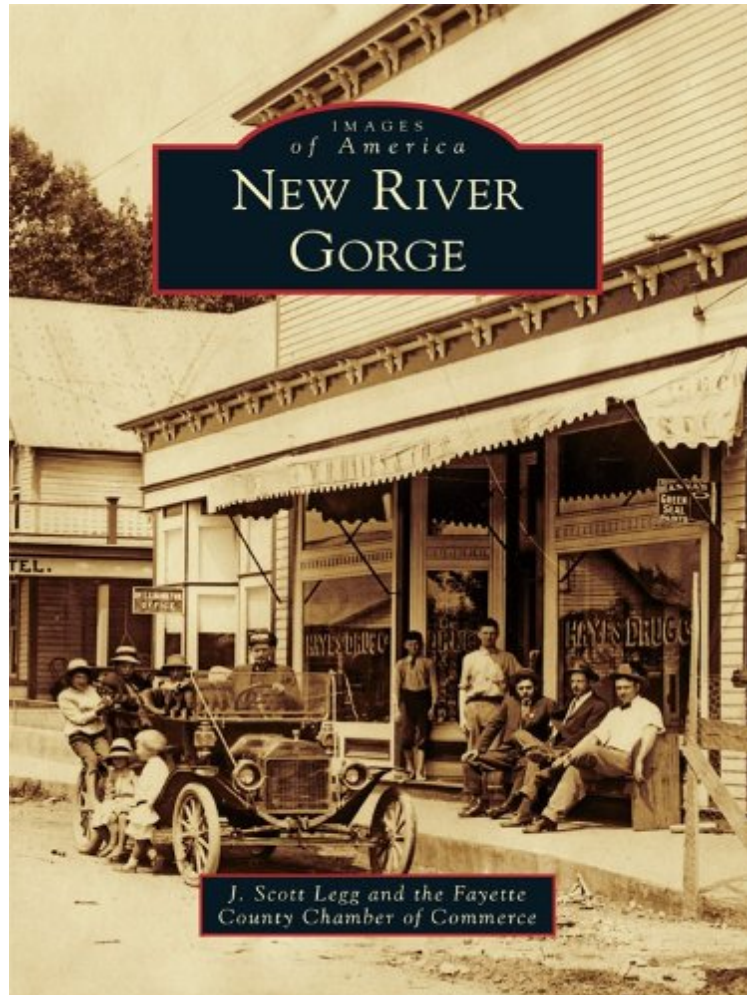


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New River Gorge (Images of America)

J. Scott Legg

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J. Scott Legg : New River Gorge (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised New River Gorge (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fun train ride through what is left of the townBy RPMFun train ride through what is left of the town. Very interesting to read the history of the town once you have seen it. Well put together, lots of great photos.

Today visitors to the New River Gorge see a steep gorge filled with a lush hardwood forest. Before the railroad, the New River, with its whitewater rapids, was a barrier to trade, but with the 1873 completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, the gorge came alive. By the 1890s, more than 30,000 people lived and worked in the gorge. Towns like Kaymoor, Nuttallburg, and Thurmond were hives of activity and melting pots of American immigrants who dug the coal that helped build the American dream. Times changed. By 1960, the easiest coal was gone, and miners moved

to Midwest factories. Nature began to reclaim the gorge. The 1970s brought a rebirth. Whitewater rafters took on the rapids, and bridge builders built the New River Gorge Bridge. The forest has returned, and if you look under the canopy, you will see that the railroads, coal camps, and mine tipples have given way to rafters, rock climbers, and mountain bikers.

About the AuthorJ. Scott Legg grew up in West Virginia and currently divides his time between West Virginia and Florida. While living in the area, Scott worked as a National Park Service ranger and taught West Virginia history. He is currently in the process of restoring the Glen Jean Elementary School on the Thurmond Road.