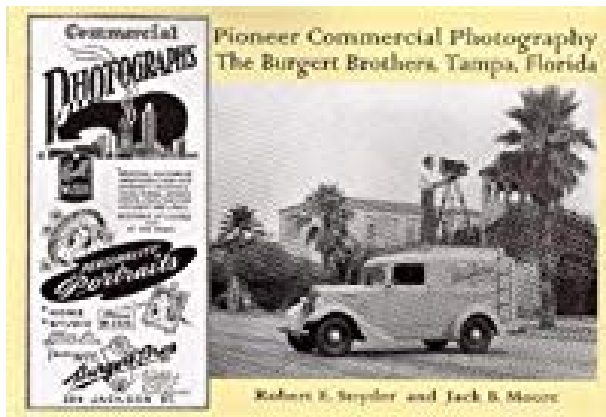


Pioneer Commercial Photography The Burgert Brothers, Tampa Florida



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ISBN13:	9781886104259
ISBN10:	1886104255
Genre:	Uncategorized
Published:	June 30th 2007 by Florida Historical Society Press
Pages:	304
Goodreads Rating:	4.50

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As Florida moved into the mainstream of American economy in the late 1890's, professional photographers established studios to document the events, people and enterprises that contributed to defining the Sunshine State as an integral part of the New South states. The firm of S.

P. Burgert and Son was one of the most prolific photographers of the period and their images recorded the evolution of Tampa Bay from a small village on Florida's west coast to a dynamic city that epitomized the tremendous growth that marked Twentieth Century Florida. From it founding in 1899 until the mid-1950s, the Burgerts took thousands of images of the best and worst of the city.