

Trail / Town	Location	What History is Highlighted & How the Trail / Town Leverages It
Tweetsie Trail — Johnson City → Elizabethton, Tennessee	East TN	The Tweetsie Trail has nearly two dozen historical markers along the route (railroad history, natural history). (Rails to Trails Conservancy) At mile 2.5 there is a <i>replica</i> Milligan Depot, serving as a visible anchor for railroad history. (Rails to Trails Conservancy) Also, the trail connects with or passes near historic sites like Sabine Hill (a Federal-architecture house) and Revolutionary-era events via the Sycamore Shoals State Historic Park. (Johnson City)
Townsend Historical Trail — Townsend, Tennessee	East TN, near the Great Smoky Mountains	This town trail runs through Townsend, and includes interpretive features. Points of interest include the <i>Little River Railroad and Lumber Company Museum</i>, which tells the story of logging + rail + natural resource history, along with local eateries and businesses along the path so people can stop. (traillink.com) It's less a long rail-trail, more a community trail, but shows how integrating a museum and historical content works.
Virginia Creeper Trail — Abingdon / Damascus etc., Virginia	Southwest Virginia	Very strong example. The Creeper Trail is built on a rail ROW with history in logging, coal & iron, rails, etc. (vacreepertrail.com) The towns (Damascus, Abingdon) lean into the history & the trail traffic: outfitters, commerce, lodging, music / culture, signage. Damascus especially markets itself as a "Trail Town USA." (Appalachian Trail Conservancy)
Huckleberry Trail — Blacksburg / Christiansburg, Virginia	Southwest Virginia	The trail passes through the Coal Mining Heritage Park near Merrimac. That park preserves parts of old mine foundations, tippie, general store, housing for miners, etc. (Wikipedia) The trail also uses interpretive signage and the route itself (former rail alignment of coal railway) as part of the story. The local

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		governments partnered with universities and historical agencies to preserve what remains and make it accessible. (Wikipedia)
High Bridge Trail State Park — Southside Virginia	Appomattox / Cumberland / Prince Edward counties, VA	The trail preserves <i>High Bridge</i> , a large historic railroad bridge (originally built mid-1800s) crossing the Appomattox River. It has Civil War associations (efforts to destroy it, etc.). (Wikipedia) There are also original railroad artifacts: telegraph poles, mile markers, etc. The trail is marketed not just for recreation, but for history, and local towns along the route benefit. The restored bridge is a focal point (people stop, photograph, etc.). (Wikipedia)

Feature / Strategy	Why It Works & How It Could Be Adapted for the New River Community
Historic Anchors (Buildings, Museums, Replicas)	Having something tangible—an old depot, mine ruins, logging facility, historic homes—gives people something physical to visit. In Tweetsie, the Milligan Depot replica is just off the trail. For Moore’s Camp, even modest structures or ruins, stabilized, could serve as anchor points.
Interpretive Signage / Markers	Explaining what was: where the logging rail ran, how coal was mined, who lived there, what daily life was like. These help give stories that “make it worth” leaving the trail. Possibly involving local storytellers like Jimmy Byrge in developing content.

**Branding /
Identity**

As seen in Damascus, Virginia: “Trail Town USA,” with amenities, lodging, events. If Moore’s Camp developed a small identity tied to its history (e.g. “Home of the New River Logging Camps / Coal Camps / Folk Song Traditions”), that could be branded on signage, guidebooks, etc.

**Amenities and Visitor
Infrastructure**

Trailside cafes / craft shops / local lodging / place to rest / water / restrooms / signage telling “you are here,” “historic stops --> Moore’s Camp 2 miles” etc. Without those, people may pass by without stopping.

Partnerships and Funding

Universities, historic societies, state parks departments, tourism boards. E.g. Huckleberry’s partnership with Radford University, Historic Resources dept., etc. Also volunteer groups (“Friends of...”). This helps with mapping, preservation, signage, promotion.