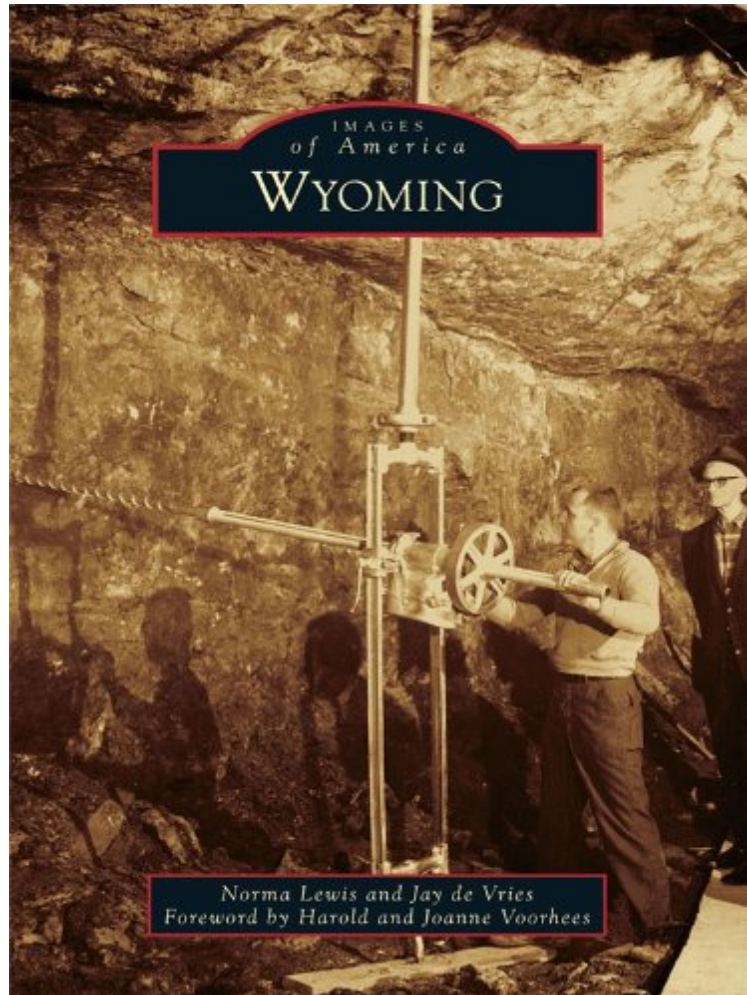


Wyoming (Images of America)

Norma Lewis, Jay de Vries

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Norma Lewis, Jay de Vries : Wyoming (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wyoming (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nostalgic, and looking to the futureBy Kindle CustomerI enjoyed reading the history of my hometown as seen through the eyes and personal memories of its residents. I would have liked more details on some of the stories; but perhaps those details will be, or have already been written, in another book.

Wyoming, Michigan, became a city in 1959, the same year Alaska and Hawaii became states, but its history began more than a century earlier. The first permanent settlers came in 1832, and in 1848, the region split, with the northern portion becoming Wyoming and the southern, Byron Center. Wyoming flourished. The farmers came first with the businesses that supported them. Industry followed. The various gypsum mines were among the earliest arrivals.

General Motors built a stamping plant on Thirty-sixth Street that helped pull the township out of the Great Depression in 1936. It was a success, so the company built a diesel plant on Burlingame Avenue. Reynolds Metals, Steelcase, Light Metals, Bell Fibre, and others found Wyoming a good place to relocate. People wanted to live where they worked, and that meant an ever-increasing number of houses were built, followed by additional schools, churches, shops, and restaurants. Rogers Plaza was West Michigan's first enclosed mall. Though often contentious, the local government did its best to live up to an ambitious slogan, "Wyoming: the City of Vision and Progress."

About the Author Norma Lewis writes travel, feature, and humor articles for national and regional magazines. She is the author of *Grand Rapids: Furniture City* and *Going for the Gold*. This is her second collaboration with her husband, Jay de Vries. They coauthored *Dutch Heritage in Kent and Ottawa Counties*. He is a graduate of Calvin College and Calvin Seminary.