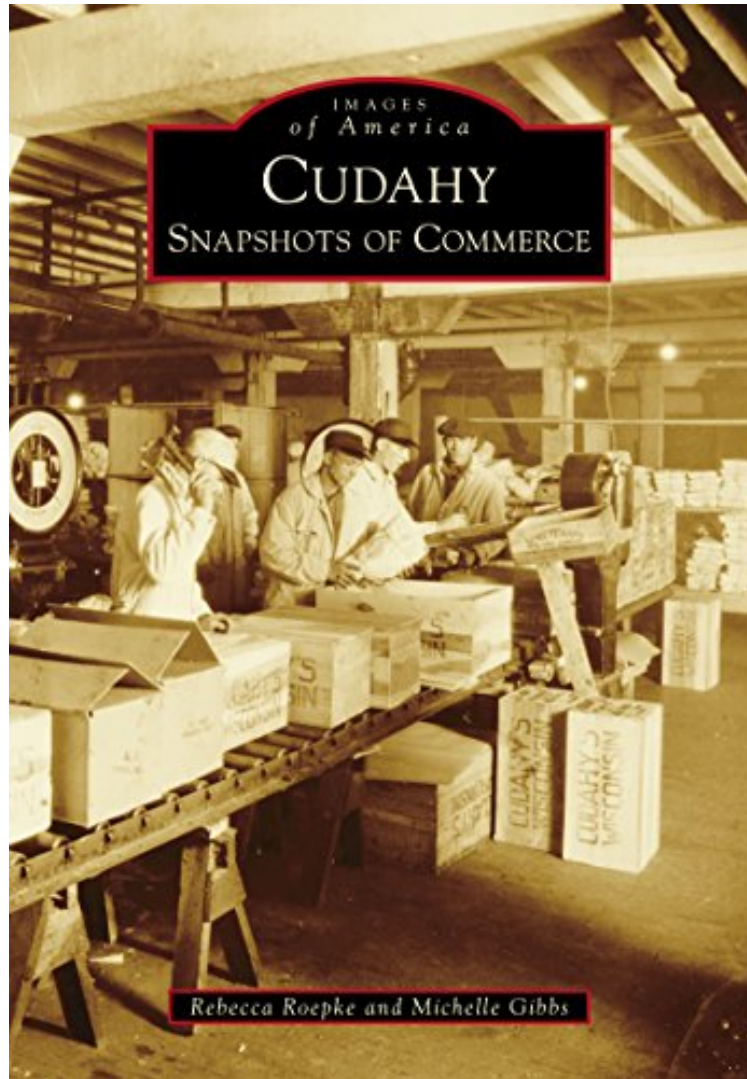


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Cudahy: Snapshots of Commerce (Images of America)

Rebecca Roepke, Michelle Gibbs
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Cudahy's commerce began with Patrick Cudahy, an Irish immigrant who started a meatpacking business in 1892. He invited other industrialists to follow him to the farmlands southeast of Milwaukee, and soon nationally known companies like Ladish, Federal Rubber, and George Meyer opened factories in the new city. Smaller businesses like

Adamczyk's Meat Market, Dretzka's Department Store, Pinter's Inn, and Sullivan's Cigar Shop thrived amidst a growing population. With the gradual loss of heavy industry after World War II and the rise of retail box stores, Cudahy has strived to attract commercial and light manufacturing companies like the Gift Shoppe, Milwaukee Cylinder, National Tissue, and Angelic Bakehouse. Cudahy started as—and continues to be—a small town with big opportunities.

About the AuthorMichelle Gibbs and Rebecca Roepke work for the Cudahy Family Library. Michelle oversees the reference department and the Katherine Quentin Eaton Local History Collection. A lifelong resident of Cudahy, Rebecca is the library's director. The photographs in this history are primarily from the library's archives, which were established in 1956. Over the years, the library received many images from the Cudahy family, local businesses, organizations, and individuals. These gifts have helped foster the community's connection to the heritage of the past.