Understanding Appalachia


A one volume encyclopedia that provides background information for Appalachian history, biographies, and culture.


Harry Caudill sounded the alarm in 1963 when this book first revealed the economic and environmental issues leading to the destruction of the Appalachian Mountains and of the lives of those who live there.


Contains, oral history, biographies and Appalachian civilization.


The history of Appalachian migrants to Ohio in the 20th century.


Volume 1 concerns Conflict and Change. Volume 2 covers Culture and Custom.


Includes a forward by Robert Coles, photographs by Steve Lehman and interviews by Mark Bailey.

A sociologist looks at the culture of coal and the differences in the regions of Appalachia. His study acknowledges that the groups on the periphery may continue to be poor and underdeveloped, even as we become more understanding of suffering in the world that includes the effects of globalization and computerization.


Twenty poets and selected poems are included with interviews and critical essays on each.


Coal was mined in Appalachia as early as the 1880's, and this is a history of the opposition to surface coal mining. Chapter 2 concerns "Better Fit for Farming: Opposition to Surface Coal Mining in Ohio."