

Annotated Bibliography

Abramson, Rudy and Jean Haskel (eds.) (2006). *Encyclopedia of Appalachia*. Knoxville

TN: University of Tennessee Press,

This is a comprehensive encyclopedia of all things Appalachian by some of the foremost scholars from the region. Whether you want to look up a musician, information about geography or what a pawpaw is, this is your book.

Biggers, Jeff (2006). *The United States of Appalachia : How southern mountaineers*

***brought independence, culture, and enlightenment to America*. Emeryville,**

CA: Shoemaker & Hoarc.

One of my favorite books about the region, this work explores the contributions to American culture made by Appalachians. The “Prologue” is a wonderful examination of music from the region.

Cantwell, Robert (1984) *Bluegrass breakdown: The making of the old southern sound*.

Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

A good history of bluegrass music.

Conway, Cecelia (1995). *African banjo echoes in Appalachia*. Knoxville, TN: University

of Tennessee Press.

My favorite book about the banjo. Conway not only explores the history of the banjo in an insightful way, but also includes ethnographies of several black banjo and fiddle players.

Durman, Chris (2008). “Sound recording reviews: african-american old-time string

band music: A selective discography,” *Quarterly Journal of the Music Library*

***Association*, 64:4 (June 2008) p. 797–808.**

In this article, Durman not only documents the recorded history of this music, but also provides a wonderful history of the black string band tradition.

Hamm, Charles (1983). *Music in the new world*. New York, NY: W.W. Norton & Co.

A comprehensive look at the many styles of music in North America.

Malone, Bill (1983). *Singing cowboys and musical mountaineers*. Athens, GA.

University of Georgia Press.

A series of lectures by one of my favorite writers and thinkers about Appalachian music. As the title suggests, this work explores the images of the mountaineer and the cowboy as they relate to the image and development of the music.

Lomax, John (1960). *The folk songs of North America: In the English language*. New York: Doubleday and Company.

A compilation of folk songs from the region with some descriptions of the songs.

Nelson, Scott Reynolds (2006). *Steel drivin' man: John Henry: The untold story of an American legend*. Oxford ; New York: Oxford University Press.

One of the best attempts to uncover the true story of John Henry.

Rosenberg, Neil V. (1985). *Bluegrass: A History*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press.

Another Good history of bluegrass music.

Sharp, Cecil James (1932). *English folk songs from the Southern Appalachians*. London; New York: Oxford University Press.

The first scholarly collection of British ballads found in Appalachia.

Wolfe, Charles K. (1977). *Tennessee strings: The story of country music in Tennessee*. Knoxville, TN: University of Tennessee Press.

An easy read, this book clearly outlines the history of folk and country music styles in Tennessee and teaches much about the music of Appalachia as a whole.

Wolfe, Charles K. (2001). *Classic Country: Legends of Country Music*. New York; London: Routledge.

Short individual bios of many important country music performers from Bill Monroe to the Carter Family to Doc Watson.