Bay City (Then and Now)

Leon Katzinger
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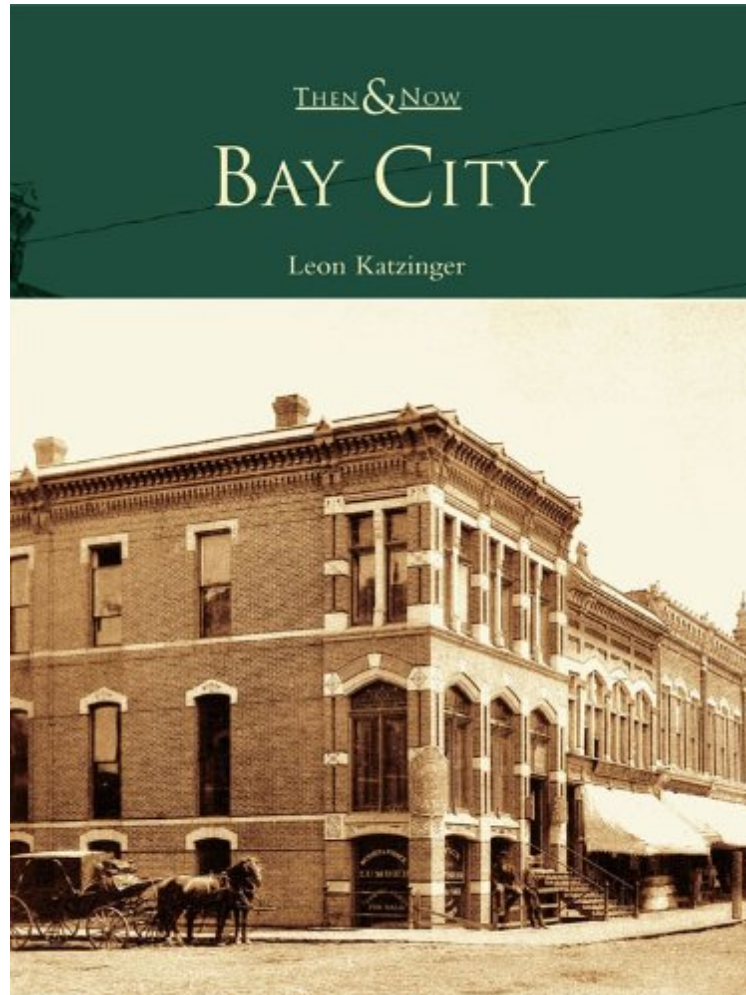
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In 1831, Alexis de Tocqueville described the Saginaw Valley as the ?far west? of our growing nation, predicting that its impenetrable forests would soon be felled, and its river would be lined with quays and filled with vessels.

Influential settlers soon began to confirm those predictions, including the Trombleys, who arrived in 1831 and built the Trombley House in 1837. Albert Miller platted Portsmouth in 1836?and Lower Saginaw, now known as Bay City, was platted the same year. Throughout the 20th century, majestic buildings were erected, schools, homes, and churches were established, and Bay City developed into a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family.

About the AuthorLeon Katzinger has been married for 34 years, with two grown sons. He has collected Bay City postcards for more than 30 years. With his collection and cards from several friends, he helps recreate a bygone era. He is the principal of Auburn Elementary School and a past president of the Bay County Historical Society.