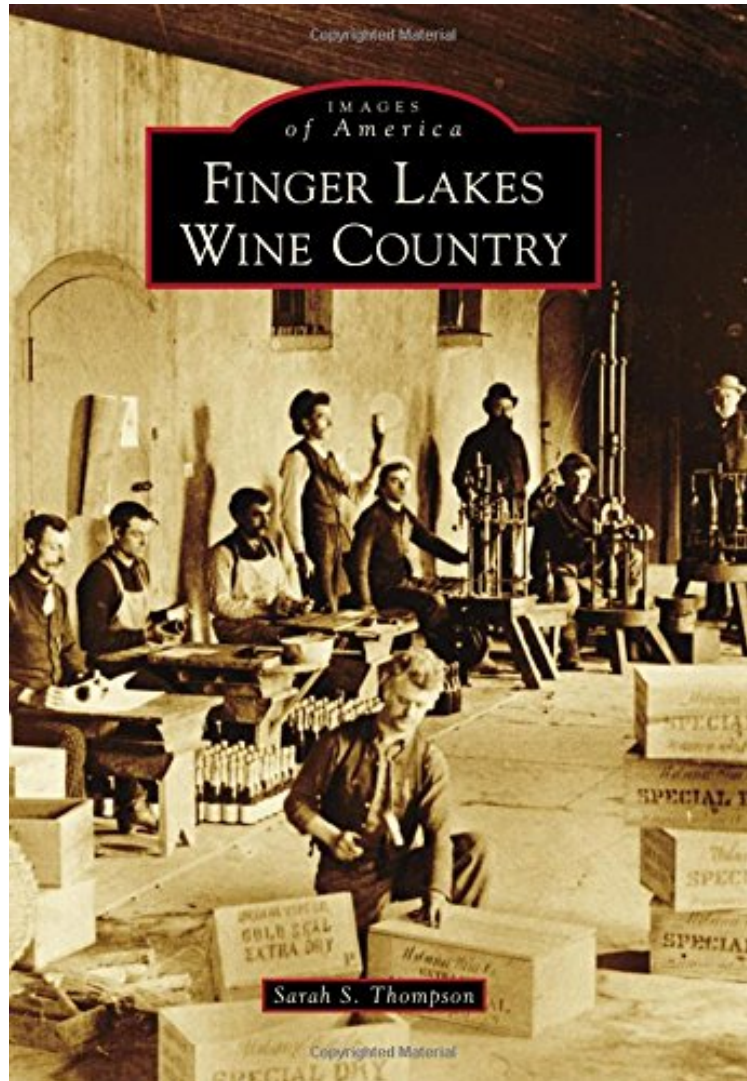


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Finger Lakes Wine Country (Images of America)

Sarah S. Thompson

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Sarah S. Thompson : Finger Lakes Wine Country (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Finger Lakes Wine Country (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great read to learn about the areaBy Erik GraffGreat read for learning about the history of the Finger Lakes region. It also helped me understand a little family history as well.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Thompson has written a good shorthand history to accompany the photographsBy DPHBrooklynThis note was originally published on the web site FingerLakesWine.infoWood. Not many of us rhapsodize over it. But after paging through the first portion of Sarah S. Thompson's book, you may succumb to the material. So to speak. There are remarkable pictures of huge wooden barrels (for fermenting and

storing wine), wooden crates (for picking grapes and packing wine), and baskets made of wood veneer (millions were made for shipping grapes). Of course the wineries were made of wood too, which explains, in part, why they burned to the ground so often. There aren't any photos of laborers toiling and sweating in the vineyard, so all these wooden objects comprise a proxy for the huge amount of physical labor needed to make wine in those early days. Finger Lakes Wine Country is primarily a picture book. Thompson has written a good shorthand history to accompany the photographs, but it cannot substitute for a book like *Circle of Vines*. Ideally, newcomers to Finger Lakes wine history might want to purchase both of these books and read them in tandem. For those of you familiar with the history, this book is akin to a family photo album. It reactivates memories, proves points long forgotten, and is apt to induce reverie. This is a good book to curl up with this winter in front of a fire. Read it slowly. Stare at each photo a long time. Sip a glass of Finger Lakes wine. Let your mind wander. That's the kind of book it can be; if you make it so. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I would recommend it to anyone with a local interest in the ...By J. Fearing Arcadia books are generally photographs with extended explanations under. That is partly why I buy them. But this book, *Finger Lakes Wine Country*, is a more concise accounting in prose than I have encountered in an Arcadia book before. More than just pictures, it is fact filled and enlightening outline of the history of New York's Finger Lakes wine history. I would recommend it to anyone with a local interest in the subject, but also to people with more academic interests needing an overview of many of the forces and personalities who made the Finger Lakes a major wine appellation. Great effort and I will look for more from this author.

For more than 150 years, Finger Lakes Wine Country has played a major role in American wine history. At its heart are the four deepest Finger Lakes, part of a group of 11 long, narrow lakes in central New York. There, nestled among Canandaigua, Keuka, Seneca, and Cayuga Lakes, farmers began planting vineyards in the 1830s. In 1860, the Pleasant Valley Wine Company became America's first bonded winery, turning Keuka Lake into a busy shipping hub for fresh grapes and award-winning champagnes. Other wineries soon followed, as did railroads and basket factories. Early 20th century business was good until Prohibition forced wineries to reinvent themselves. In the 1950s and 1960s, innovators like Charles Fournier, Dr. Konstantin Frank, and Walter S. Taylor experimented with hybrid and European vinifera grape varieties. But by the 1970s, local grape growers faced extinction; it would take a grassroots movement and landmark legislation in 1976 to bring about a Finger Lakes wine renaissance.

About the Author Sarah S. Thompson is a freelance writer living on Seneca Lake, where she and her husband plan to open a small winery. Sarah writes about food, wine, science, and news for Cornell University and regional publications. The photographs in this book were selected from collections kept by local wineries, farmers, libraries, historical societies, and museums.