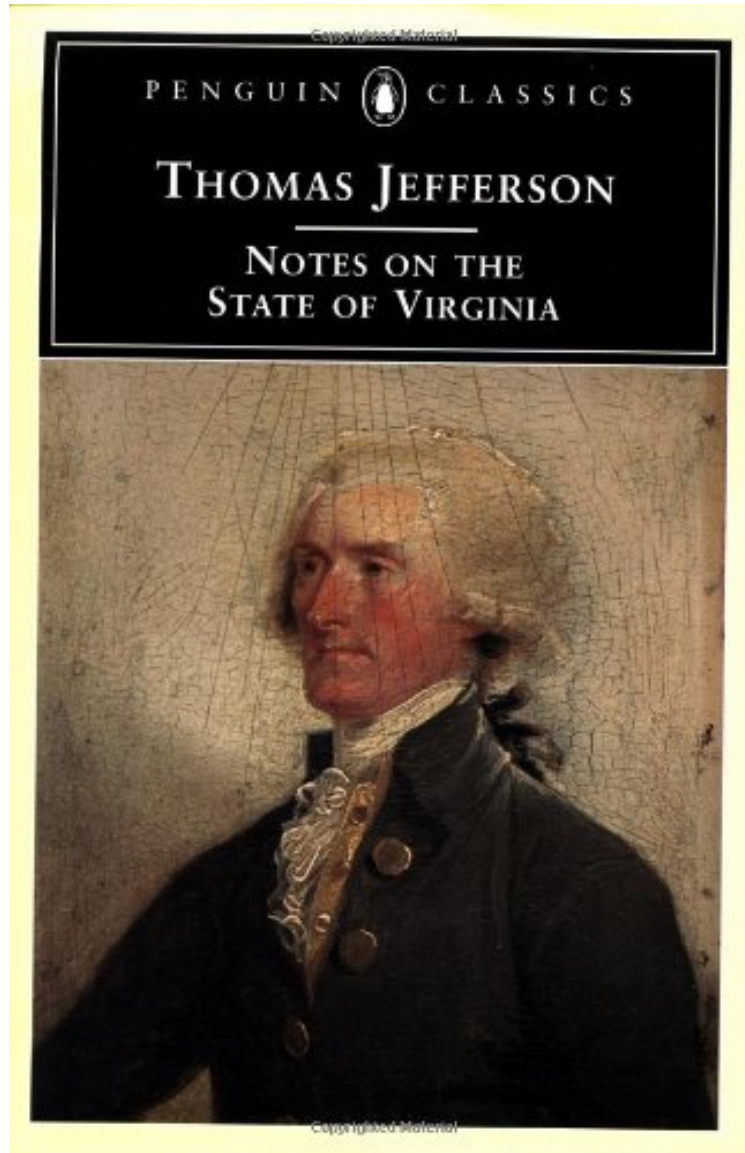


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## Notes on the State of Virginia (Penguin Classics)

*Thomas Jefferson*

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#331521 in Books 1998-12-01 1998-12-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 7.71 x .78 x 5.071, .56 #File Name: 0140436677384 pages | File size: 61.Mb

**Thomas Jefferson : Notes on the State of Virginia (Penguin Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Notes on the State of Virginia (Penguin Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For the true history buffBy Steven E. MaikoskiIn this book Thomas Jefferson repeats questions given to him from different sources and answers each in good order. He covers a lot of details concerning the state of Virginia, including the many tribes of American aborigines, the construction of various buildings, the proposal for an educational system within the state, and remarks about slavery. It was very interesting.0

of 0 people found the following review helpful. A more penetrating look at Thomas JeffersonBy VictoriaThis document testifies to Thomas Jefferson's true opinions on Africans as a race of people, which was denigrating and coarse. One can compare his writing on the freedoms in the new American republic and his pride in them as a founding patriot, with what he thought of slaves and their intellectual and cultural capacities to function as free people in a free society. He offers a solution to issues around emancipation that would involve deporting all people of African descent, and replacing them by attracting people of the white race to leave their countries and come to America. Jefferson also writes that he fears for the effects that the brutality of the practice of slavery will have on the future of America, as well as God's wrath.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Southern Jon BoyIt is always interesting to read what our forefathers wrote at the time they lived.

Jefferson's chronicle of the natural, social, and political history of Virginia is at once a scientific discourse, an attempt to define America, and a brilliant examination of the idea of freedom. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

From the Back CoverA request in 1780 by the French legation to the United States to learn more about the newly formed thirteen states of America stimulated in Jefferson, as he later described it, a "mysterious obligation for making me much better acquainted with my own country than I ever was before". Written during his first term as governor of Virginia, *Notes on the State of Virginia* is at once a scientific discourse, an attempt to define America, and an examination of the idea of freedom. With the same genius and clear, flexible prose style that informs the Declaration of Independence, Jefferson chronicles Virginia's natural, social, and political history. In his introduction to this annotated edition, which discusses the work's origins and composition, Frank Shuffelton focuses particularly on Jefferson's response to contemporary scientific writings on "New World degeneracy", his differing treatment of blacks and Native Americans, and his influential role in creating a mythicized American self-image. About the Author Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) was the third president of the United States (1801-1809), the principal author of the Declaration of Independence, and one of the most beloved and revered Founding Fathers of the United States of America. Frank Shuffelton was an eminent scholar and critic of American literature. He taught at the University of Rochester for almost 40 years and served as a professor and chair of the Department of English. He published two books on Thomas Jefferson, including *Thomas Jefferson: A Comprehensive, Annotated Bibliography*, and edited *Jefferson's Notes on the State of Virginia*, *Letters of John and Abigail Adams*, and *The Cambridge Companion to Thomas Jefferson*. He died in 2010.