

# The Russians of Richmond: America's Forgotten Cold War Community



## RUSSIANS OF RICHMOND MAINE by Don Tapscott

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3941 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 37 pages
Lending	: Enabled



In the early 1900s, a group of Russian immigrants settled in the small town of Richmond, Maine. They came to America seeking a better life, and they found it in Richmond. The Russians established a thriving community, complete with their own church, school, and social hall.

The Russians of Richmond were a close-knit community. They helped each other out, and they celebrated their Russian heritage. They were also proud Americans, and they served their country in both World Wars.

However, the Cold War put a strain on the Russian community in Richmond. The Russians were suspected of being spies, and they were subjected to discrimination. The community began to decline, and by the 1970s, most of the Russians had left Richmond.

Today, the Russian community in Richmond is all but forgotten. However, there are still a few reminders of the community's past. The Russian Orthodox Church still stands in the center of town, and the Russian cemetery is located on a hill overlooking the Kennebec River.

The story of the Russians of Richmond is a fascinating one. It is a story of immigration, community, and the Cold War. It is also a story of loss and forgetting.

### **The Early Years of the Russian Community in Richmond**

The first Russian immigrants arrived in Richmond in the early 1900s. They came from a variety of backgrounds, but they all shared a common goal: to find a better life in America.

The Russians settled in a small neighborhood on the outskirts of Richmond. They built their own homes and businesses, and they established their own community institutions. The Russian Orthodox Church was the center of the community, and it served as a place of worship, a social hall, and a school.

The Russians of Richmond were a close-knit community. They helped each other out, and they celebrated their Russian heritage. They were also proud Americans, and they served their country in both World Wars.

### **The Cold War and the Decline of the Russian Community**

The Cold War put a strain on the Russian community in Richmond. The Russians were suspected of being spies, and they were subjected to discrimination. The community began to decline, and by the 1970s, most of the Russians had left Richmond.

There were a number of factors that contributed to the decline of the Russian community in Richmond. One factor was the Cold War. The Russians were suspected of being spies, and they were subjected to discrimination. Another factor was the changing economy of Richmond. The town's economy was once based on agriculture, but it had begun to decline in the post-World War II era. This made it difficult for the Russians to find work.

Finally, the Russian community in Richmond was also affected by the changing demographics of the town. The town's population had begun to decline in the 1960s, and this made it difficult for the Russians to maintain their community institutions.

### **The Legacy of the Russian Community in Richmond**

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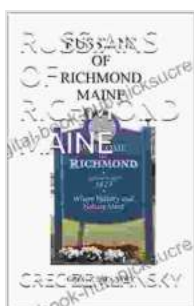
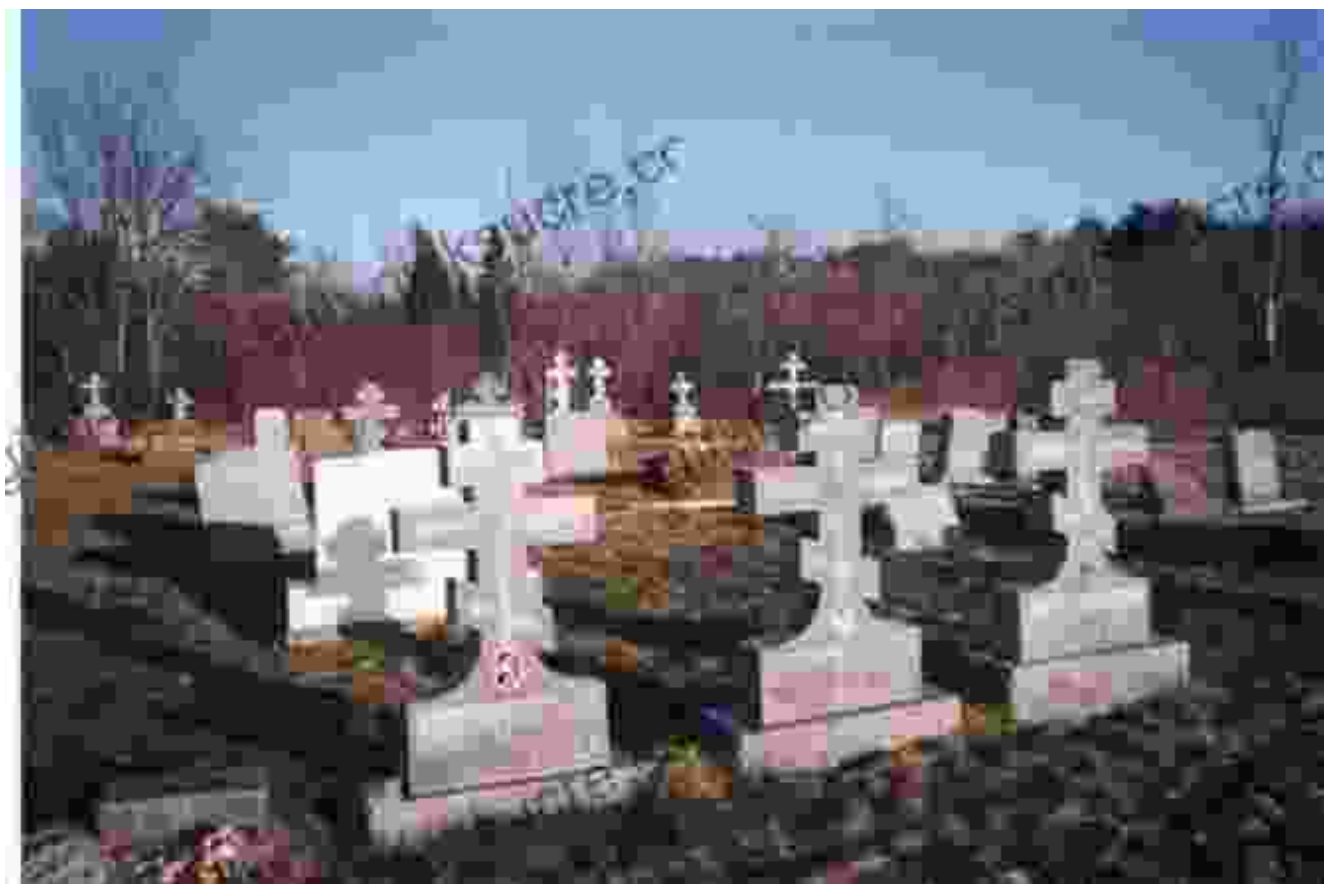
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### **Image Gallery**





The Russian Orthodox Church in Richmond, Maine, in the early 1900s.



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