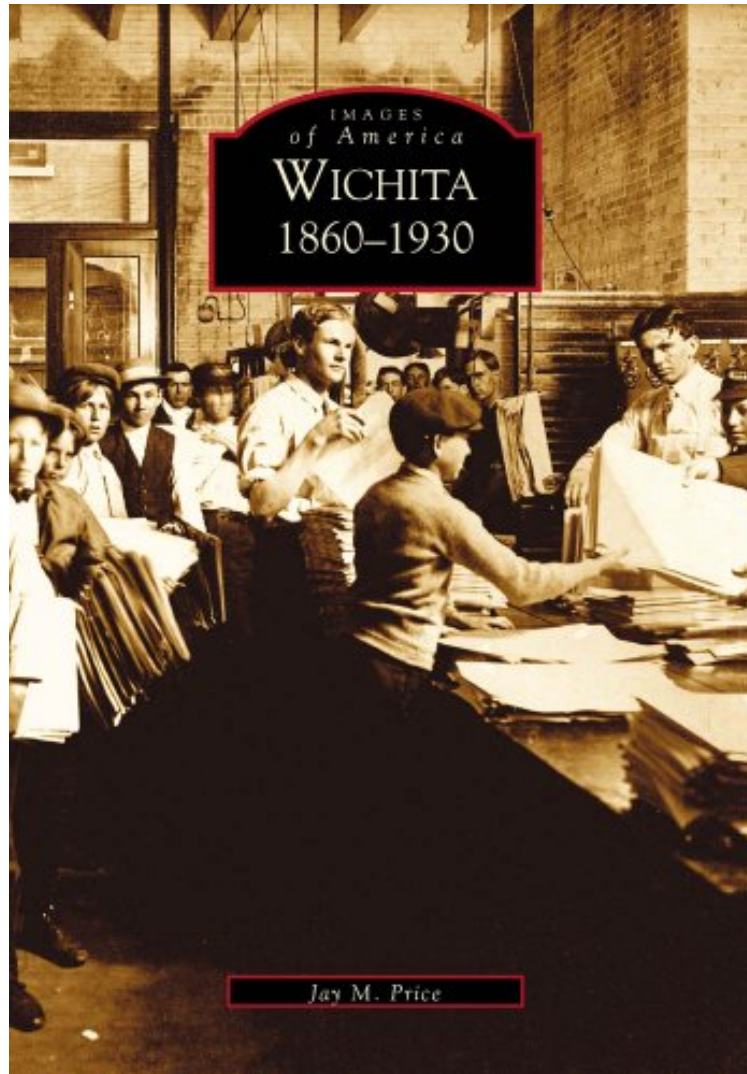


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Jay M. Price

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Wichita, Kansas, has grown significantly since the mid-19th century, when a group of pioneering entrepreneurs arrived to build on the trading and hunting activities of the Osage and Wichita peoples. Those early days of commerce gave way to Coleman, Cessna, and other companies whose influence helped shape the city's development. From the Texas cowboys who ran the cattle drives to Lebanese merchants, the population of the city has been as diverse and as dynamic as its companies. This visual history of early Wichita showcases the colorful landmarks, people, and businesses that built the bustling city on the Arkansas River.

About the Author Jay M. Price is assistant professor of history at Wichita State University and directs the Public History Program there. He serves on the board of trustees at the Old Cowtown Museum and has written for several publications, including *Kansas History*.