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Patrick Alley, Dona Boley for the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association
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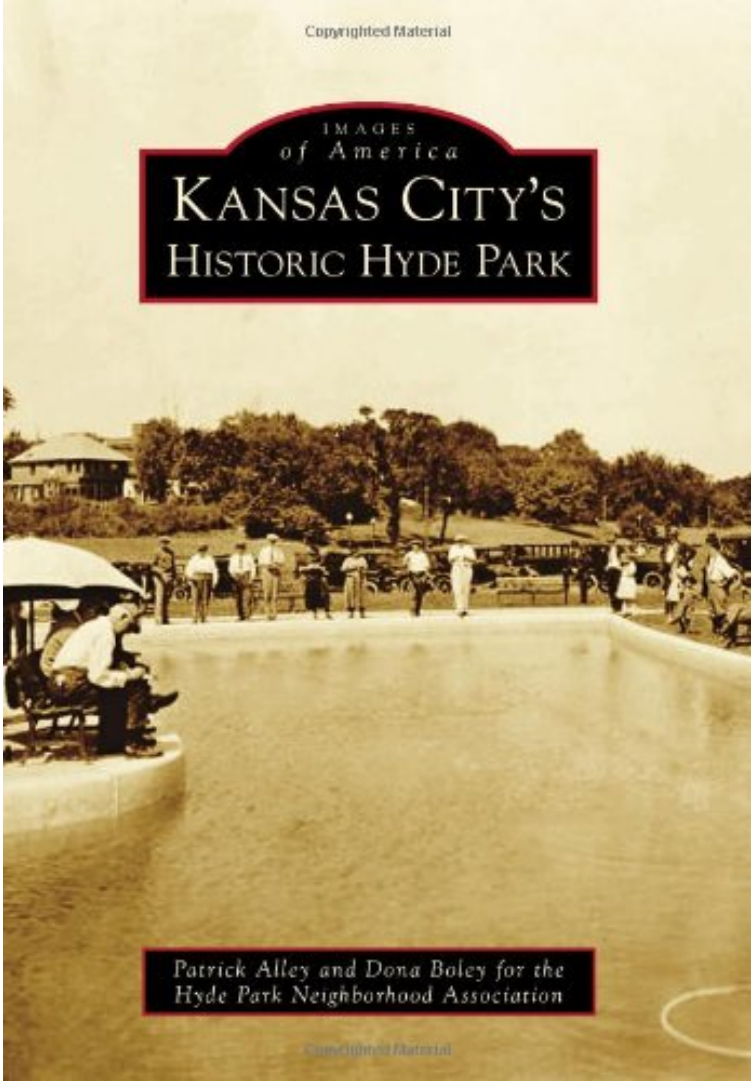

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valuable. The text would benefit from a more thorough discussion of current conditions and thoughts on Hyde Park's future.

Hyde Park, located on Westports outskirts south of early Kansas City, was the first stop on the long trek down the Santa Fe Trail. Good pasture and a natural cave spring were early attributes. During the real estate boom of the 1880s, the area was platted, but the crash of 1888 intervened, and only a few houses were built. By 1900, with the recovery of the economy and the development of Janssen Place as a private street, the area became the preferred community for Kansas Citys wealthy. The architectural style is Queen Anne, Prairie School, Neo-Georgian, Colonial Revival, Kansas City Shirtwaist, and Shingle. These homes glitter with original brass fixtures, lead and stained-glass windows, and oak, mahogany, and walnut interiors. Some of Kansas Citys most famous and notorious have lived in Hyde Park, from wealthy businessmen and entertainment stars to serial killers.

About the AuthorPatrick Alley is an investment advisor and historian for the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association. Dona Boley, an amateur historian of local history and advocate for the historical Kansas City, Missouri, parks and boulevard system, holds degrees from the University of Kansas and Rockhurst College. Dona and Patrick are members of the neighborhood association and longtime area residents.