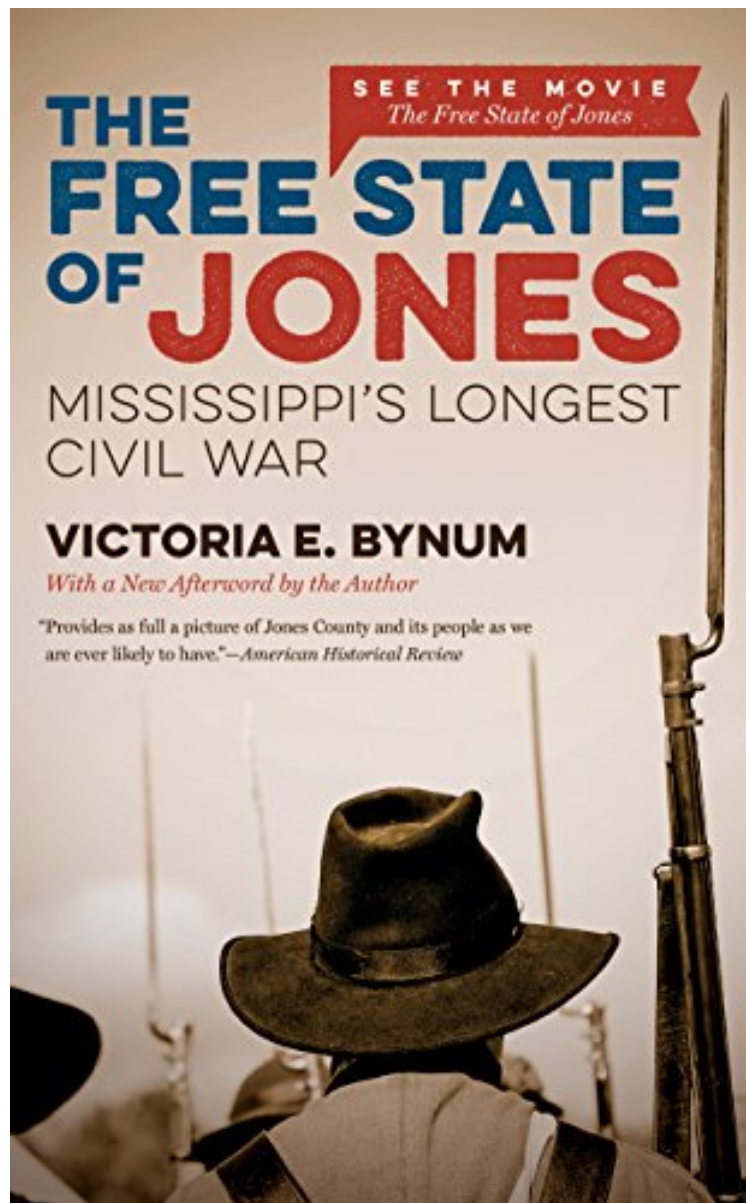


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Victoria E. Bynum

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Victoria E. Bynum : The Free State of Jones, Movie Edition: Mississippi's Longest Civil War (The Fred W. Morrison Series in Southern Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my

time, and all praised *The Free State of Jones, Movie Edition: Mississippi's Longest Civil War* (The Fred W. Morrison Series in Southern Studies):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I am still amazed that these stories of the Civil War are not ...By Eleonora TurnageI couldn't put the book down. It was a page turner for sure. There was so much information given, that I think I will have to read it again, just to make sure I understood it completely. I am still amazed that these stories of the Civil War are not included in our history books for our students in high school and/or college. Thank you, Vicki, for writing such an interesting and truthful history of the Civil War, before, during and after, which took place in Mississippi and the South. I feel that my husband's family, living in Leake County, Mississippi at the time, were part of this movement because his great great grandfather also deserted the Confederate army, moving through Madison County and eventually into the piney woods of Louisiana. There was a marriage with a Choctaw girl on my husband's mother's side. I am doing Genealogy and am digging deeper into his family's history. This book is bringing many things clearer to me about my husband's family.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Scholarly work, educationalBy Bill MatthewsIt has been a while since I bought a physical book. I found that the background material was highly interesting since it explained why many people were migrating across the United States prior to the civil war. In addition, a couple of people in one branch of my family were involved, So, I felt compelled to buy a "hard copy". I was not disappointed.Ms Bynum also presents an uncommon view of what happened in some areas both during and after the conflict. I gained an appreciation for the trials and tribulations of the period of reconstruction in the South. Something I never really understood in High School or college.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy Andy of MinnesotaReads like a PhD thesis, not for a general audience.

Between late 1863 and mid-1864, an armed band of Confederate deserters battled Confederate cavalry in the Piney Woods region of Jones County, Mississippi. Calling themselves the Knight Company after their captain, Newton Knight, they set up headquarters in the swamps of the Leaf River, where they declared their loyalty to the U.S. government. The story of the Jones County rebellion is well known among Mississippians, and debate over whether the county actually seceded from the state during the war has smoldered for more than a century. Adding further controversy to the legend is the story of Newt Knight's interracial romance with his wartime accomplice, Rachel, a slave. From their relationship there developed a mixed-race community that endured long after the Civil War had ended, and the ambiguous racial identity of their descendants confounded the rules of segregated Mississippi well into the twentieth century. Victoria Bynum traces the origins and legacy of the Jones County uprising from the American Revolution to the modern civil rights movement. In bridging the gap between the legendary and the real Free State of Jones, she shows how the legend--what was told, what was embellished, and what was left out--reveals a great deal about the South's transition from slavery to segregation; the racial, gender, and class politics of the period; and the contingent nature of history and memory. In a new afterword, Bynum updates readers on recent scholarship, current issues of race and Southern heritage, and the coming movie that make this Civil War story essential reading. The *Free State of Jones* film, starring Matthew McConaughey, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, and Keri Russell, will be released in May 2016.