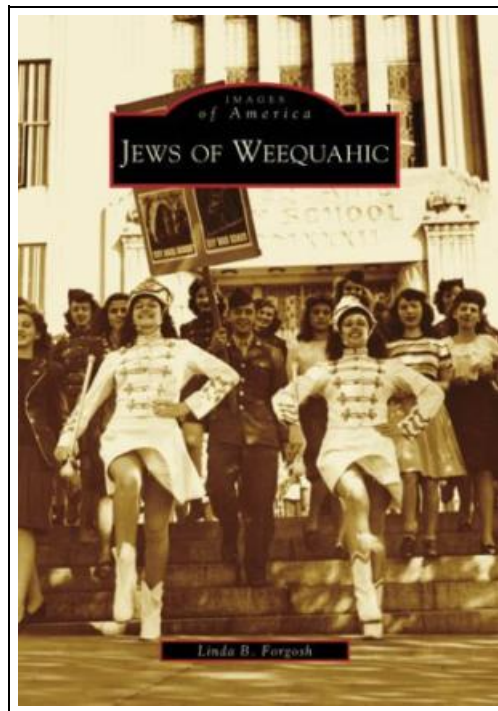


Jews of Weequahic (Images of America: New Jersey)



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(Marquis Gusikowski)

JEWES OF WEEQUAHIC (IMAGES OF AMERICA: NEW JERSEY)



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Arcadia Publishing, 2008. Book Condition: New. Brand New, Unread Copy in Perfect Condition. A+ Customer Service! Summary: Title: Book Review - Weequahic remembered. Author: Paul Lenchner Publisher: Philip Roth Society Newsletter Date: 2008 Newsletter Long ago and far away (at least from my present home in Texas), the Weequahic section of Newark, New Jersey, was the site of a vibrant Jewish community from the 1930s into the 1960s. The lives of Weequahic's 35,000 residents are portrayed in this book. The portrait is primarily visual. Linda Forgosh has written a brief introduction to the neighborhood, but the heart of the volume is the hundreds of photographs that she has meticulously compiled, mainly from former Weequahic residents. Appropriate mention is made of children of Weequahic who became famous, of whom Philip Roth is the most celebrated. There is a photo of the home on Summit Avenue, now designated a Historic Site, where Roth lived until 1942. But the book has no individual star. Its leading character is the neighborhood. To my untrained eyes, what stands out in the photos is time, more than place or ethnicity. There is no sense that Newark, and Weequahic in particular, were somehow different from comparable neighborhoods in Philadelphia, Cleveland, or Baltimore. (Perhaps they weren't; I don't know.) There is some feel for the Jewish character of Weequahic, but other than the names in the photo captions, a few of the stores and restaurants, and some of the fraternal organizations, not that much. The pictures of athletic teams and school classes and socials are pretty generic. On the other hand, one does get a real sense of time. Of course, clothing and grooming, and buildings and cars place the photos in a particular era. Beyond the obvious, a number of the pictures are clearly from a long-gone...



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