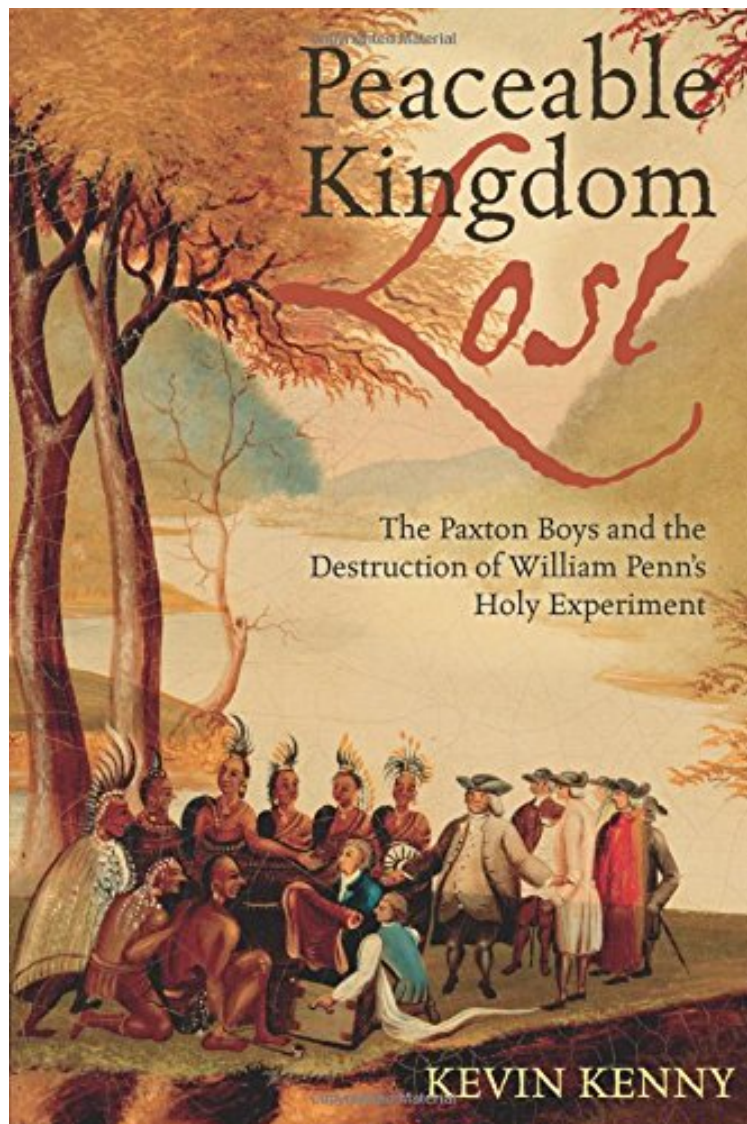


[Free download] Peaceable Kingdom Lost: The Paxton Boys and the Destruction of William Penn's Holy Experiment

## Peaceable Kingdom Lost: The Paxton Boys and the Destruction of William Penn's Holy Experiment

*Kevin Kenny*

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#486771 in Books Kenny Kevin 2011-05-13 2011-05-13 Original language: English PDF # 1 6.10 x .70 x 9.201, .95 #File Name: 0199753946304 pages Peaceable Kingdom Lost The Paxton Boys and the Destruction of William Penn's Holy Experiment | File size: 15.Mb

