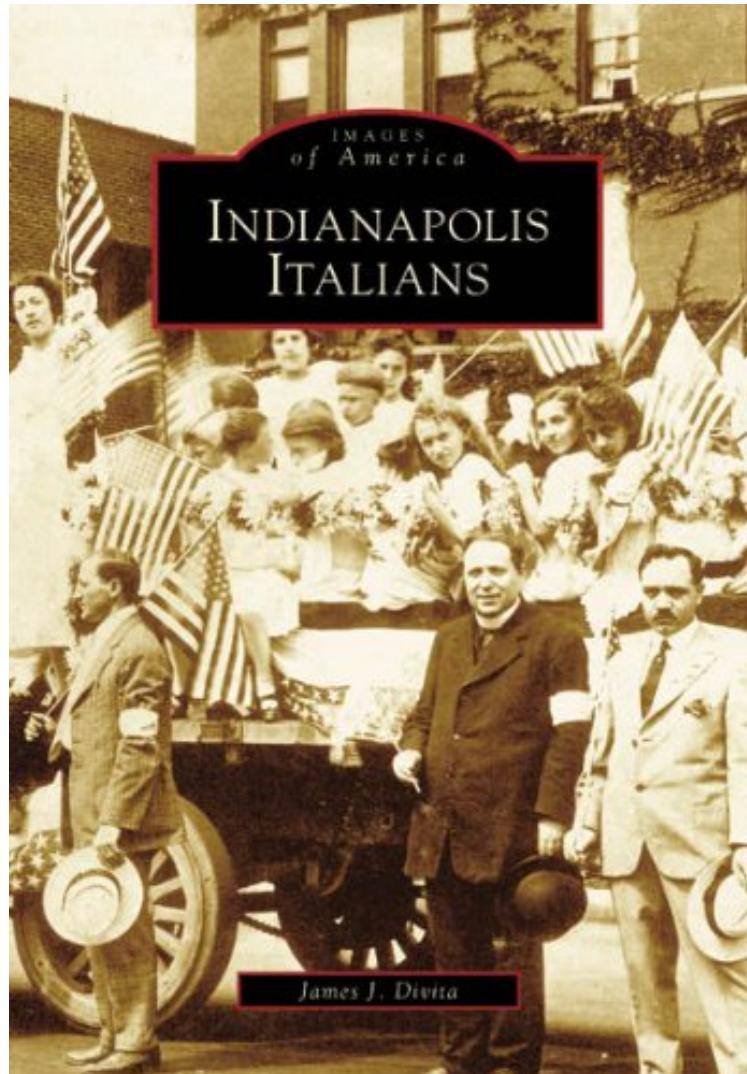


## Indianapolis Italians (IN) (Images of America)

*James J. Divita*

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#3623797 in Books 2006-10-09 2006-10-09 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x .31 x 6.50l, .72 #File Name: 0738540951128 pages | File size: 69.Mb

**James J. Divita : Indianapolis Italians (IN) (Images of America)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Indianapolis Italians (IN) (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting, but not comprehensiveBy DanielPokeyVery interesting, but limited to only several prominent families during the period of about 1920 onward. My ancestors arrived in Indianapolis prior to 1900, so I was looking forward to a more comprehensive history of Indianapolis Italians than this book presents. Otherwise, an interesting collection.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Incomplete historyBy CJD2Author missed several families that contributed to the Italian heritage of Indianapolis. Could be from lack of cooperation from family members or the author not digging enough to find family members to learn more.

Whatever it is it was a disappointment to find an incomplete history. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good quality and photos  
By Rebecca Porter  
My family did not originate from Indianapolis but I was curious about the Italian heritage here. This is a very nice coffee table book and it answers some questions about businesses here and how they started.

In 1910, Indianapolis had the smallest foreign stock population of any city north of the Ohio River, and city historians merely ignored the presence of the ethnic communities. In the 1920s, the Hoosier capital supposedly lacked a cosmopolitan character, and the Ku Klux Klan gloried in the slogan "100% American." However, the size of a community does not indicate its significance in municipal life. Rather, immigrants and their descendants make a difference because of their talents and available local opportunities. Residents of Italian origin have contributed mightily to Indianapolis's economy, culture, and professional and religious life. The first to arrive were the Sicilians who developed the city's fruit and vegetable trade and the Friulani who engaged in terrazzo-mosaic tile work. Early immigrants became grocers, shoemakers, tailors, and barbers. Later, primarily after World War II, many American-born of Italian descent moved into Indianapolis, excelling in business and professional fields, including law, medicine, and education. The community has continued to grow, adding to its numbers the Italian-born but married to American military or engaged in skilled labor in carpentry, tailoring, salesmanship, and food preparation.

About the Author  
Retired historian James J. Divita taught at Marian College for 42 years. His research interests are the ethnic and religious history of Indianapolis. Divita has published histories of the Italian and other ethnic parishes, was the ethnic editor for *The Encyclopedia of Indianapolis*, researched the Italian and Slovenian chapters for the *Indiana Historical Society's Peopling Indiana*, and has written many articles and reviews. Divita is currently president of the Italian Heritage Society of Indiana.