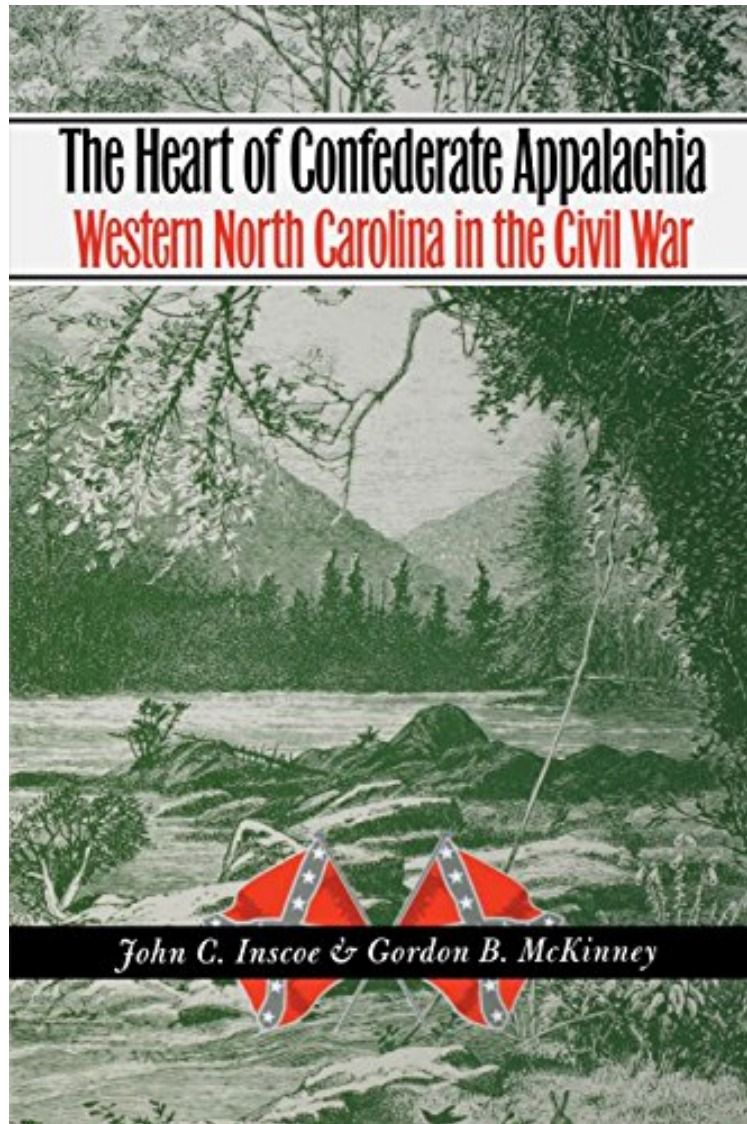


[Free] The Heart of Confederate Appalachia: Western North Carolina in the Civil War (Civil War America)

The Heart of Confederate Appalachia: Western North Carolina in the Civil War (Civil War America)

John C. Inscoe, Gordon B. McKinney
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John C. Inscoe, Gordon B. McKinney : The Heart of Confederate Appalachia: Western North Carolina in the Civil War (Civil War America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Heart of Confederate Appalachia: Western North Carolina in the Civil War (Civil War America):

24 of 27 people found the following review helpful. Good Exploration of Civil War Western North CarolinaBy Gregory S. King-owenProgressing from his study of slaveholding in Western North Carolina (Mountain Masters) and

other explorations of Southern Appalachian History, John Inscoe has teamed up with Gordon B. McKinney, the editor of the microfilm version of the Zebulon B. Vance Papers and author of *Southern Mountain Republicans* to produce the first scholarly synthesis of the Civil War in Western North Carolina. The book breaks new ground in relying on the scholarship of the past twenty years to revise the portrait of a part of North Carolina that was considered to be staunchly Unionist. It explores mountaineers attitudes toward slavery, secession, and the war in general in very broad strokes; these insights are fleshed out with details from specific locales. From the historian's point of view, the authors have not met the rigorous burden of proof in many cases, choosing to base their conclusions on just one or two primary sources; in some cases, they are forced to draw from examples outside of the region (such as Tennessee) which would fail to satisfy the most demanding of those who want conclusive evidence. However, the book is a wonderful tale and in many cases shows the myriad of responses to what has been described as the most influential historical event in United States History. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By nancy McNiven-Glenn straight on. tons of references and facts 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By scott Good book.

