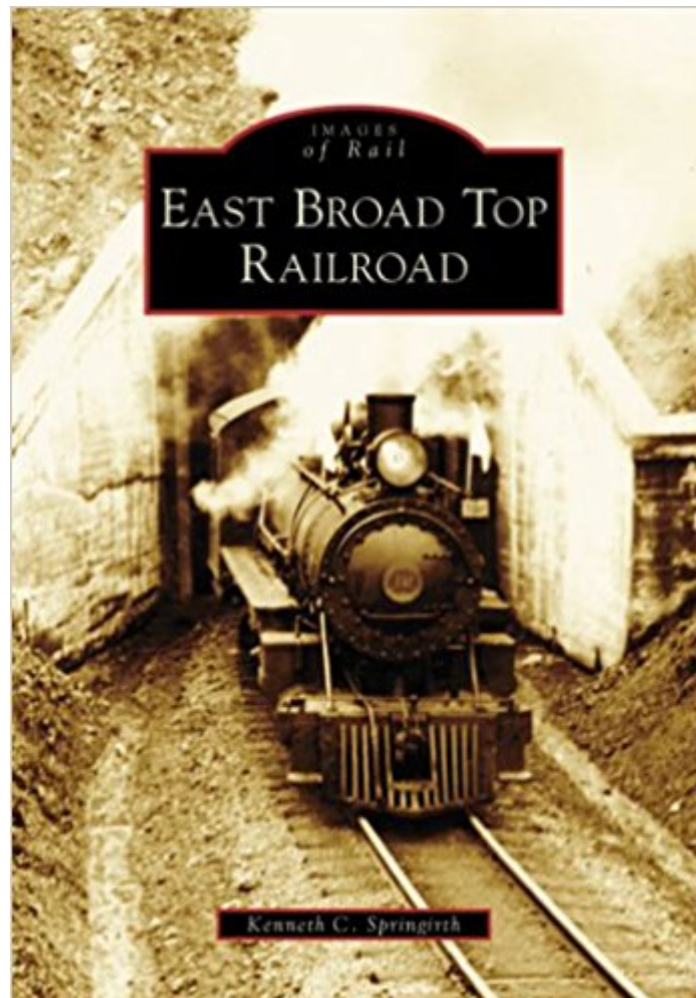




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# East Broad Top Railroad (Images Of Rail: Pennsylvania)



## Synopsis

Chartered in 1856, the East Broad Top Railroad began operating in 1873 through scenic Huntingdon County in south-central Pennsylvania. This well-managed narrow-gauge railroad connected the isolated Broad Top Mountain coal field with the Pennsylvania Railroad at Mount Union. With a decline in the hauling of coal, service ended in 1956. Nick Kovalchick, president of the Kovalchick Salvage Company of Indiana, Pennsylvania, purchased the railroad and reopened a portion of it as a tourist line in 1960. Through vintage photographs, East Broad Top Railroad showcases the steam locomotives, rolling stock, and railroad yard at Rockhill Furnace, which is the most historic railroad yard in North America.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Kenneth C. Springirth, author of *Greater Erie Trolleys*, *Johnstown Trolleys and Incline*, *Pittsburgh Streamlined Trolleys*, and *Suburban Philadelphia Trolleys*, has a vested interest in rail history, as his father was a trolley car motorman in Philadelphia and his grandfather was a motorman in Washington, D.C. A transportation historian, he has walked the lines and photographed and ridden trolley cars and railroads in the United States and around the world. Springirth has been documenting and chronicling the history of the East Broad Top Railroad since 1962.

I was a bit disappointed in this book as I felt that too much of it focused on the post closure tourist operations. Yes, there were photos and a history of its days of operation but too little as far as I was

concerned. I also felt that far too many of the photos were either of fair quality to start with or had reproduced poorly in this book. Other Images of Rail Books I have purchased have a more even and better photo quality to them. This was especially true of many of the Steam Engine Photos where details are completely washed out. If you can browse a copy of this book then take a look at the four locomotive photos on pages 90 and 91 which are all of poor quality. These photos were all taken in 2001 or 2002 and one would expect better resolution for them. If I had taken these photos I certainly wouldn't be publishing them in a book. There are better East Broad Top books available (e.g. "East Broad Top: To the Mines and Back") which I would recommend over this book. That said the book is not terrible only average in my opinion.

A look into the past and how coal was recovered for sale and operations of the railroad on a day to day basis. I definitely recommend this book!

A++

Anyone who has ever taken a ride on this narrow guage line or remembers it as a child or adult growing up in the Mt. Union - Shirleysburg - Orbisonia - Saltillo and surrounding areas must have this book. My grandfather, Drue Colyer was a long time engineer / fireman on the EBT and I myself have experienced the ride. The book brings back many good memories and the photos are very good!

Anyone with an interest in East Coast narrow gauge should buy this book. Great description of a progressive management style who were blindsided by the loss of coal revenue. Get this for your library if you are a railroad buff.

This book is on the Huntington & East Broad Top Railroad. This railroad once served a group of coal mines in Pennsylvania. Today the coal mines have been closed and the railroad is operated as a tourist railroad. Having visited the East Broad Top I have been interested in seeing more photographs from the railroad's past. This is the type of photo that this little book from Arcadia Press is good at presenting. I reccommend this book for anyone who would like to know more about this little railroad

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