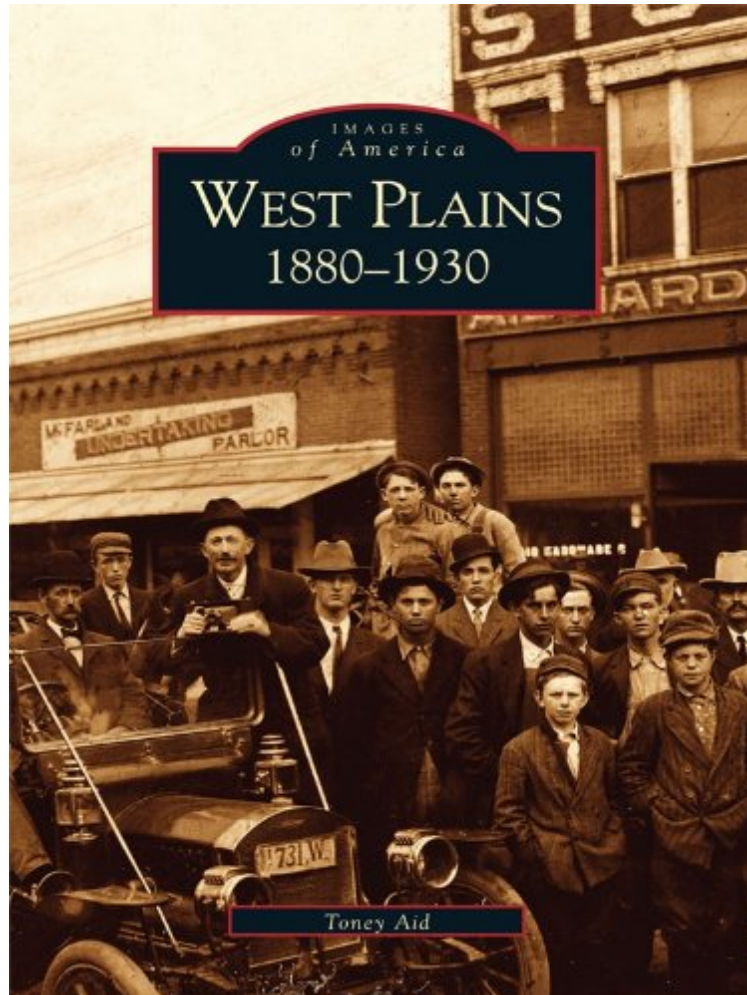


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West Plains: 1880-1930 (Images of America)

Toney Aid

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Toney Aid : West Plains: 1880-1930 (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised West Plains: 1880-1930 (Images of America):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Enter small-town Am. around turn of the centuryBy Deborah StaufferThis Images of America book about West Plains, MO 1880-1930 is full of fascinating details lengthy captions below pictures such as one would find in Grandma's attic wonder what they pertained to. The author has obviously done his research! He tells about such events as the dance hall explosion of 1928 that killed 36 of the town's young people the "Ma" Barker gang's killing of the local sheriff. The book catches the essence of the town's early formative events that make it such a wonderful place to live visit. A fast interesting read!

On the eve of the Civil War, West Plains was a sleepy county seat with a population of 150 and a wood-frame courthouse in its town square. During the war, this Southern Missouri town was burned, abandoned, and eventually

reconstructed. With the arrival of the railroad in 1883, West Plains turned boomtown, and photographers were among the first entrepreneurs to arrive. This volume of vintage photographs documents the town as it grew, struggled, and prospered over the next 50 years. Pictured here are the washwomen and the bankers, the circuses and the fires, the schools and homes that helped build the West Plains of today.

About the Author Toney Aid, treasurer of the Harlin Museum, owns the Downtown Antique Mall on the town square in the location his family's business has been in since 1885. Active in many restoration projects, he has won two statewide preservation awards and helped place three West Plains buildings on the National Register of Historic Places.