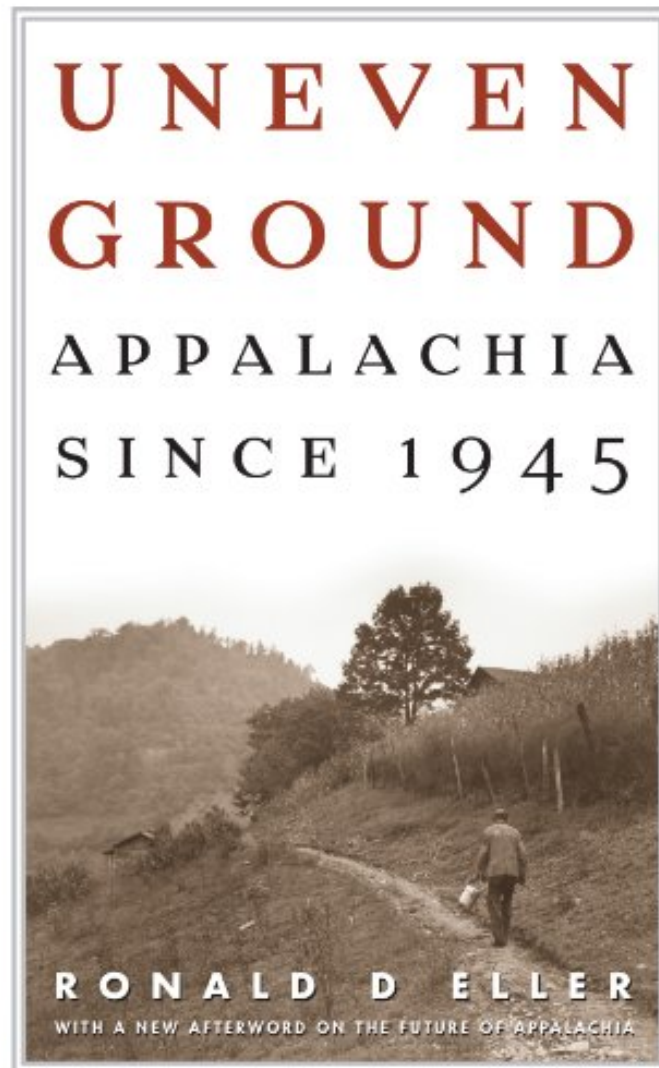


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Uneven Ground: Appalachia since 1945

Ronald D Eller

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Ronald D Eller : Uneven Ground: Appalachia since 1945 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Uneven Ground: Appalachia since 1945:

14 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Harry Caudill would be ProudBy J'CATA masterpiece of cogent subtlety. Dr. Eller, a native of Appalachia shows his passion and concern for an area of the U.S. (constructed as a region) that is closest to his heart. Much like colonies of Britain or France, Appalachia has been robbed of its rich natural resources. Still, rather than leading a vitriolic campaign directly against industries that have plundered the region e.g. coal, timber, and mica Dr. Eller seems more interested in finding a sustainable alternative. To be sure, proponents of the continued use of dwindling fossil fuel reserves will have problems with this book, but the simple truth is that we can't continue to stay the course if we want to ensure this to be a world that our children,

grandchildren, and great-grandchildren can live to see and enjoy, in all its natural beauty. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I thought it was EXCELLENT and a must-read for anyone interested in the subject ...By Donna BThis book reminded me of the classic "Night Comes to the Cumberlands". It deals with the social and economic development of Appalachia in a very thorough, but very readable way. I thought it was EXCELLENT and a must-read for anyone interested in the subject of Appalachia from a social, economic and historical perspective. The afterword is particularly interesting, in that it discusses the critical question: "What's next"? 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Gilda ScottGood book

Appalachia has played a complex and often contradictory role in the unfolding of American history. Created by urban journalists in the years following the Civil War, the idea of Appalachia provided a counterpoint to emerging definitions of progress. Early-twentieth-century critics of modernity saw the region as a remnant of frontier life, a reflection of simpler times that should be preserved and protected. However, supporters of development and of the growth of material production, consumption, and technology decried what they perceived as the isolation and backwardness of the place and sought to "uplift" the mountain people through education and industrialization. Ronald D Eller has worked with local leaders, state policymakers, and national planners to translate the lessons of private industrial-development history into public policy affecting the region. In *Uneven Ground: Appalachia since 1945*, Eller examines the politics of development in Appalachia since World War II with an eye toward exploring the idea of progress as it has evolved in modern America. Appalachia's struggle to overcome poverty, to live in harmony with the land, and to respect the diversity of cultures and the value of community is also an American story. In the end, Eller concludes, "Appalachia was not different from the rest of America; it was in fact a mirror of what the nation was becoming."