In the mountains of western North Carolina, the Civil War was fought on different terms than those found throughout most of the South. Though relatively minor strategically, incursions by both Confederate and Union troops disrupted life and threatened the social stability of many communities. Even more disruptive were the internal divisions among western Carolinians themselves. Differing ideologies turned into opposing loyalties, and the resulting strife proved as traumatic as anything imposed by outside armies. As the mountains became hiding places for deserters, draft dodgers, fugitive slaves, and escaped prisoners of war, the conflict became a more localized and internalized guerrilla war, less rational and more brutal, mean-spirited, and personal--and ultimately more demoralizing and destructive. From the valleys of the French Broad and Catawba Rivers to the peaks of the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky Mountains, the people of western North Carolina responded to the war in dramatically different ways. Men and women, masters and slaves, planters and yeomen, soldiers and civilians, Confederates and Unionists, bushwhackers and home guardsmen, Democrats and Whigs--all their stories are told here.

"[This] meticulous and judicious book untangles the complex sources of the murder and mayhem that plagued Carolina's mountain folk during the war." A definitive history of western North Carolina in the Civil War. ("Southern Cultures") A refreshing narrative to the body of Civil War historiography. ("Virginia Quarterly") By far the most detailed description of circumstances and events ever presented on the region. ("Appalachian Journal") This thorough and detailed study provides a comprehensive and sophisticated picture of western North Carolina society during the Civil War. ("American Historical") Inscoe and McKinney have not only done an excellent job in situating their work within the historiography of both Civil War and Appalachian studies, but their extensive bibliography and detailed endnotes also encourage readers to further explore the effects of war in the mountains. ("Journal of Southern History") A definitive history of western North Carolina in the Civil War.--Southern Cultures This thorough and detailed study provides a comprehensive and sophisticated picture of western North Carolina society during the Civil War. In so doing, it greatly enhances our understanding of a region that lay at the heart of the Old South.--American Historical The authors of this work argue persuasively that Unionism in western North Carolina never became as strong as the persistent stereotype would indicate. . . . [They] are to be commended for a solid study of the area's Unionism that challenges many long-established myths.--Journal of American History A refreshing narrative to the body of Civil War historiography.--Virginia Quarterly The Heart of Confederate Appalachia is good history and should be well-received.--Civil War Book [This] meticulous and judicious book untangles the complex sources of the murder and mayhem that plagued Carolina's mountain folk during the war.--Raleigh News Observer [Manifest Destiny's Underworld: Filibustering in Antebellum America] is an important and well-written book that restores to its proper place a little known but significant topic in American history.--Manhattan Journal of the West A much anticipated study of one of the more misunderstood regions of the antebellum and Civil War South. . . . Virtually every facet of life in North Carolina's Appalachian mountains comes forth in [this] well-written and thoroughly researched book that provides another piece in the emerging larger mosaic of the Civil War 'South'. . . . By far the most detailed description of circumstances and events ever presented on the region.--Appalachian Journal Recommended reading for anyone interested in the human experience and essential reading for anyone interested in North Carolina, Appalachia, or the Civil War.--North Carolina Historical Students of Appalachia have anticipated this book for many years. Happily, it does not disappoint. The authors simply provide the best look yet at a and well-argued, mountain region in the midst of civil war. Meticulous The Heart of Confederate Appalachia is darn good history.--Kenneth Noe, State University of West Georgia Even the remotest parts of the South were swept into the maelstrom of the Civil War, which John C. Inscoe and Gordon B. McKinney vividly demonstrate was the case for western North Carolina. Families were uprooted, the economy shattered, and gender relations, homes, and lives were destroyed by guerrillas and more conventional armies. With superb research and thoughtful analysis, McKinney and Inscoe calmly and insightfully shatter the myth of the solidly Unionist Appalachia as they demonstrate that there was no refuge from the divisions of

war, no line demarcating home front from battle front, no place of grace.--Michael Fellman, author of *Inside War: The Guerrilla Conflict in Missouri During the American Civil War*, *Citizen Sherman*, and, forthcoming, *The Making of Robert E. Lee* The authors' detailed examination of western North Carolina's home front addresses the capacity of its society both to endure and to change. . . . Unquestionably, this volume will be of value not only to Civil War scholars but also to any student of history, especially those who have an interest in the war's impact on residents of North Carolina.--Our StateInsoe and McKinney have not only done an excellent job in situating their work within the historiography of both Civil War and Appalachian studies, but their extensive bibliography and detailed endnotes also encourage readers to further explore the effects of war in the mountains. Both social historians of the Civil War and Appalachian scholars will benefit from this book.--*Journal of Southern History*This first-rate local history establishes that the Confederate Appalachia home front was extraordinarily dynamic. . . . The authors are veteran scholars who have researched their topic carefully and analyzed their material with keen insight.--*Choice*From the *Inside Flap*A comprehensive history of a non-combat region of the Confederacy, the 17 mountain counties of western North Carolina where loyalties were divided. This area suffered incursions by troops from both sides; attracted draft dodgers, deserters, fugitive slaves, and escaped prisoners; and experienced brutal and demoralizing internal conflicts.