



4919 Route 22  
PO Box 56  
Amenia, NY 12501-0056

800-562-2139  
Fax: 845-373-6360  
Email: [books@greyhouse.com](mailto:books@greyhouse.com)  
[www.greyhouse.com](http://www.greyhouse.com)

### **For Immediate Release**

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Contact: Jessica Moody, VP Marketing  
Grey House Publishing  
(800) 562-2139 x101  
[jmoody@greyhouse.com](mailto:jmoody@greyhouse.com)

## **Grey House Publishing Announces *This is Who We Were: 1880-1899***

Grey House Publishing is proud to announce the publication of *This is Who We Were: 1880-1899*. This new addition to the *This is Who We Were* series provides the reader with a deeper understanding of day-to-day life in America during the last two decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Readers will uncover what life was like for ordinary Americans as they lived through an industrialized revolution, labor strikes, an influx of millions of immigrants, and the expansion of cities and the railroad.

Collecting information from government surveys, social worker histories, economic data, family diaries, letters, newspapers, and magazine features, *This is Who We Were: 1880-1899* assembles a remarkable personal and realistic look into America's past. This new volume features nearly 30 profiles of people living and working in the 1880s and 1890s, painting a complete picture of what it was like to live in America in this period. These stories portray both struggling and successful Americans from various economic classes, occupations, and regions across the country, capturing a wide range of thoughts and emotions.

This new reference source is divided into five major sections, preceded by a thorough Introduction and an essay titled "America, 1880-1899," and followed by a detailed Bibliography and alphabetical Index.

Section I, **Personal Profiles**, contains 29 profiles of individuals and families from the time period, beginning with a brief introduction that anchors the text to the year provided. Then, each profile is arranged into three categories, all detailing thorough information about the person profiled: Life at Home, Life at Work, and Life in the Community. Subjects profiled include: a Railroad Construction Engineer in 1883, a Professional Baseball Player in 1888, an Anti-Corset Campaigner in 1896, an African-American Wood Turner in 1898, a Teenage Garment Industry Labor Organizer in 1898, and many more.

Section II, **Historical Snapshots**, includes lists of important "firsts" for America, from technical advances and political events to new products and top-selling books. Divided into three subsections (Early 1880s, Late 1880s/Early 1890s, Late 1890s), this section highlights significant turning points in American history, such as President James Garfield's assassination, Susan B. Anthony's Congress for Women's Rights in Washington, D.C., and the end of the Spanish-American War.

Section III, **Economy of the Times**, looks at a wide range of economic data, including food, clothing, transportation, housing, and other selected prices, with reprints of actual advertisements for products and services of the time. Figures for Annual Income and Selected Prices are included, as well as a Value of a Dollar Index that compares the rate of \$1 for every year between 1860 and 2014.

Section IV, **All Around Us—What We Saw, Wrote, Read & Listened To**, includes reprints of newspaper and magazine articles, letters, posters, and others items designed to help the reader focus on what was on the minds of Americans in the late 1800s. These printed pieces show how popular opinion was formed, and how American life was affected. Featured selections include an advertisement for Early American Home Remedies, an account of Billy the Kid’s death, and the poem “Casey at the Bat” by Ernest Thayer.

Finally, Section V, **Census Data**, begins with six state-by-state comparative tables from the 1880, 1900, and 2010 Censuses, all of which include table topics on Total Population, White Population, Black Population, American Indian/Alaskan Native Population, Asian Population, and Homeownership Rate. Following these tables are reprints from the original 1890 Census of Population, including the article “Progress on the Nation: 1790 to 1890,” as well as various maps, tables, graphs, charts, and narratives, helping readers to effectively visualize the environment at that time.

*This is Who We Were: 1880-1899* is a dynamic new title built to fill many academic, personal research, and curriculum needs. This comprehensive look at the last 20 years of the 19<sup>th</sup> century presents American history through the eyes and ears of everyday Americans, not just the word of historians or politicians.

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*This is Who We Were: 1880-1899*

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