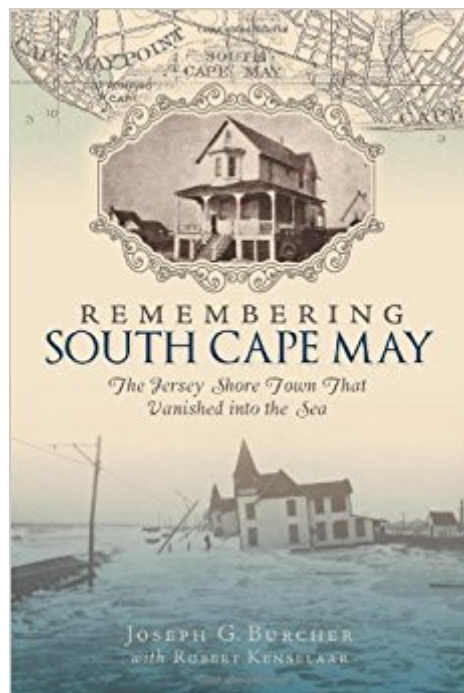




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# Remembering South Cape May: The Jersey Shore Town That Vanished Into The Sea (Lost)



## Synopsis

Few would imagine that the land currently occupied by the Nature Conservancy's Cape May Migratory Bird Refuge, or "the Meadows," was once the picturesque Jersey Shore town of South Cape May. By the early twentieth century, a striking hotel and homes designed by renowned Victorian-era architects dotted the landscape. Residents and visitors alike spotted rumrunners racing across the beachfront during Prohibition and endured World War II with German submarines lurking just offshore. But by 1954, barely a trace of the town remained except for about twenty of the original houses, which were moved a mile away. Join one of the town's last residents, Joseph Burcher, as he chronicles life in South Cape May before the angry Atlantic swallowed this serene town.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Many human settlements have been shaped by nature, but few have been erased so quickly and completely. To Mr. Burcher,...the point is not just to preserve the names and dates. He also wants people to remember a rougher Jersey Shore in a less pampered time... --Richard Perez-Pena The New York Times  
It is a great, fast read--packed with lots of South Cape May history and is the definitive work of the town that vanished into the sea. Great job... --Emil Salvini, author of Summer City By the Sea  
"Fascinating stuff" --Jim Hooker, senior anchor, "NJN News," PBS-TV affiliates New Jersey Network and Thirteen WNET, New York, NY  
"A memoir of a beach town that will show young readers their roots and will strike nostalgic chords in those older readers who remember and speak

of the 'old shore.'" --Carole Mattessich, the Cape May Gazette and Shore News Today

Joseph G. Burcher is one of the last surviving residents of South Cape May. His earliest memory of the borough dates to the mid-1920s, when he first visited his grandparents at the cottage built for them in 1923. Shortly afterward, Joe began spending all his summer months as a child and young adult in South Cape May, up through the early 1940s, when he joined the U.S. Navy. Joe's father, Edgar F. Burcher Sr., was South Cape May's last borough clerk, serving from 1941 to 1945. Two homes owned by members of the Burcher family were among the last left standing in South Cape May in the early 1950s. An alumnus of Temple University, where he earned a master of arts in education, Joe is an associate professor emeritus of the College of New Jersey. His active career at the college spanned three decades and focused on early childhood education. Since 1952, Joe has spent his summers at his cottage in West Cape May on Sunset Boulevard, overlooking the original site of South Cape May. Robert Kenselaar has been on the staff of the New York Public Library since 1982, starting as a music librarian, then working as a research collection development specialist and now serving in its Development Office. His library experience also includes work with local history collections while on the staff of the Newark (New Jersey) Public Library, in addition to serving as assistant curator of the Rutgers University Institute of Jazz Studies. He has served on the writing staff of the Aquarian Weekly, and his other publications include articles in the Rutgers Annual Review of Jazz Studies, the New Grove Dictionary of American Music and Cape May Magazine. He holds a master of arts in American civilization from New York University and a master of library service from Rutgers University.

great book

My parents grew up here and loved remembering past times. Great pictures, stories, and memories abound in this book. Quick shipping. Thanks very much.

This is just the book I wanted to buy after reading a library copy. I bought one for myself and one for a gift. It's a great history of a small town that no longer exists. Well researched with a evocative photos and some wonderful memories.

MY HUSBAND READS ANYTHING HE CAN GET HIS HANDS ON PERTAINING CAPE MAY AND ALL OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY, I'M SURE HE'LL LOVE THIS BOOK ON CHRISTMAD

MORNING.

My daughter and I visited Cape May and really loved it but didn't realize just how much history we missed. This book was such an eye opener to me. You find yourself just enjoying the things around you and taking walking tours that you don't realize the great amount of history to Cape May. If you have never been there you should get this book and it will make your time there knowing more of the great history.

Interesting book about a town that disappeared under the water in Cape May. The value was great considering and a bookstore I would have paid a little bit more money for this.

In all my years of coming to Cape May I never knew about this.

This is a wonderful story of the little town that once was and disappeared. Joseph Burcher and his son-in-law, Bob Kenselaar, write about the inhabitants and their homes, of which many were moved to Cape May City. Long battered by storms and a hurricane it is surprising that it lasted as long as it did. But it is the wonderful story of the Burcher family and their long history at So. Cape May that captivated me more. Anyone loving history and especially the history of the Jersey shore won't be disappointed with this book.

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