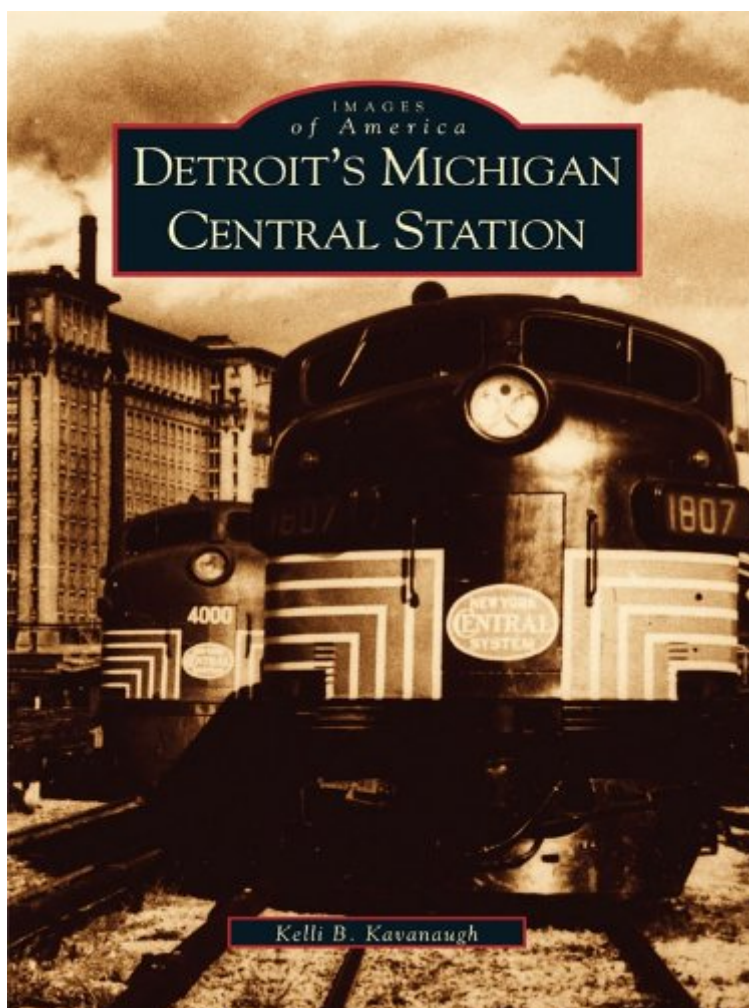


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# Detroit's Michigan Central Station (Images Of America)



## Synopsis

In 1913, the Michigan Central Station opened its majestic entrances to the people of Detroit. Designed by Warren & Wetmore and Reed & Stern, the firms also noted as the architects of the Grand Central Station in New York City, the depot was a marvel of grandeur and comfort for the traveler lucky enough to utilize its facilities. Soldiers went to war, families both separated and rejoined, and folks looking for an honest living in the Motor City all walked the Michigan Central's elegant corridors. Since the last train pulled away from the station in 1988, the structure has fallen prey to rapidly paced deterioration. Detroit's Michigan Central Station captures the glory of the Michigan Central and its environs. Using photographs from the Burton Historical Collection, as well as private collections, the book illustrates the use of the Michigan Central Station by a city whose story dramatically parallels that of this magnificent structure. The book also includes imagined futures of the station from some of the many people who have been inspired by the magic this grand building continues to exude.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Excellent!!! I took the train back and forth from Detroit to Kalamazoo in my college days in the 70's and even though the train station had begun to deteriorate then, I still remember the grandeur of the old days when my great-uncle worked on the train as a porter and we would pick him up at the train station when he would spend the night with us. It was full of hustle and bustle back then. The book magnificently portrays the good, the bad and the sad. I wish Detroit would restore it to its luster as apartments, condos, shopping and entertainment. I've got my fingers crossed!!!

A+

The most memorable trips of my youth started and ended at this station. It was a monument to the wealth of this great city that made Detroit the magnificent and elegant community that it was in the first sixty years of the 20th Century.

AWESOME book!!!

Thanks

This building is nothing short of spectacular. I got interested in this building when I read *Middlesex* and was wondering if the Grand Trunk Station he described was extant, and I found a web site with this building and its current state of sad decay, it sits like a putrid corpse waiting to be insensated; it is obvious this is the building that Eugenides called Grand Trunk in *Middlesex* and though it is extant, it's barely extant. Leave it to Detroit to allow this soaring testament to its glory to die on the vine. It's hard to believe that at one time Detroit was considered the most beautiful and wealthy major city in America, now it's a metaphor for urban decay and total mismanagement, I don't know why the state of Michigan doesn't take it over, it's a total disaster, it's become a national joke; what a shame. This book is fascinating, the history of the station is very interesting, you can tell from the wonderful archival images that it is designed by the same architects that designed Grand Central in NYC. You would think Detroit would look to Grand Central and see what this station could still be, granted Grand Central still has rail service, but something could be done with this spectacular building, though I'm sure if recent history is any example it will be imploded and a brownfield will sprout up in its wake: *sic transit gloria*. Detroit is such a cautionary tale, even with the new Tigers stadium and the Lions Stadium the city is still a total mess, poor leadership and poverty riddled, poorly educated population has doomed it. All the middle and upper classes have fled to Grosse Pointe and

Bloomfield Hills, leaving the very heart of the metroarea to die on the vine. Now they are finding out the repercussions because nobody wants to move to the area or relocate business there because the city is such a crime ridden mess and the suburbs are now hurting and they will continue to hurt until they help fix Detroit, granted I'd hate to have to move back into that urban wasteland, but I've grown up there, I would...people have moved back into Cleveland and Baltimore, then why not Detroit, Detroit could learn from Atlanta and welcome back the white middle class, if Detroit does not do this it will be nothing but burned out buildings and a few new sports arena's...wait..that's what it is right now..see what I mean...anyway..good book on an amazing building.

This volume concentrates on the history of the station, and not only the unfortunate story of its latter days. It was nice to get the back story as well as the older photos. If you are a fan of Michigan/Detroit history, there is no reason that this should not be on your shelf.

The book contains many fascinating photographs certain to elicit heart-felt nostalgia from people who used the Michigan Central Station. As for those who never had the opportunity, this book will provide a good idea as to what that experience was like.

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