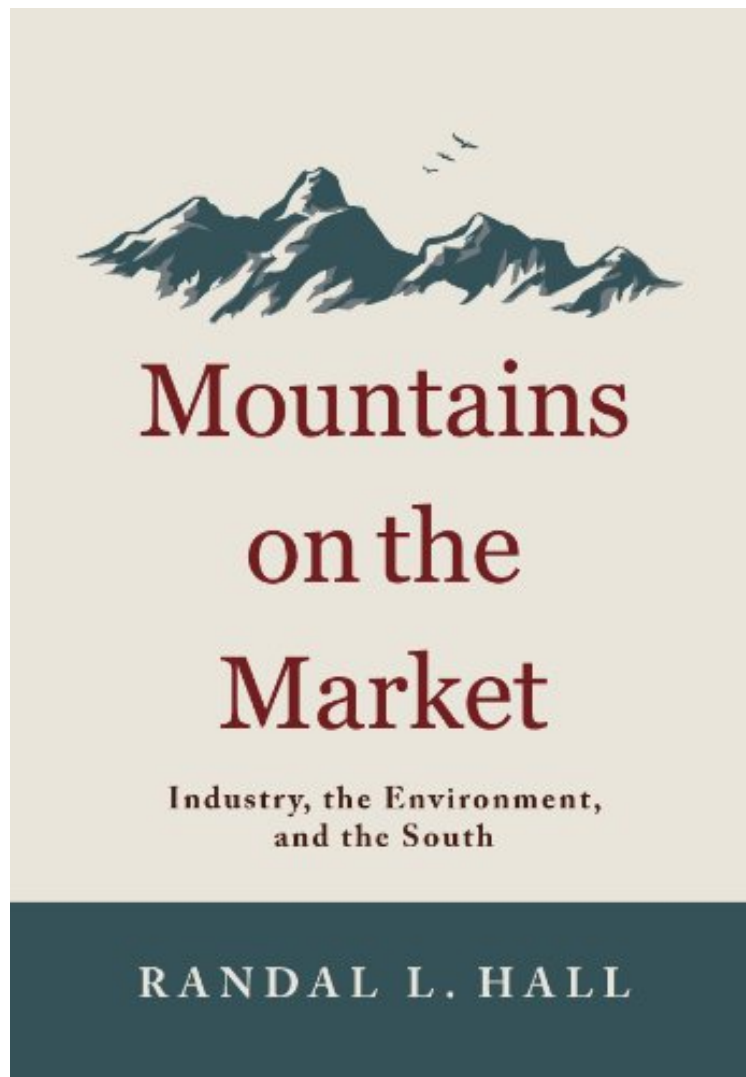


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## Mountains on the Market: Industry, the Environment, and the South (New Directions in Southern History)

*Randal L. Hall*

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**Randal L. Hall : Mountains on the Market: Industry, the Environment, and the South (New Directions in Southern History)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Mountains on the Market: Industry, the Environment, and the South (New Directions in Southern History):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Holly DentonGood information if you are interested genealogy and in the history of Southwest Virginia.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating account of the role southwest Virginia played in the life of our growing nation.By joe eltonThis book outlines mining

and manufacturing from before the American Revolution to modern day. It is a good account of history that is being lost to time. Well done.

Manufacturing in the Northeast and the Midwest pushed the United States to the forefront of industrialized nations during the early nineteenth century; the South, however, lacked the large cities and broad consumer demand that catalyzed changes in other parts of the country. Nonetheless, in contrast to older stereotypes, southerners did not shun industrial development when profits were possible. Even in the Appalachian South, where the rugged terrain presented particular challenges, southern entrepreneurs formed companies as early as 1760 to take advantage of the region's natural resources. In *Mountains on the Market: Industry, the Environment, and the South*, Randal L. Hall charts the economic progress of the New River Valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains of southwestern Virginia, which became home to a wide variety of industries. By the start of the Civil War, railroads had made their way into the area, and the mining and processing of lead, copper, and iron had long been underway. Covering 250 years of industrialization, environmental exploitation, and the effects of globalization, *Mountains on the Market* situates the New River Valley squarely in the mainstream of American capitalism.

"*Mountains on the Market* is an outstanding work of interest to historians of many different specialties. There are few books that cover such a long time frame but remain readable, coherent, and contextually reflexive. Southernists will now refer to this book first in thinking about the historical development of the extractive industries, their impact on the environment, and what it tells us about the South."?David Brown, coauthor of *Race in the American South: From Slavery to Civil Rights*"*Mountains on the Market* is an important step forward in the rewriting of southern economic and social history in a way that effectively ties all dimensions of the evolving capitalist system to the larger international and global processes. Hall's book demonstrates an originality that firmly situates it at the cutting edge of historical writing on the U.S. South."?Susanna Delfino, coeditor of *Global Perspectives on Industrial Transformation in the American South*"*Randal Hall advances our understanding of the commercialization and exploitation of the southern highlands' mineral resources in significant new ways in this multi-faceted study of Virginia's New River Valley. As conceptually sophisticated as it is chronologically vast, Hall forces us to rethink the prospects, processes and pace of market forces as they evolved over two and a half centuries. This is a landmark not only of Appalachian history but of southern economic and environmental history as well.*"?John C. Inscoe, author of *Race, War, and Remembrance in the Appalachian South*"*As a region previously categorized by scholars as backward or undeveloped, southwestern Virginia undergoes quite a journey in Hall's skillful and painstakingly researched narrative...his convincing argument that we need to reassess the mountain South's traditional role as a preindustrial or precapitalist region makes his book a valuable addition to the literature and a must-read for scholars of economic development and the U.S. South.*"?Sean Patrick Adams, *The Journal of Southern History*"*Provides an astonishingly detailed portrait of the extractive industries in the New River region of Virginia...All in all, the volume...provides an excellent microhistory of an understudied region of the Appalachian South.*"?North Carolina Historical "*Randal Hall provides a well-researched and well-written economic history of southwestern Virginia... Anyone with an interest in Southern history, Appalachian history, business history, or extractive industries should read this book.*"?Charles Reback"?Charles Reback, *EH.Net*"*Reading a history book that does not stop or start with the Civil War era is refreshing.*"?Robert Gudmestad"?Robert Gudmestad"*Hall tantalizes his readers with such a short treatment that one is left wishing for more.*"?American Historical

About the Author Randal L. Hall is managing editor of the *Journal of Southern History* and adjunct associate professor of history at Rice University. He is the author or editor of several books, including *Lum and Abner: Rural America and the Golden Age of Radio* and *William Louis Poteat: A Leader of the Progressive-Era South*. He is also the coeditor of *Seeing Jefferson Anew: In His Time and Ours* and *Thomas Dixon Jr. and the Birth of Modern America*.