

# WHEN ONCE DESTROYED

"... a profoundly moving piece of American history."  
— Robert Wuthnow,  
author of *The Left Behind*

A Historical Memoir  
of the Life and  
Death of a Small Town

SID SHROYER

"Shroyer skillfully pieces together newspaper stories, personal letters, government reports, archival papers, survey maps, secret plans, oral histories, outright lies, a murder, broken promises, small-town politics, and congressional acts in order to corroborate a complex story of American power and its victims."

—April Lidinsky, professor of women's and gender studies, Indiana University South Bend

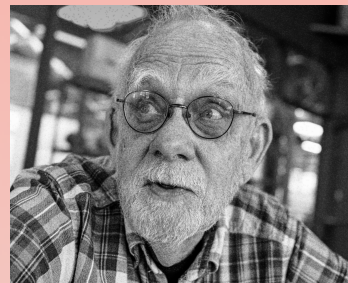
"Having grown up in a small rural community, and having spent years as a sociologist studying small towns, I was impressed with the depth of detail and insight in these pages."

—Robert Wuthnow, author of *The Left Behind: Decline and Rage in Small-Town America*

***When Once Destroyed* tells the true story of Somerset, a small Indiana town that was erased during a mid-century federal project. It blends personal storytelling with regional history and has connected particularly well with readers interested in local heritage and community identity.**

"... a brilliant example of the craft of storytelling. It's also a painful reminder of all the stories that exist around us yet go untold or become forgotten."

—Barbara Anguiano, Journalist/Audio Producer, WFYI Public Media



**Sid Shroyer** is a retired high school English teacher and an NPR affiliate broadcaster, writer, and essayist. He grew up in rural north central Indiana and has lived since 1977 in South Bend.

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...a grandson with my father's name opened the door for me to tell a story that I have carried for as long as I can remember.



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