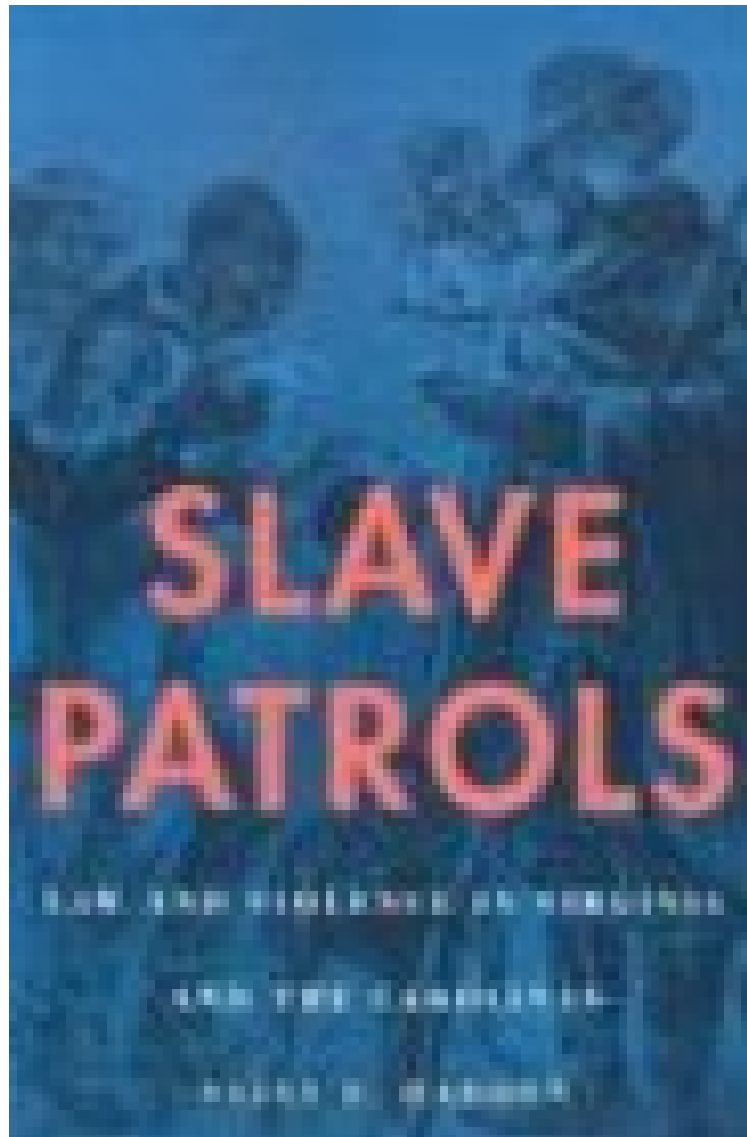


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Slave Patrols: Law and Violence in Virginia and the Carolinas (Harvard Historical Studies)

Sally E. Hadden

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before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slave Patrols: Law and
Violence in Virginia and the Carolinas (Harvard Historical Studies):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. North American History 101By Arnie Tracey"Slave Patrols" is an outstandingly researched, and well written book, rarely dry.American soil was certainly neither a gift nor a land grant from the original inhabitants. America was seized by extreme violence.Slaves were not puppets. Their labor was extracted by ultra, up close and personal violence.Such violence has to be a 24 hour/day occupation. Therefore, night-patrols are not optional.Ms Hadden does every American a great service by documenting this propensity, this need for never-ending vigilance as a required adjunct to land theft, as well as theft of the fruits of slaves' labor. The latter theft being enabled by a willingness to employ both murder and torture, i.e.: whipping rape.Unfortunately the line from colonial militias and antebellum slave patrols ends at today's police forces.And so it (violence) goes.5 stars. Should be read by all.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. ESSENTIALBy CustomerSlave Patrols: Law and Violence in Virginia and the Carolinas by Sally Hadden provided much needed context for the relationship between law enforcement and people of color. Hadden's book specifically provided historical background for the relationship between African Americans and law enforcement. Although the nature of slave patrols is quite grim, we learn that slave patrols were established by government institutions to enforce codes. These codes also known as slave and black codes, served to control behaviors of minorities. With Hadden's knowledge we are able to understand law enforcement's relationship with communities of color in a larger context. We can no longer take instances of racial bias as mutually exclusive. It's crucial to understand that instances of racial bias from law enforcement has historical significance.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. suggesting that these patrols were the beginning of some of the worst crimes committed against BlacksBy student01The goal of this book is to highlight the importance of pervasive southern slave patrols, another example in history where Whites policed Black bodies. While most readers have heard of slave codes that emerged during slavery throughout the South, rarely is it mentioned that the state was a powerful force in ensuring the adherence to these racist laws and regulations. Hadden expertly details the origins, maintenance, and implications of these groups, suggesting that these patrols were the beginning of some of the worst crimes committed against Blacks, including those perpetrated by vigilantes and the KKK.

