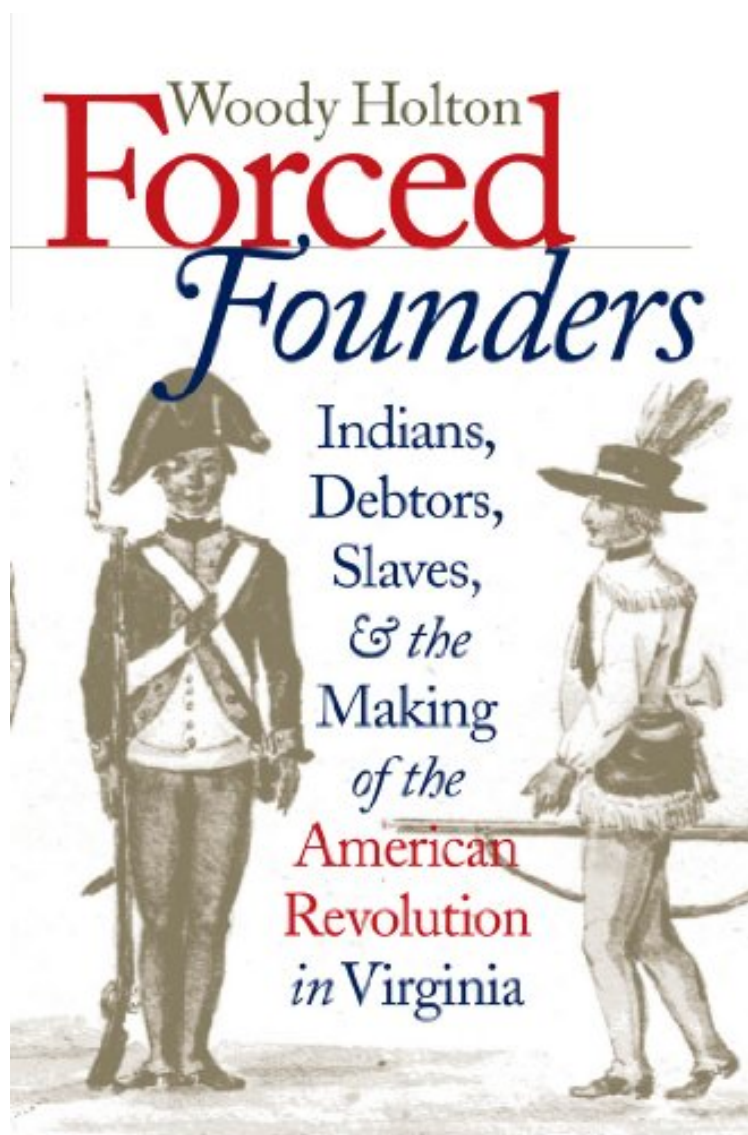


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## **Forced Founders: Indians, Debtors, Slaves, and the Making of the American Revolution in Virginia (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American ... and the University of North Carolina Press)**

*Von Woody Holton*

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**Von Woody Holton : Forced Founders: Indians, Debtors, Slaves, and the Making of the American Revolution in Virginia (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American ... and the University of North Carolina Press)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Forced Founders: Indians, Debtors, Slaves, and the Making of the American Revolution in Virginia (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early American ... and the University of North Carolina Press)*:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Simply excellent.Von Kevin R. C. GutzmanProf. Holton published an outstanding article in *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* about two years ago on the effects of Virginia slaves' behavior on white Virginians' debates about breaking with Great Britain. The coming book, this one, promised to be outstanding. Although this book is far too brief, Holton does show that Indians', debtors', and slaves' behavior made it necessary for Virginia gentry to require certain policies from the mother country; when those policies were not forthcoming, Virginia declared independence. This is not the same as saying that those three groups had a say in the matter.One interesting achievement of this book is to put the war of 1861-1865 in a new light. At the end of his *The Confederate War*, Gary Gallagher asks how southerners could have sacrificed so much to a war whose aims included preservation of slavery. Holton's book shows that, at least insofar as Virginia is concerned, they had done it once before -- in 1776-1781.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Brilliant analysis of have-nots' impact on Amer. RevolutionVon wynott@aol.comProf. Holton does a masterly job of thoroughly documenting the effect that the people about which one doesn't read in most history books -- slaves, Indians, small farmers -- had on the decision of Washington, Jefferson, et.al. to make their momentous break from Great Britain. The book is a rarely-seen guide to the complex decision-making process of the seemingly-oxymoronic elite revolutionaries of Virginia, a guide that applies to politics today. It also spells out the implications -- for better or (often) for worse -- of the strategic and tactical decisions made by the supposedly powerless elements of society in times of transition . . . which, again, reverberate for today's political and social activists.0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. An interesting take on revolutionary motivationVon Charles R. Bowery Jr.Holton set out to answer the question, "Why did Virginia participate in the revolutionary movement?" His answers are tightly argued, persuasive, and often surprising. This book is certainly an expansion on the "great man" approach to history, in that it expands political motivation to include a variety of people- small farmers, slaves, and Indians- who are not often heard from in this context.I think the book is most interesting when Holton discusses wealthy Virginians' fears of slave revolt. To me, this is the most persuasive facet of his thesis. Overall, an excellent book.

KurzbeschreibungIn this provocative reinterpretation of one of the best-known events in American history, Woody Holton shows that when Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, and other elite Virginians joined their peers from other colonies in declaring independence from Britain, they acted partly in response to grassroots rebellions against their own rule.The Virginia gentry's efforts to shape London's imperial policy were thwarted by British merchants and by a coalition of Indian nations. In 1774, elite Virginians suspended trade with Britain in order to pressure Parliament and, at the same time, to save restive Virginia debtors from a terrible recession. The boycott and the growing imperial conflict led to rebellions by enslaved Virginians, Indians, and tobacco farmers. By the spring of 1776 the gentry believed the only way to regain control of the common people was to take Virginia out of the British Empire.Forced Founders uses the new social history to shed light on a classic political question: why did the owners of vast plantations, viewed by many of their contemporaries as aristocrats, start a revolution? As Holton's fast-paced narrative unfolds, the old story of patriot versus loyalist becomes decidedly more complex.PressestimmenMay be the most important book on the political culture of Revolutionary Virginia since Rhys Isaac's "The Transformation of Virginia, 1740-1790".*Journal of Southern History*"KurzbeschreibungIn this provocative reinterpretation of one of the best-known events in American history, Woody Holton shows that when Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, and other elite Virginians joined their peers from other colonies in declaring independence from Britain, they acted partly in response to grassroots rebellions against their own rule.The Virginia gentry's efforts to shape London's imperial policy were thwarted by British merchants and by a coalition of Indian nations. In 1774, elite Virginians suspended trade with Britain in order to pressure Parliament and, at the same time, to save restive Virginia debtors from a terrible recession. The boycott and the growing imperial conflict led to rebellions by enslaved Virginians, Indians, and tobacco farmers. By the spring of 1776 the gentry believed the only way to regain control of the common people was to take Virginia out of the British Empire.Forced Founders uses the new social history to shed light on a classic political question: why did the owners of vast plantations, viewed by many of their contemporaries as aristocrats, start a revolution? As Holton's fast-paced narrative unfolds, the old story of patriot versus loyalist becomes decidedly more complex.