

2-4-2017

Kentucky Rebel Town: The Civil War Battles of Cynthiana and Harrison County

Carol Walker Jordan

University of North Carolina, Greensboro

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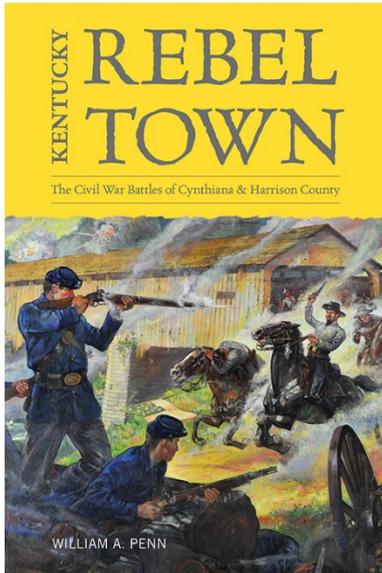
Jordan, Carol Walker (2017) "Kentucky Rebel Town: The Civil War Battles of Cynthiana and Harrison County," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 64 : Iss. 4 , Article 5.

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BOOK REVIEWS

Kentucky Rebel Town: The Civil War Battles of Cynthiana and Harrison County by William A. Penn. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2016. ISBN 978-0-8131-6771-8 (cloth); 978-0-8131-6772-5 (epub). \$45.00. 400 p.



William Penn in this detailed account of the Civil War period of 1861-1864 in Kentucky tells us that President Abraham Lincoln wrote “I hope to have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky”. Penn goes on to explain “the success of Lincoln’s objective (in the Civil War) heavily relied on securing the Kentucky Central Railroad to allow the timely movement of Federal troops and supplies” (UK Press release 10/7/2016).

The town of Cynthiana and Harrison County, known as rebel strongholds became the focus of bloody battles. Cynthiana was described as an area of only 1000 residents. Two battles ensued, according to Penn, one in 1862 and one in 1864, leading eventually to the “rebel” town of Cynthiana destroyed in flames and all buildings of the center of town destroyed. Penn says, “over time, the town managed to rebuild what was lost in the fire, but the memory of neighbor fighting neighbor still echoes in the community to this day” (UK Press release 10/7/2016).

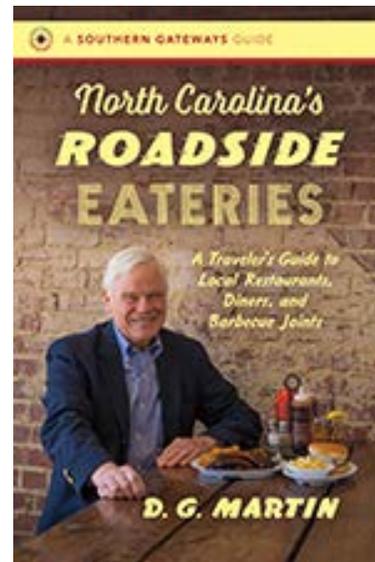
The highlights of Penn’s scholarly research and his presentation center on a wide variety of sources that are contained in the Appendix (p.279-282),

Acknowledgements (p.283-284), Notes (p. 285-356), and the Index (p. 357-374). Maps of the region are included. A Civil War Scholar or student will find a rich documentation of this period of Kentucky history. Illustrations include some leading citizens’ and soldiers’ portraits, strategic buildings, bridges, a church, a hotel, the Harrison County Courthouse, and the cemetery where deceased Confederate

soldiers were buried (p. 174). Recommend purchase for historic sites, universities, and archives and history collectors (particularly Civil War research).

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D.
University of North Carolina Greensboro

North Carolina’s Roadside Eateries: A Traveler’s Guide to Local Restaurants, Diners, and Barbecue Joints by D.G. Martin. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 2016. ISBN: 9781469630144 (pbk.alk. paper) \$11.85. 176 p.



North Carolina’s Roadside Eateries is a joyful book using positive cheerful writing to reveal marvelous terrific eating establishments in beautiful North Carolina around interstate twenty-six, interstate forty, interstates seventy-three and seventy-four, interstate seventy-seven, interstate eighty-five, and interstate ninety-five. One hundred seventeen half a page to two page descriptions of restaurants abound. *North Carolina Bookwatch* television program broadcasted by University of North Carolina is presented by the author D.G. Martin. D.G. Martin was an attorney in Charlotte, North Carolina and creates a column that is in forty North Carolina newspapers every week. He also served as a University of North Carolina vice president.

The writing style encourages customers to drop in to get a bite to eat at the delightful eateries mostly offering country cuisine and barbecue. The narrative of each eatery includes the name of the restaurant in bold, the physical street address, city, and zip code. Telephone number, prices, an internet website when available, and times serving are also shared. A history of the restaurant is covered. The directions from the interstate are also provided. Five detailed maps show restaurants along the interstates using dots, numbers, restaurant names, and interstate numerals. “After eating” cordially gives other enchanting places near the restaurant to visit.