

(Get free) Summer Dreams: The Story of Bob-lo Island (Great Lakes Books Series)

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Patrick Livingston

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#1782826 in Books Patrick Livingston 2008-04-09 2008-04-09 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.00 x .40 x 8.00l, 1.27 #File Name: 0814333656208 pages Summer Dreams | File size: 36.Mb

**Patrick Livingston : Summer Dreams: The Story of Bob-lo Island (Great Lakes Books Series)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Summer Dreams: The Story of Bob-lo Island (Great Lakes Books Series):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Boblo memories By R. Stephen Franks I grew up visiting Boblo Island every year with my grandmother. The boat rides were as great as the park. It is a part of my best childhood memories. The book takes on a very complete and accurate history of not only the amusement park, but of the island as well. A must have for any amusement park, coaster enthusiast, or someone just wanting to take a trip down memory lane. Sad to see it gone. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good complete history. By Marshal Wied Very good historical review, with enough pictures to create interest. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very much history I just bought a place on Boblo ... By Peter J. Dunn Very much history I just bought a place on Boblo and went there for years as a kid. Did not have a clue it had a lot to do around the war in the 1800s

Located twenty miles south of Detroit where the Detroit River meets Lake Erie, Bob-lo Island was the ultimate summer playground for families from Detroit and Windsor for nearly one hundred years. In its heyday, the island housed an amusement park with one of the world's largest dance halls, an elegant restaurant, and a hand-carved carousel. It also employed two large Frank Kirby-designed ferry steamers-complete with dancing and other entertainment-to transport patrons to and from the island, which was not accessible by car. In *Summer Dreams*, author Patrick Livingston tells the story of Bob-lo from its discovery by French explorers to its subsequent use by missionaries, British military men, escaped slaves, farmers, and finally the wealthy class, who developed the island as a summer resort. It was not until the Detroit, Belle Isle, and Windsor Ferry Company, looking to expand its business ventures, bought the island in 1898 that Bob-lo became known as a destination for Detroit's burgeoning middle class. The park provided the perfect place for Detroiters to dance and play and simply escape the whirlwind of what was rapidly becoming an industrial and mechanized city. Livingston notes that operation of the park presented special challenges to management teams over the course of the century, particularly in the running of its U.S.-based steamers and competition with modern amusement parks that could be reached by car. Livingston chronicles the island's recent history, including the final closure of the park in 1993, the auctioning of its steamers and rides, and its redevelopment as a community of multimillion-dollar homes. With illustrations and personal profiles added to its historical narrative, *Summer Dreams* recounts the phases of Bob-lo's history and its importance to natives of Detroit, Windsor, and Amherstburg. Local historians and anyone with roots in Detroit and the Border Cities will enjoy this informative volume.

*Summer Dreams* will rekindle memories for anyone who bathed in cool river breezes or thrilled to the simple pleasures that are Bob-lo's legacy. Straightforward prose and nostalgic images document the whole story, from picnics to politics. Best of all, Patrick Livingston answers the oft-asked question, Whatever happened to Bob-lo? --Joel Stone, Detroit Historical Society curator Patrick Livingston has written the complete book on Bob-lo, from the well-known subjects of amusement rides and river cruises to the lesser-known tales of racism, insolvency, and rowdy motorcycle gangs. *Summer Dreams* is smart, informative, and a great addition to anyone's local history bookshelf. --Bill McGraw, Detroit Free Press columnist and co-editor of *The Detroit Almanac* About the Author Patrick Livingston is the author of *Eight Steamboats* (Wayne State University Press, 2004) and a former agent with Michigan State University Extension and Michigan Sea Grant. He is currently involved with the Great Lakes Education Program on the Detroit River and a project linking teachers from Nepal and Michigan in water-quality analysis and information sharing.