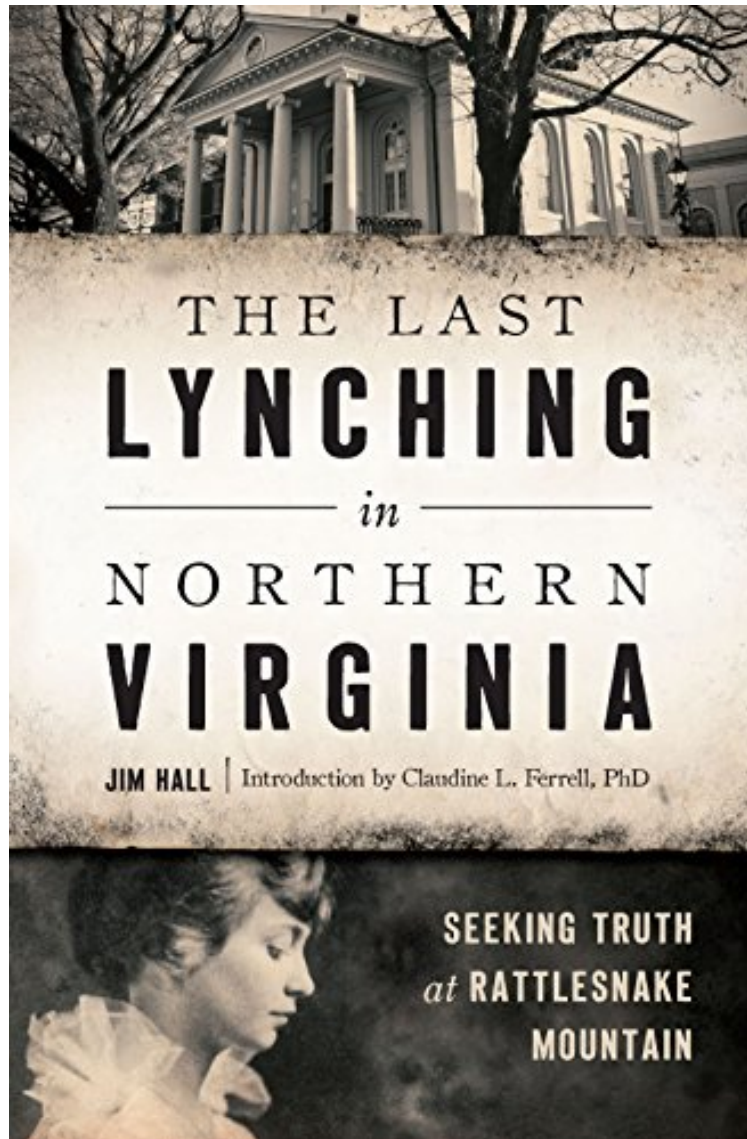


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The Last Lynching in Northern Virginia: Seeking Truth at Rattlesnake Mountain (True Crime)

Jim Hall

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Jim Hall : The Last Lynching in Northern Virginia: Seeking Truth at Rattlesnake Mountain (True Crime) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Last Lynching in Northern Virginia: Seeking Truth at Rattlesnake Mountain (True Crime):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Twinned stars By D. N. Stone This is a superlative work of local history that deserves a national audience. The author clearly knows the lovely community he writes about, and his

photos of local people he interviewed and the landscape add authenticity to this re-examination of a lynching that was mischaracterized as a suicide. The writing is fluid and workmanlike, with an eye for the telling detail: the squirrel munching on an acorn in the tree where the hanged body was discovered or the assembly line of biscuits, ham and butter that fed the search party. That a lynching occurred unrecognized and unpunished in Virginia in 1932, less than 50 miles from the nation's capitol, in the state that gave the country its leaders who established the rule of law, cannot help but inspire the reader to vigilance and to gratitude to the author for his quest for the truth. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Story to be supplemented by new film By Thomas Davenport I worked with Jim Hall as I made my film "The Other Side of Eden: Stories of a Virginia Lynching". His research and writing are impeccable and as I read his book (and re-read it!) I am amazed at the depth of his research and the careful assembly of the facts of the story from newspapers and interviews. Jim also has a blog which he uses to update the story as new information emerges. Highly recommended! 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Good Read By Bridget Settles You can tell that Jim Hall poured his heart and soul into writing this book. I appreciate that his facts stated in the book were supported by such solid evidence. I recommend that anyone interested in history pick up this book. Great job Mr. Hall! What's next?

In 1932, a black man was found hanging on Rattlesnake Mountain in Fauquier County. A mob set fire to his body. Officials identified the remains as Shedrick Thompson, wanted for the abduction and rape of a local white woman. Some claimed Thompson killed himself--the final act of a desperate fugitive. But residents knew better, calling the tragedy a lynching--the last one known in Virginia. Author Jim Hall takes an in-depth look at the events to expose a complex and disturbing chapter in Virginia history.

"When he retired from The Free Lance-Star in 2013, Hall didn't put away his notebook or his curiosity. Instead, the Fredericksburg resident fixed his attention on what would become the biggest challenge of his writing career: what really happened to Shedrick Thompson on Rattlesnake Mountain in northern Fauquier County. In his book, Hall applied the same meticulous and never-waste-a-word approach he used as a reporter... The story examines both the incident that made headlines across the state and sent residents into a panic and the time and place in which it happened." "Free Lance Star" The writer instinctively understood Virginia's last known lynching would make for a gripping story. "It had the elements of race, violence, murder, assault, and sex," retired Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star reporter Jim Hall said. And, it would give an enterprising journalist a chance to set the record straight about an alleged suicide that Mr. Hall and many others considered a lynching. "Fauquier Now About the Author Jim Hall was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up in Falls Church, Virginia. He received a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, and a master's degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond. He now lives in Fredericksburg. His thirty-six-year newspaper career included stints as a reporter and editor, first at the Caroline Progress, a weekly in Bowling Green, Virginia, and then at the Free Lance-Star, a daily in Fredericksburg. He retired in 2013.