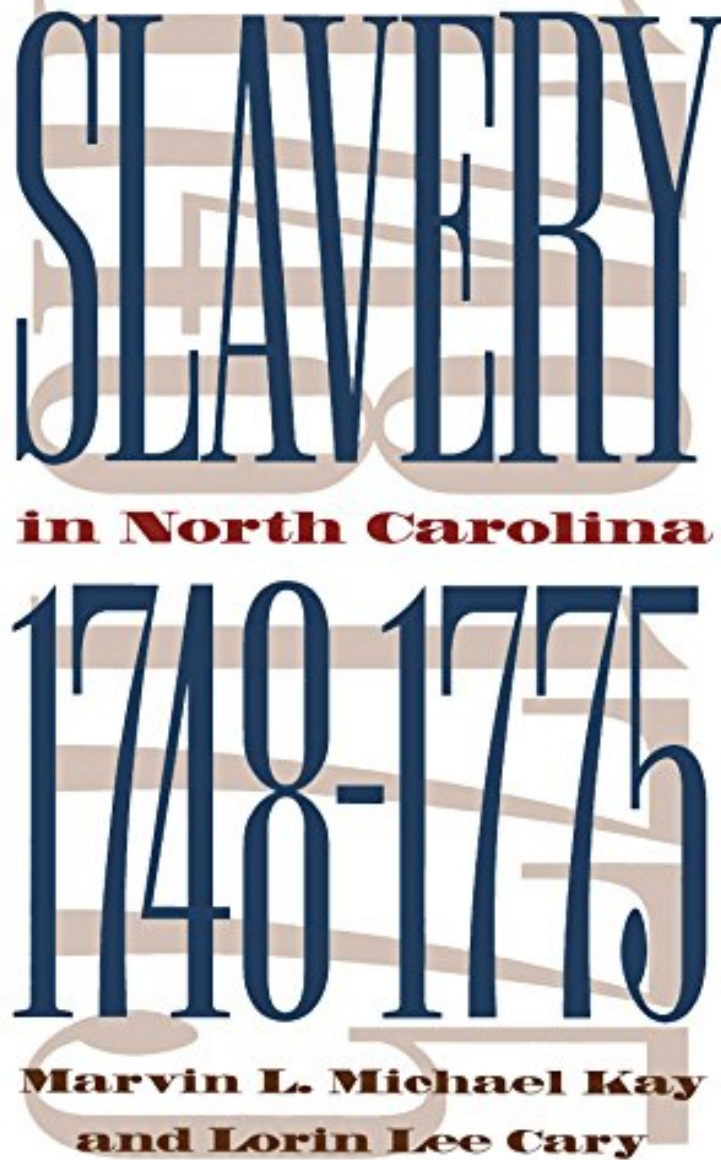


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Slavery in North Carolina, 1748-1775

Marvin L. Kay, Lorin Lee Cary

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Marvin L. Kay, Lorin Lee Cary : Slavery in North Carolina, 1748-1775 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Slavery in North Carolina, 1748-1775:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. An overview and interesting fact-filled take on period and state

specific slaveryBy Sherri L. MillerWhile this book offers an objective, historical look at slavery, it is useful primarily only to those wanting to study slavery in this specific American state and twenty-seven year time period. While I enjoyed this book from a historical perspective as a guide for creative writing, it would've been much more useful to me and most other readers if it covered a longer time period and a larger region, such as the entire 17th, 18th, and/or 19th centuries for the states of VA, NC, SC, and GA, or if a series for this extended time period with each state as a separate book were available. As it is, the book is a valuable historical asset for those that want to learn about all aspects of slavery from 1748-1775 in the state of North Carolina.0 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Ms.DI cannot wait to read this.13 of 14 people found the following review helpful. Good SynthesisBy Gregory S. King-owenThis is primarily a book for historians. Although the book has its moments, it mostly focuses on the historiography of slavery in North Carolina during the period from 1748 to 1775. The authors discuss the origins of North Carolina slaves, treatment of slaves, slave naming practices, slave culture, and the ideology of slavery as North Carolina approached the American Revolution. A fault of the book is that the analysis stops mostly at 1775, cutting off the picture of how the American Revolution transformed the slave institutions of the state. The book is well written; anyone who needs information on the nature and character of slavery during the period will find this to be an authoritative source. Most armchair historians will probably be disappointed that this study is not a narrative; yet, there are many wonderful insights on the nature of slavery in North Carolina for the interested reader.

Michael Kay and Lorin Cary illuminate new aspects of slavery in colonial America by focusing on North Carolina, which has largely been ignored by scholars in favor of the more mature slave systems in the Chesapeake and South Carolina. Kay and Cary demonstrate that North Carolina's fast-growing slave population, increasingly bound on large plantations, included many slaves born in Africa who continued to stress their African pasts to make sense of their new world. The authors illustrate this process by analyzing slave languages, naming practices, family structures, religion, and patterns of resistance. Kay and Cary clearly demonstrate that slaveowners erected a Draconian code of criminal justice for slaves. This system played a central role in the masters' attempt to achieve legal, political, and physical hegemony over their slaves, but it impeded a coherent attempt at acculturation. In fact, say Kay and Cary, slaveowners often withheld white culture from slaves rather than work to convert them to it. As a result, slaves retained significant elements of their African heritage and therefore enjoyed a degree of cultural autonomy that freed them from reliance on a worldview and value system determined by whites.

A marvelously thorough work."Mississippi Quarterly"[Makes] a very important contribution to the study of early American slavery."Journal of Southern History""Interesting, insightful, and necessary for a full understanding of slavery in colonial North Carolina."North Carolina Historical ""Its main value is in forcing us to rethink what we believe about acculturation and the nature of slave society."Journal of American History"Makes a very important contribution to the study of early American slavery."Journal of Southern History"Interesting, insightful, and necessary for a full understanding of slavery in colonial North Carolina."North Carolina Historical "Kay and Cary have made an important contribution to our understanding of American slavery."Southern Cultures" A marvelously thorough work. . . It will stand for many years as a monument to its field.--Mississippi QuarterlyReaders interested in colonial slavery need to become familiar with this book. Its main value is in forcing us to rethink what we believe about acculturation and the nature of slave society in early America.--Journal of American History[Makes] a very important contribution to the study of early American slavery by showing . . . what it is possible to learn from relatively little in the way of conventional sources.--Journal of Southern HistoryInteresting, insightful, and necessary for a full understanding of slavery in colonial North Carolina as well as more broadly in the British-American empire.--North Carolina Historical Meticulously researched, imaginative in its use of sources, and balanced in its conclusions, this book is certain to become a classic study of the early black experience in the Americas.--Colin A. Palmer, University of North Carolina at Chapel HillMichael Kay and Lorin Cary make it possible for us to understand how much of pre-Revolutionary North Carolina functioned, and how an enduring segment of its population (African in origin) made its way in a new world. The scope of research, the reach of learning, and the wisdom of interpretation in this book are enormous.--William S. Price Jr., North Carolina Division of Archives and HistoryKay and Cary have made an important contribution to our understanding of American slavery. They remind us that both the South's peculiar institution and its system of race relations were more dynamic than is often assumed.--Southern CulturesFrom the Inside FlapShows that slaves in colonial North Carolina retained significant elements of their native heritage because their owners were reluctant to help them acculturate to white society.