Obscured from our view of slaves and masters in America is a critical third party: the state, with its coercive power. This book completes the grim picture of slavery by showing us the origins, the nature, and the extent of slave patrols in Virginia and the Carolinas from the late seventeenth century through the end of the Civil War. Here we see how the patrols, formed by county courts and state militias, were the closest enforcers of codes governing slaves throughout the South.Mining a variety of sources, Sally Hadden presents the views of both patrollers and slaves as she depicts the patrols, composed of "respectable" members of society as well as poor whites, often mounted and armed with whips and guns, exerting a brutal and archaic brand of racial control inextricably linked to post-Civil War vigilantism and the Ku Klux Klan. City councils also used patrollers before the war, and police forces afterward, to impose their version of race relations across the South, making the entire region, not just plantations, an armed camp where slave workers were controlled through terror and brutality.

From Library JournalUsing a variety of sources, Hadden (history, Florida State Univ.) thoroughly analyzes the public regulation of slavery in Virginia and the Carolinas, focusing on slave patrols between 1700 and 1865. Adding new details, the author's in-depth analysis provides an understanding of the daily enforcement of slave laws and an awareness of how Southern police forces were influenced by slavery and white dominance. The book is thematically organized, with chapters addressing topics that range from the formation of the original patrol groups, responses during crises like slave revolts, and the impact of the Civil War on patrols. She concludes that after the Civil War, the oppressive and brutal roles of the slave patrols were absorbed by other Southern institutions, such as police forces and the Ku Klux Klan. Hadden employs lots of primary sources and detailed notes on each chapter in this excellent, long-needed synthesis to supplement works like H.M. Henry's *The Police Control of the Slave in South Carolina* (1914. o.p.). This is essential reading, with much to offer all scholars interested in American history, slavery, and race relations. Edward G. McCormack, Univ. of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Lib. Copyright 2001 Reed Business Information, Inc.From BooklistHistory professor Hadden offers insights into a part of U.S. history that has been little studied, despite the fact that it is an integral fact of that history. Although slave patrols are most associated with the South, they were initiated in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries by Spanish and English colonists in the Caribbean. Once slavery took substantial root in the American South, local authorities began to adopt patrols as a means of policing slaves. The patrols were coordinated with other militia used to protect white colonists from Indians and other outside threats. With the rise of absentee plantation owners and the growth of towns, authorities used various carrots and sticks from fines to tax abatements. Patrols also changed from voluntary vigilante type groups, sometimes impromptu mobs, to paid civil servants. Whatever their structure, the patrols became part of the violent force used to react to slave revolts, the threat of such revolts, and runaways. Despite the bravado attached to their image, slave patrols were "an unequivocal manifestation of white fear." Vanessa BushCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved Sally Hadden...has written the first definitive book on slave patrols... The book studies the roots, rules, procedures, progress, disintegration and legacy of Southern slave patrols during the 18th and 19th centuries. It is

the most all-encompassing view of a long overlooked chapter of Southern history. (New York Voice 2002-01-02)Slave Patrols studies the roots, rules, procedures, progress, disintegration and legacy of Southern slave patrols in Virginia and the Carolinas in the 18th and 19th centuries. It is perhaps the most all-encompassing view yet of a long overlooked chapter of Southern history. The paucity of research done on slave patrols is seemingly out of proportion to the large role they played in the perpetuation of the slavery system in the South. (Research in 2001-07-01)Hadden offers insights into a part of U.S. history that has been little studied, despite the fact that it is an integral fact of that history... [Slave] patrols became part of the violent force used to react to slave revolts, the threat of such revolts, and runaways. Despite the bravado attached to their image, slave patrols were 'an unequivocal manifestation of white fear.' (Vanessa Bush Booklist 2001-02-01)Using a variety of sources [and] adding new details, [Hadden's] in-depth analysis provides an understanding of the daily enforcement of slave laws and an awareness of how Southern police forces were influenced by slavery and white dominance... This is essential reading, with much to offer all scholars interested in American history, slavery, and race relations. (Edward G. McCormack Library Journal 2001-03-01)In a study that explores the roots of what we know today as racial profiling, [Hadden] focuses on the law-enforcement bands that existed from about 1700 to 1865 and were charged with ensuring that slaves did not escape their masters' plantations... An incisive, scholarly study. (Publishers Weekly 2001-02-19)No one has examined slave patrols in such detail, unearthed the whole world of racial control they represented, and linked them to post-Civil War vigilantes and the KKK. The details on the recruitment of the patrols, their procedures and effect, and their shifting roles in different circumstances of public safety and disturbance are very well done. This is a real contribution to the history of race relations in the United States, and helps explain developments long after the patrols had died out. (Bernard Bailyn, author of *The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution: Enlarged Edition*)The book is impressively researched and carefully written. Slave patrols did in fact constitute an important aspect of the history of slavery in the United States, but this is the first time that slave patrols have received undivided attention as to their origins and actual implementation. (Winthrop D. Jordan, University of Mississippi)