



Breaking the Backcountry: Seven Years War in Virginia and Pennsylvania 1754-1765

By Matthew C. Ward

University of Pittsburgh Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 360 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.0in. x 0.8in. Even as the 250th anniversary of its outbreak approaches, the Seven Years War (otherwise known as the French and Indian War) is still not wholly understood. Most accounts tell the story as a military struggle between British and French forces, with shifting alliances of Indians, culminating in the British conquest of Canada. Scholarly and popular works alike, including James Fennimore Coopers Last of the Mohicans, focus on the action in the Hudson River Valley and the St. Lawrence Seaway. Matthew C. Ward tells the compelling story of the war from the point of view of the region where it actually began, and whose people felt the devastating effects of war most keenly-the backcountry communities of Virginia and Pennsylvania. Previous wars in North America had been fought largely on the New England and New York frontiers. But on May 28, 1754, when a young George Washington commanded the first shot fired in western Pennsylvania, fighting spread for the first time to Virginia and Pennsylvania. Wards original research reveals that on the eve of the Seven Years War the communities of these colonies were isolated, economically...



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