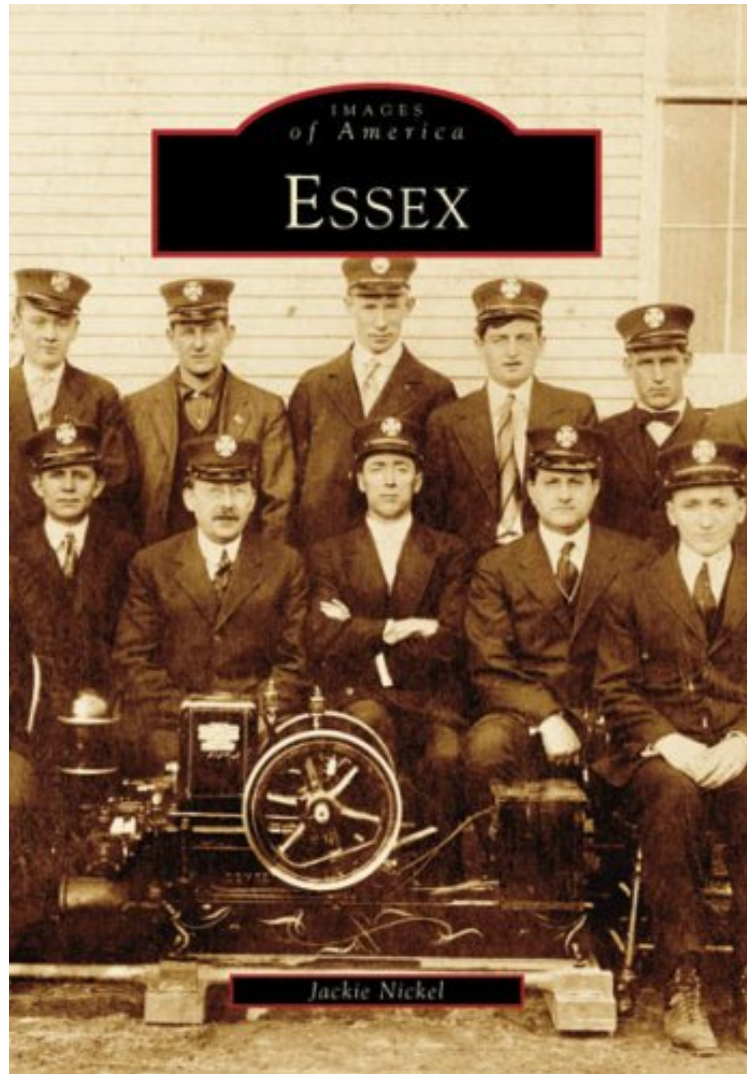


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Essex (MD) (Images of America)

Jackie Nickel

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Jackie Nickel : Essex (MD) (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Essex (MD) (Images of America):

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Advertised in a 1909 sales brochure as The Rising Suburb of the East, Essex, Maryland, has seen its fate and fortune rise and fall and rise again. The town enjoyed its early reputation as a haven for city dwellers with picnic groves, hunting and fishing clubs, dance halls, and waterfront amusement parks. The boom continued with new jobs and prosperity until the 1950s, when a fire destroyed much of the town's main street. Economic decay set in as a result of the loss of industry and an influx of low-income housing. Several attempts at redevelopment and legislation failed, resulting in the residents' distrust of government intervention. Finally a county-backed Renaissance project was established in 2002, bringing Essex a new epithet: The Hidden Gem of Baltimore County.

About the Author Jackie Nickel has documented stories about her hometown of Essex as a community newspaper editor, reporter, and freelance writer for almost 30 years. A civic activist, officer, and board member of several community organizations, she has forged a deep commitment to the town and a love for the people and places she writes about. Nickel believes that the retelling of Essex's difficult past will serve to cement community pride and define its future.