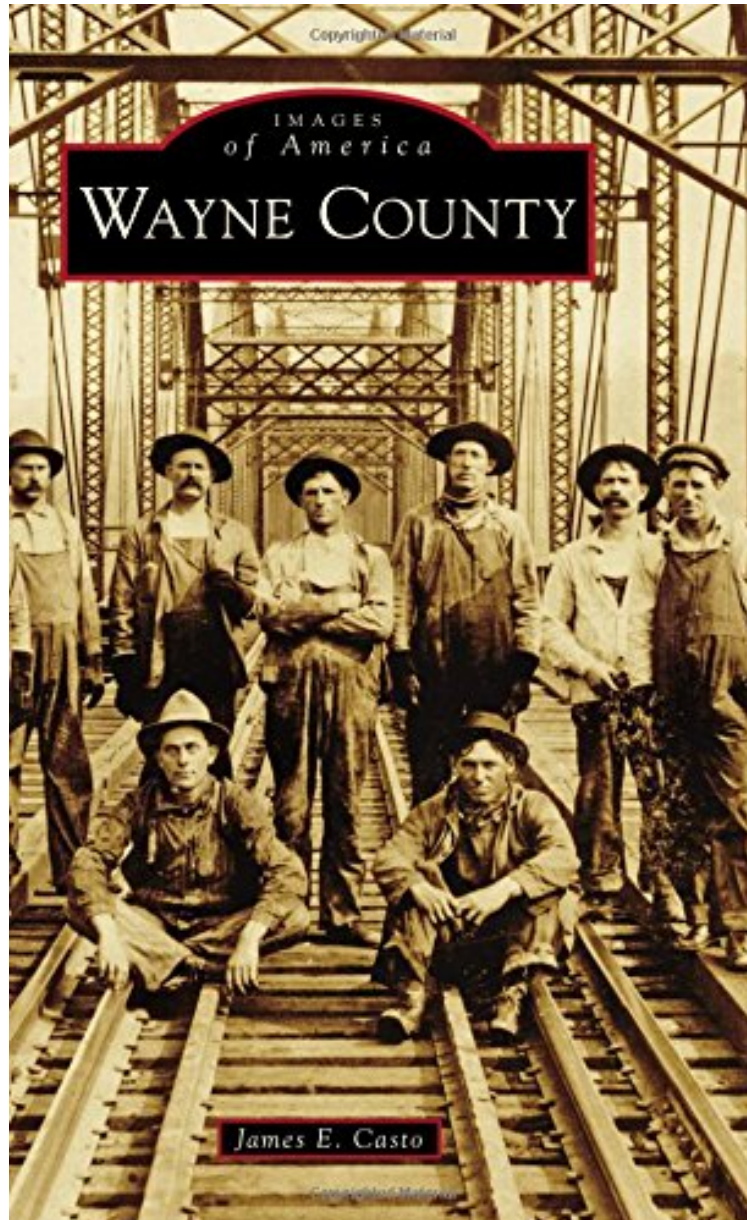


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Wayne County, West Virginia, was established on January 18, 1842, from part of Cabell County and named for Gen. Mad Anthony Wayne. The states westernmost county, it lies at the juncture of two rivers: the Ohio and Big Sandy. The town of Wayne is the county seat. Although the southern half of the county was first to be settled, it was slow to develop. In contrast, the northern part bordering Cabell County grew rapidly. The city of Huntington ultimately expanded westward into Wayne County, an area now known as Westmoreland. In addition to Wayne and Huntington, the county has three other incorporated communities: Ceredo, Kenova, and Fort Gay. In the 19th century, timbering and farming were the countys economic mainstays. The southern end of the county experienced a growth spurt when, in 1890, the Norfolk Western Railway was completed to Kenova. Today, many residents commute to Huntington or nearby Ashland, Kentucky. The county is the birthplace of gospel singer Michael W. Smith, major league pitcher Donnie Robinson, and Fannie Belle Fleming, better known as stripper Blaze Starr.

About the AuthorJames E. Casto, retired associate editor of the Huntington Herald-Dispatch and author of six previous Arcadia history books, has assembled 200 images from the archives of the Herald-Dispatch, the Marshall University Library, and numerous private collections to offer this enjoyable look back at yesterday in Wayne County.