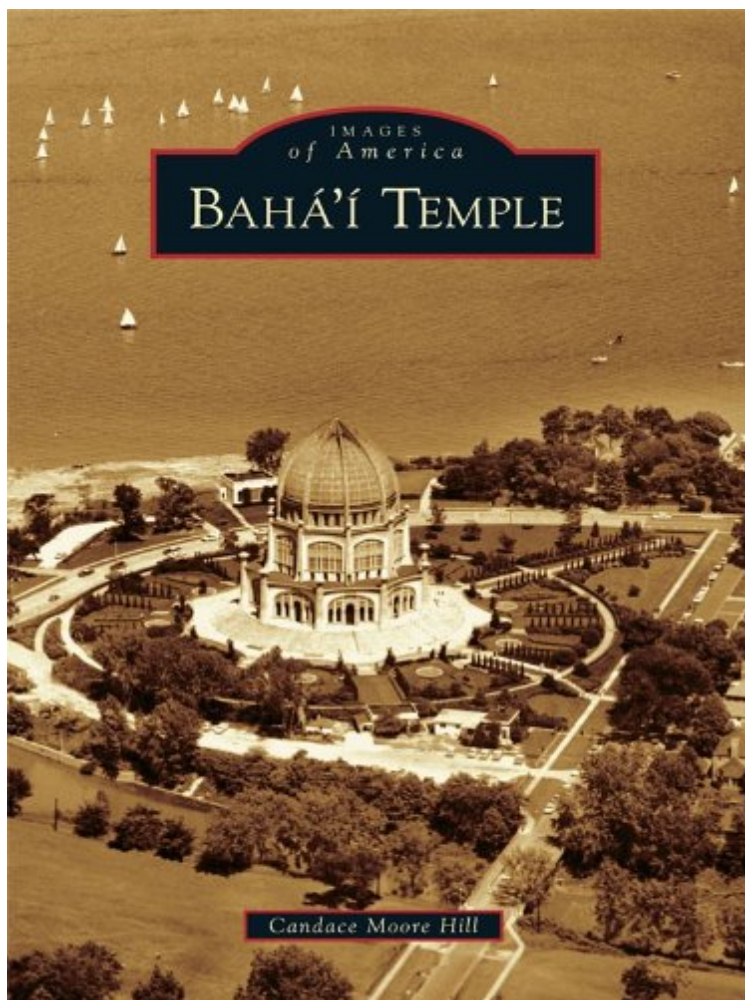


Baha'i Temple (Images of America)

Candace Moore Hill

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Candace Moore Hill : Baha'i Temple (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Baha'i Temple (Images of America):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Informative, well-written history of the Baha'i TempleBy Lee Anne OlsonCandace Moore Hill has effectively researched the history of the Baha'i Temple and condensed it to fit the numerous, well-selected photographs. For those who know the Temple well, she brings forth less known facts and to those to whom this book is an introduction it is a collective and interesting picture of how the Temple grew from an idea to a beautiful landmark and spiritual presence on Chicago's north shore.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Shahab FatheazamSuch an important building so little on it. Well done.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Easy to read and comprehensiveBy ampThis little book contains short stories and many photographs about the extraordinary process of building the Baha'i Temple for North America.

The Baha'i House of Worship sits on the shores of Lake Michigan, just 5 miles north of Chicago. How it came to be built in the heart of the United States is a story that begins with the World's Columbian Exposition in 1893. Inspired by news of the first Baha'i Temple in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, members of the Chicago Baha'i House of Spirituality drafted a petition in 1903 asking for permission to begin their own. Fifty years later, in 1953, a completed Baha'i House of Worship was dedicated in Wilmette. The story of how very few believers in a new faith built the "Great Bell" of the North Shore--during the Great Depression and World War II years--is shown with archival photographs from every stage of construction up to the present. This includes ongoing restoration projects preserving the beauty of the "Temple of Light."

From the Author
If you are not already familiar with this lovely series, welcome to the photographic history books from Arcadia Publishing. With the goal of promoting local history, Arcadia has more than 6,000 books in print featuring practically every corner, hamlet, town, county, city, port, museum, sporting events or world's fair in America. They are a delight to browse and addictive to buy. Once you have a little collection of two or three you begin to think, why not one of every town in my country, or from all the cities in our state? For a long time I had been thinking that these books would be a good format to showcase the history of the Baha'i House of Worship in Wilmette. The stories of those first Chicago Baha'is, how they purchased the land on the lake shore, how they raised the funds dollar by dollar, chose the architect and then adapted the design, reads like a novel. It's a great story, one that Baha'is have always enjoyed sharing with the many thousands of visitors who come to view, admire and pray at the House of Worship every year. Fortunately, for a photographic history book, I knew exactly where the pictures were to tell this story. You see, there's this back room, in the corner of the basement, where you have to know which door to knock on, that's the Baha'i National Archives, and two wonderful men who work there. They brought out file and file for me and we happily talked through all the photos, scanned and copies them and they pointed me to many resources and references for filling out the stories. Learn the whole story, from the 1893 World's Parliament of Religions at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, to the building of the North Shore Channel of the Chicago River, through the depths of the Great Depression, and the invention of the stunningly beautiful ornamental concrete by the "man who made concrete beautiful" to the ongoing restoration project. It was fun to write, and one you read it, you'll be able to answer the question: "buy why in Wilmette?"
About the Author
Candace Moore Hill moved to Illinois in 1983 to work at the Baha'i National Center in Evanston. She has been a greeter, guide, reader, and member of the Baha'ishy; House of Worship Choir. She later married its conductor. As a guide, she was asked many of the questions that are answered in this book.