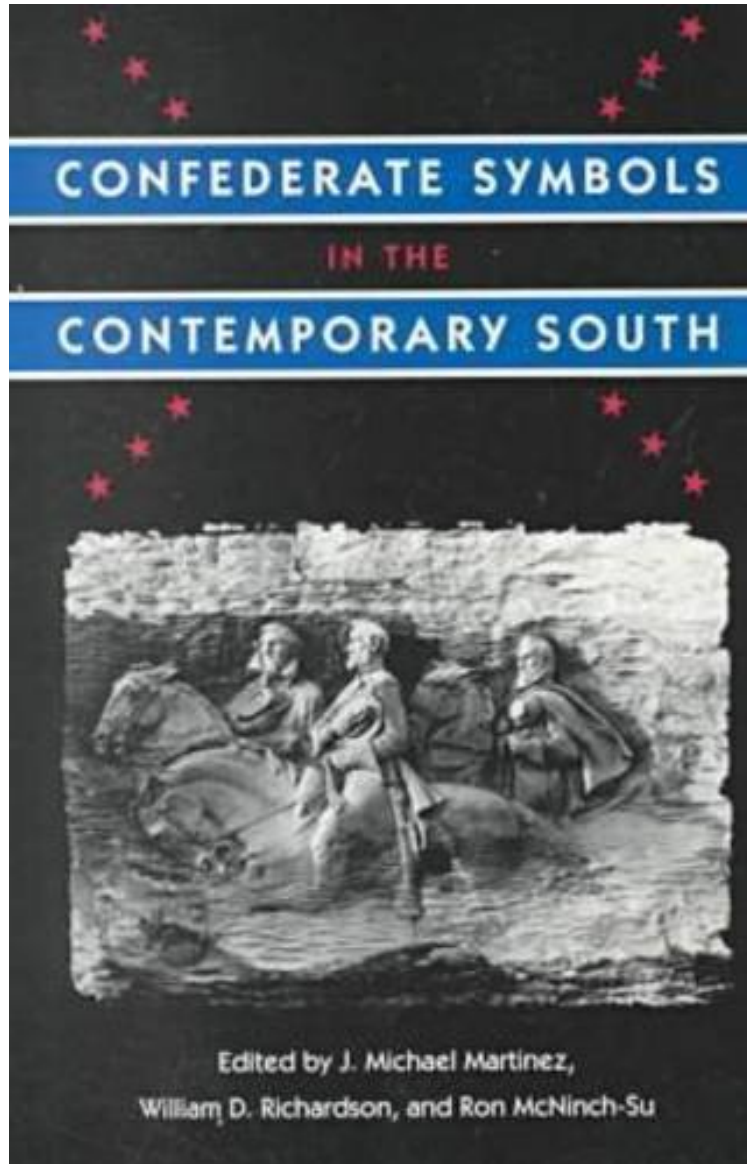


Confederate Symbols in the Contemporary South

*William D. Richardson, Ron McNinch-Su J. Michael Martinez,
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William D. Richardson, Ron McNinch-Su J. Michael Martinez : Confederate Symbols in the Contemporary South before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Confederate Symbols in the Contemporary South:

6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. This book is key to understanding the background of Confederate Symbols, a must read for thinking individuals.By Jackie LynnIf the reader is not familiar with the history, traditions, and culture of the South since the War for Southern Independence,then will be some rich food for thought. This book

examines the historical paradoxes of life in the South. Eleven different authors approach the challenge in well researched long chapters. Section 1 discusses the history of Political thought from Jefferson to the present, the minorities, popular culture, and the Old South. Part II covers the aftermath of the war, the building of Confederate monuments, and how the people dealt with loss. Part III deals with Legal Challenges to Confederate Symbols, and Part IV: Political Challenges to Confederate symbols. Several perspectives are covered from Re-enactors, the Black Opposition, the media, the Historians, Dixiecrats, college pranksters, Each chapter will alienate someone, but hopefully every reader will come away with the POINT of this book: understand the value of compromise. The American character is based on a willingness to forgive, if not forget. Many voices are heard on the Confederate flag issue. Virginius Dabney, the Pulitzer Prize-winning editor of the Richmond Times-Dispatch, writing in 1961 at the time of the Civil War Centennial railed occasionally at the misuse of the flag by rabid segregationists, wrote "The Confederate flag is being used in Alabama in a manner which represents a gross perversion of things it stood for a century ago....(T)rue Souherners object strenuously to having the flag under which their forefathers fought and died dragged into today's interracial controversies, where it is almost invariably made to seem synonymous with 'bigotry' or 'racism'.

A timely collection of essays examining the controversy surrounding the use display of Confederate symbols in the modern South.

From Library JournalThe thoroughly documented essays in this book analyze the various meanings assigned to Confederate monuments and symbols since Appomattox. Editors Martinez (political science, Kennesaw State Univ.), William D. Richardson (political science, Univ. of South Dakota), and Ron McNinch-Su (public policy, Univ. of Guam) place special emphasis on the current debate over the public display of Confederate battle flag. The reader is led to the conclusion that the "Southern heritage" arguments of the proflag groups are ancillary to the racist connotations the St. Andrew's cross evokes. Readers looking for a more readable analysis of the persistent issues of the Civil War should turn to Tony Horowitz's Confederates in the Attic (LJ 2/1/98). Still, the scholarly tone of Confederate Symbols in the Contemporary South gives these thoughtful essays the authenticity that is truly needed in the emotionally charged debate over the Confederate flag. Recommended for public and academic libraries with Southern history collections. Jim Doyle, Sarah High-tower Regional Lib., Rome, GA Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author J. Michael Martinez is an attorney and adjunct professor of political science at Kennesaw State University. William D. Richardson is professor of political science and director of the W. O. Farber Center for Civic Leadership at the University of South Dakota. Ronald McNinch-Su is chair of the Department of Public Administration and Legal Studies at the University of Guam.