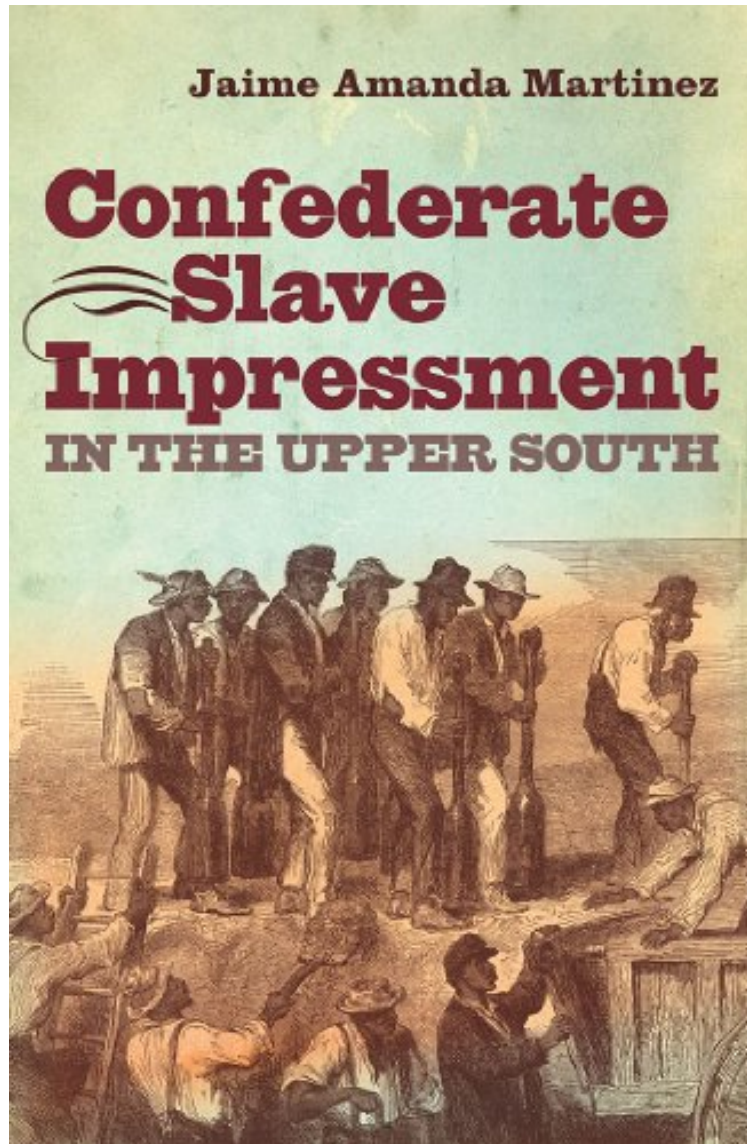


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## Confederate Slave Impressment in the Upper South (Civil War America)

*Jaime Amanda Martinez*

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**Jaime Amanda Martinez : Confederate Slave Impressment in the Upper South (Civil War America)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Confederate Slave Impressment in the Upper South (Civil War America):

Under policies instituted by the Confederacy, white Virginians and North Carolinians surrendered control over portions of their slave populations to state authorities, military officials, and the national government to defend their new nation. State and local officials cooperated with the Confederate War Department and Engineer Bureau, as well as individual generals, to ensure a supply of slave labor on fortifications. Using the implementation of this policy in the Upper South as a window into the workings of the Confederacy, Jaime Amanda Martinez provides a social and political history of slave impressment. She challenges the assumption that the conduct of the program, and the resistance it engendered, was an indication of weakness and highlights instead how the strong governments of the states contributed to the war effort. According to Martinez, slave impressment, which mirrored Confederate governance as a whole, became increasingly centralized, demonstrating the efficacy of federalism within the CSA. She argues that the ability of local, state, and national governments to cooperate and enforce unpopular impressment laws indicates the overall strength of the Confederate government as it struggled to enforce its independence.

More studies like Martinez's are needed to open unexplored avenues into Confederate economic and political history.-- America's Civil War [Historians] will appreciate [Martinez's] book as the most extensive and detailed study of this important subject.-- Journal of Interdisciplinary History Anyone whose fields include slavery or the Civil War should read this book. . . . Martinez's book also stands to serve as a valuable and necessary corrective to enduring popular myths concerning some of the most significant events and developments in southern history.-- American Historical Martinez has produced a work with which all those who question Confederate nationalism and the efficiency of the Confederate government must reckon.-- Virginia Magazine A valuable addition to Confederate scholarship and part of a growing trend that focuses less on the top-down nature of the centralized Confederate state and investigates a more realistic understanding of the cooperation necessary between Richmond, the states, and the citizens.-- Journal of Southern History A detailed and suggestive analysis of the relevance of slave labor to the failure and success of the Southern war effort and to the economic and social history of the Confederacy.-- Michigan War Studies Not only important for scholars interested in understanding how impressment should be situated in a larger governmental balancing act between the home front and the front lines but also in comprehending how integral slave labor was to the economic vitality of the Confederacy.-- Journal of American History [A] fresh look at a confederate governance.-- Southern Pines Pilot An essential study in the relationship between Confederate society, the Confederate military, and the Confederate state.-- Civil War Book The well-written introduction will likely hook readers into this book right from the beginning. The prose is clear and the argument is compelling.-- Ohio Valley History Highly recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.-- Choice Martinez challenges the standard critiques of slave impressment with fresh and substantial evidence. An original contribution to Civil War scholarship.-- George Rable, University of Alabama Martinez analyzes the relationship between slavery and the state, shows the interaction of the home front and battlefield conditions, and tells the stories of a variety of little-known actors, including planters, slaves, local officials, and Confederate bureaucrats. Her deeply researched and clearly written book will be an important contribution to the literature on slavery and the Civil War.-- John Majewski, author of *Modernizing a Slave Economy: The Economic Vision of the Confederate Nation* From the Inside Flap Under policies instituted by the Confederacy, white Virginians and North Carolinians surrendered control over portions of their slave populations to state authorities, military officials, and the national government to defend their new nation. State and local officials cooperated with the Confederate War Department and Engineer Bureau, as well as individual generals, to ensure a supply of slave labor on fortifications. Using the implementation of this policy in the Upper South as a window into the workings of the Confederacy, Jaime Amanda Martinez provides a social and political history of slave impressment. She challenges the assumption that the conduct of the program, and the resistance it engendered, was an indication of weakness and highlights instead how the strong governments of the states contributed to the war effort.