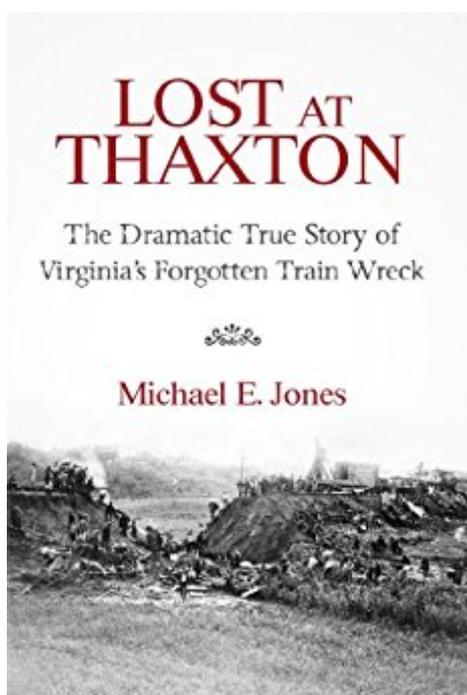


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# Lost At Thaxton: The Dramatic True Story Of Virginia's Forgotten Train Wreck



## Synopsis

A storm like no one had ever seen caused tiny Wolf Creek in Thaxton, Virginia, to rage in the darkness of night. An earthen fill that carried the railroad over the creek could not withstand the power of the rising water, and Norfolk & Western passenger train Number Two plummeted into a hole in the earth. There in the valley beneath the shadow of the towering Peaks of Otter, passengers and crew scrambled from the wreckage and water in a life-or-death struggle. The best and worst of humanity were on display in the small hours of the night, as some worked heroically to rescue those trapped in the debris while others stood by concerned only for themselves. A terrible fire ensued, and those who remained trapped were consumed by the flames. The bloodied and battered survivors suffered through four more hours of isolation and torture in the rain alongside the burning wreckage before help would finally arrive. Written and extensively researched by the great-great grandson of the railroad section master at Thaxton, *Lost at Thaxton* tells the forgotten true story of one of the worst railroad accidents in the history of Virginia and the people who lived and died that night.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I thought this book was very interesting. I live not far from Thaxton and didn't even know about this accident until I saw the book advertised. I learned a lot about the area in the past history. I think this is a great book and would recommend it to others to read. Matter of fact I have 3 other family members reading it and I will donate it to the Bedford Co library. I checked with them and they didn't even know about the book either. Wonderful book!

Michael Jones has done a quality job in writing about a little known but very historical important train wreck. He gives personality to the entire story by discovering even the smallest detail of the people involved. Just like the flood of water down the creek that fateful night, Mr. Jones leaves no stone unturned. Railroad buffs and local history enthusiasts alike will find this book hard to put down until every page is read. Thanks, Michael, for a great read.

i found the human side of this story absolutely fascinating but when it merged into the technical side and the legalese, i kinda blanked out. i would love to know more about these people. what did their relatives do? did they ever find more of the peoples remains? so many questions unanswered. maybe they just cant be answered. but i loved that this was a local issue. I live in Lynchburg.

I had never heard of the wreck at Thaxton and gave lived in Bedford Co for 18 years and most of my life nearby in Roanoke. I am so glad to have found this and learned more about this history of this area.

I liked this book because it was very interesting to say the least. I grew up in Thaxton, and as a kid, played in the area where the wreck took place. I also am familiar with the entire route that the train traveled. So, this book got my attention on page one, and held it til the end. I'd recommend this book to just about anyone, because it's that damn good!! Yours Truly, Anthony W. Orange

Great research and documentation of a significant event in its day that is made more dynamic by the author's in depth coverage of the people on board the train.

Michael has researched a train wreck that was forgotten; other train wrecks have been memorialized in song or story, not this one until Michael wrote "Lost at Thaxton"

Well researched. Nostalgic portrayal of what it must have been like before technology prevented circumstances leading to incomprehensible tragedy.

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