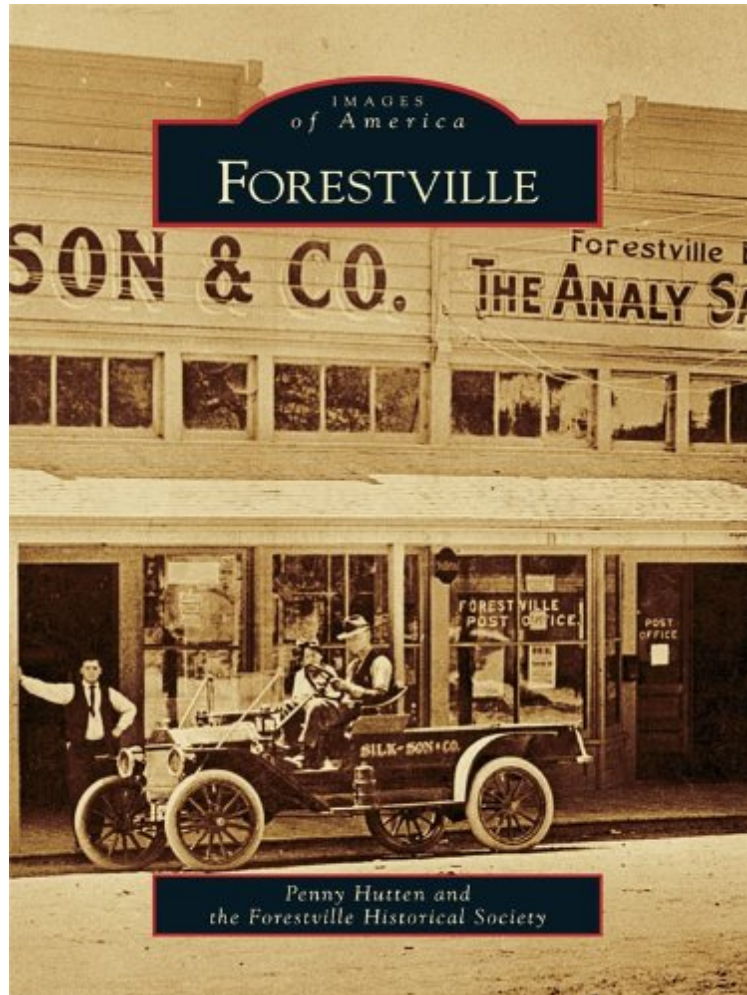


Forestville

Penny Hutten

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Penny Hutten : Forestville before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Forestville:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Family History raising GravensteinsBy OboeMy family raised apples in Forestville. It's wonderful to find a book about a place that's close to my heart.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The pictures themselves cannot tell their stories, so the captions do.By Gabor PorI've been to bookstores lots of times in California and was always glad to see a series of books displayed about the local towns, be they small or large. The series I am taking about have a sepia tone, they always the same size and the top has in large yellowish letter on black ground the name of the town it talks about. Until recently though I haven't actually took any of them off their shelves and didn't pay a closer attention to them. I was just satisfied with the knowledge that when and if I want to learn more about a particular locale I will be able to do with the help of these books.When I returned from a European trip a few weeks ago I found one of these volumes at home. I still didn't ask whether we bought or

got it, but was happy to "read" it. It is about the village we moved to last year: Forestville. I had put "reading" in quotation mark, because I realized that less reading is involved in this book than with others, because it is a picture book. Now I also know that the title of the series is "Images of America" by Arcadia Publishing and each volume contains almost exclusively photographs, with explanatory captions. This volume opens with a half a page acknowledgments and continues with a one and a half page introduction. The latter paints the history of the village from 1846 to 1962 with a big brush, just mentioning the key people, families and events in its short history. Then the pictures are organized around 8 themes, not necessarily chronologically: El Molino, Changing money, Early settlers, Making spirits, saving souls, Training minds, Wheels and rails, and Playground for San Francisco. The length of these chapters varies between 6 and 24 pages. I had a swell time paging through this volume. The pictures themselves cannot tell their stories, so the captions help. Sometimes they did tell a short story, other times we barely learned the names of the people shown. I also paid attention at the end of the captions: courtesy of... I kept thanking mentally the people who kept these photographs and allowed to be used for this volume. Finally I want to thank Penny Huston, the founder of the Forestville Historical Society and the author of this book. Thanks to her I have a sense of the history of the place I am living, even though I don't know many locals. Yet 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A survey of a Sonoma county town that grew from the Spanish land grant to its current status By Midwest Book Review Penny Hutten and the Forestville Historical Society worked hard on FORESTVILLE, a survey of a Sonoma county town that grew from the Spanish land grant to its current status. Author Penny Hutten has been a 35-year resident of the town and founded the Forestville historical Society in 1999. Any Northern California collection specializing in regional California history will find this book invaluable.

Visitors to Forestville are taken aback by its picturesque valleys laden with roaming vineyards. However, Forestville is more than a gateway to the Russian River; it is a diverse array of businesses, wineries, farming, and recreation. Forestville grew from the Spanish land grant traded by Capt. Juan Bautista Rogers Cooper from his brother-in-law Gen. Mariano Vallejo in 1834 into the town known by passing travelers as "Swindle Rig." In 1867, the town was named Forestville after Andrew Jackson Forrister, a saloon owner. It was set apart from other settlements by having the first powered sawmill in California and the Faudreacute; Chair factory, the largest manufacturing plant in Sonoma County of that era. Collectors still seek out the factory's rawhide-bottom chairs. As a popular stop on the railway line, many vacationers from San Francisco passed through on their journeys to the Russian River. In 1963, the town continued to be different, setting aside land for a community youth park, so it is no wonder the town's slogan is "Forestville the Great Life."