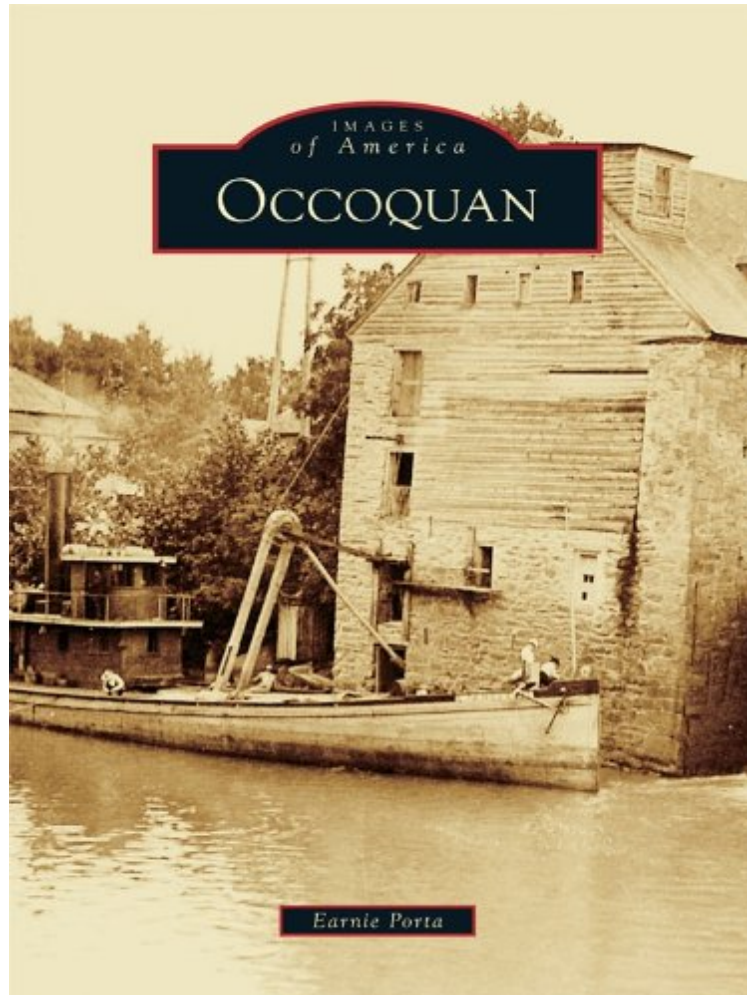


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Occoquan (Images of America)

Earnie Porta

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Earnie Porta : Occoquan (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Occoquan (Images of America):

Although Native Americans have lived along the banks of the Occoquan for thousands of years, John Smith was the first European to visit the area, arriving at the river's mouth in 1608. Here he encountered the Dogue Indians, from whose language the river and town take their names. With the coming of settlers, Occoquan's location at the meeting of the Tidewater and Piedmont made it ideal for water-related industry and commerce. By the end of the 18th century, it boasted one of the first automated gristmills in the nation. During the Civil War, Occoquan housed both Union and Confederate troops and was the sight of several small engagements. In 1972, the river, which had provided so many commercial and recreational benefits, revealed a more dangerous side as flooding from Hurricane Agnes caused severe

damage. The people of Occoquan rebuilt, and the town evolved into the wonderful mixture of old and new that gives it the unique character seen today.

About the Author Earnie Porta is a board member of the Occoquan Historical Society and began his first term as Occoquan's mayor in 2006. Many of the photographs in this book come from the collection of the Occoquan Historical Society's Mill House Museum.