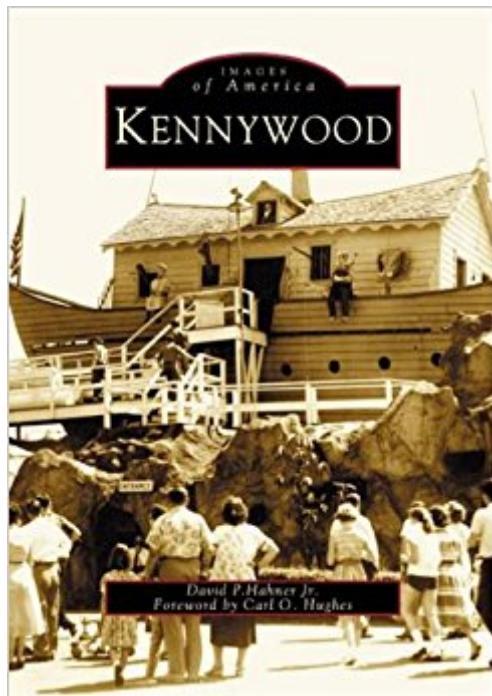


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# Kennywood (PA) (Images Of America)



## Synopsis

For more than a century, Kennywood has been the Pittsburgh area's playground. Founded in 1898 at the terminus of the Monongahela Street Railway trolley line, the park quickly grew into a favorite summertime destination. Kennywood is unique in that it is one of the country's few successful trolley parks. In 1987, Kennywood was designated a National Historic Landmark and is known today as America's Finest Traditional Amusement Park. Many unique rides and attractions have distinguished Kennywood over the years. Some old favorites, such as the Rockets, Laff in the Dark, Ghost Ship, and Skooters, are long gone. Others, such as the Old Mill, Noah's Ark, Auto Race, Turtle, Whip, and Grand Carousel, still entertain guests today. Kennywood is perhaps best known for its impressive collection of roller coasters, from earlier coasters such as the Figure Eight, Speed-O-Plane, and Pippin to the Racer, Jack Rabbit, Thunderbolt, and Phantom's Revenge coasters that still thrill riders today.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

David P. Hahner Jr. is an avid amusement park and roller coaster enthusiast and has been a lifelong fan of Kennywood. He grew up within two miles of the park and worked summers there while studying at the University of Pittsburgh. He has been an active member of the American Coaster Enthusiasts since 1980 and is a member of the National Amusement Park Historical Association and the Darkride and Funhouse Enthusiasts. Carl O. Hughes is the chairman emeritus of Kennywood Entertainment. In 1990, he became the first living member elected to the Amusement Industry Hall of Fame. Carl O. Hughes is the chairman emeritus of Kennywood Entertainment. In

1990, he became the first living member elected to the Amusement Industry Hall of Fame.

This book brought back many memories. I grew-up 2 blocks from it and spend a lot of time down there. Since I delivered the local newspaper, I was able to walk through the Park each day in order to deliver to Mr. Andy Vettel, whose house was across from the pony ride, just down from the Racer. It was nice doing it during the summer, but the winter could be a bit cold. Each Saturday night when the Park was open, my brother and myself sold 100 copies of the Sunday edition of the Pittsburgh Press. The cost was a quarter, and that did weigh me down walking home. The Penny Arcade was my favorite place to spend time. Many times I would come out with more money than I had going in. Mr. Vettel's son was the head electronic person there and always seemed to know when our machine paid out too much. The swimming pool was gigantic when we first went there and seemed to get bigger every year. The last time I went (1971), the floor was really beginning to crack and 2 years later it was gone. The parking areas across the road was our baseball field in the summer, the football field in autumn, and, the longest sled ride to be found in our local area. It was a good thing that there were areas of steel mills slag that aided our stopping. It was always fun going down, but the walk up took forever. I can also remember the morning my mother told us that the bandstand burned down. We saw the smoke still rising up in the distance as we walked to the bus stop; and, I wondered where we would go to see the shows. Many times I wished I could go back to those days of my youth that I enjoyed so much, but that is not possible. Fortunately, David Hahner's book was able to do so, even it was only in my mind.

This is a wonderfully written book. My 11-year-old daughter is a "Kennywood Fanatic" and absolutely loved reading about the history of Kennywood. She also read several sections to my 5-year-old son who is also rather fond of Kennywood. Personally, I found the book to be very informative as it offered a detailed history of the park's origins and how it has changed into the park as we know it today.

This put me right back in my home town with memories of what Kennywood used to be like, yet still is. Anyone who has ever been to Kennywood will really appreciate everything about this little book. Mr. Hahner must have spent endless hours there, like we did as kids, because his intimate knowledge of this wonderful park really comes through in his chosen pictures and comments. After finishing this book, I scheduled a trip back to Pittsburgh. I'll be sure to go to Kennywood, one of the stellar parks of the turn of the century which has outlasted so many others!

As Described! Would purchase from again!

Great book

What a step back in time. Many childhood memories were called to mind when I read this history. I learned much more about Kennywood that makes these memories fonder. Allowing me to see through the years what has changed was another advantage of reading. I hope to revisit Kennywood when I return to Pittsburgh in the future. Never too late to recall family times, old friends and great times.

Great historical book

I'm 75 years old and the book brought back many fond memories of school picnics at this old fashioned amusement park just outside of Pittsburgh, Pa. Anyone interested in the history of old amusement parks would find this of great interest.

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