**Kevin Kenny : Peaceable Kingdom Lost: The Paxton Boys and the Destruction of William Penn's Holy Experiment** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Peaceable Kingdom Lost: The Paxton Boys and the Destruction of William Penn's Holy Experiment:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. William Penn, Quaker pacifism, peaceful coexistence and its destruction  
By Garth M. Hess, Jr. Kenny goes into much greater detail and the book appears to be well researched. Extensive end notes linked throughout the text on the version available for the Kindle Fire. You click the link to go to the end note and click the link in the end note to go back to where you left off. Spoiler Alert: Kevin Kenny explores William Penn's efforts to settle Pennsylvania as a land of peaceful coexistence. Penn enters into treaties with Native Americans resulting in a colony that had little, or no need of a military. This was consistent with pacifist leanings of the Quaker founders. Unfortunately, land-lust of our ancestors led to repeated confrontations with Native Americans as new settlers pushed westward in violation of Pennsylvania government's admonitions against encroaching on Indian lands. Because the colony had no military, it was in no position to expel the settlers to alleviate the cause of the confrontations, nor to protect the settlers from the Indian attacks provoked by the unauthorized settlements. If you'll pardon the analogy, like an ice hockey referee who fails to call penalties for blatant infractions ultimately resulting in players feeling they have no alternative but to retaliate with escalating hostility, Pennsylvania quickly lost control of the settlement situation by failing to act promptly and forcefully to enforce the treaty obligations to which Penn had voluntarily agreed. Although Kenny points to more complex motives, and I concur, the Paxton Boys to some extent claimed to be acting to fill a void they believed Pennsylvania government should have filled by protecting settlers.  
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A way of understanding what happens when two diverse cultures ...  
By Kindle Customer  
A way of understanding what happens when two diverse cultures clash over the same resources. The abstraction is helpful towards current global affairs. Everyone loses.  
4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Pennsylvania's dirty little secret  
By avidreader  
Does anybody know the dirty little secret called the Walking Purchase? This book is an eye-opener about the early history of the commonwealth which made me cringe. They never tell you things like this in high school. Well-written, and apparently well-researched - it's hard for me to evaluate the accuracy of information I've never seen before, but it rings true. The narrative gives insight into many factors that influenced the Revolution and early federal history also. Good job.

William Penn established Pennsylvania in 1682 as a "holy experiment" in which Europeans and Indians could live together in harmony. In this book, historian Kevin Kenny explains how this Peaceable Kingdom--benevolent, Quaker, pacifist--gradually disintegrated in the eighteenth century, with disastrous consequences for Native Americans. Kenny recounts how rapacious frontier settlers, most of them of Ulster extraction, began to encroach on Indian land as squatters, while William Penn's sons cast off their father's Quaker heritage and turned instead to fraud, intimidation, and eventually violence during the French and Indian War. In 1763, a group of frontier settlers known as the Paxton Boys exterminated the last twenty Conestogas, descendants of Indians who had lived peacefully since the 1690s on land donated by William Penn near Lancaster. Invoking the principle of "right of conquest," the Paxton Boys claimed after the massacres that the Conestogas' land was rightfully theirs. They set out for Philadelphia, threatening to sack the city unless their grievances were met. A delegation led by Benjamin Franklin met them and what followed was a war of words, with Quakers doing battle against Anglican and Presbyterian champions of the Paxton Boys. The killers were never prosecuted and the Pennsylvania frontier descended into anarchy in the late 1760s, with Indians the principal victims. The new order heralded by the Conestoga massacres was consummated during the American Revolution with the destruction of the Iroquois confederacy. At the end of the Revolutionary War, the United States confiscated the lands of Britain's Indian allies, basing its claim on the principle of "right of conquest." Based on extensive research in eighteenth-century primary sources, this engaging history offers an eye-opening look at how colonists--at first, the backwoods Paxton Boys but later the U.S. government--expropriated Native American lands, ending forever the dream of colonists and Indians living together in peace.

From Publishers Weekly  
In 1682, the Quaker William Penn established a colony where settlers would attempt to coexist peacefully with Native Americans. But 80 years later, his vision had been destroyed by violence, ideology and greed. Boston College historian Kenny (*The American Irish*), in this mostly fast-paced account, offers new insights on the demise of Penn's holy experiment, focusing on a violent group of militiamen called the Paxton Boys, who in 1763 wiped out a group of Conestoga Indians living on land ceded to them by Penn. As Kenny points out, Pennsylvania moved from its peaceful ideal through the greed and deceit of Penn's sons (who swindled Indians out of their lands), the carnage of the French and Indian War, and the ruthless brutality of the Paxton Boys, who declared that the Indians' land belonged to them by right of conquest. Although the provincial government denied the Paxton Boys the land, it never prosecuted them. Kenny concludes that the Boys' attitude toward the Indians and their attacks on the ruling powers presaged the military and political activities of the American Revolution and the new nation's mistreatment of the Indians. 39 bw illus. (July) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "Worthy of serious scrutiny and reflection." --*Journal of Social History* "Riveting." --*Irish Historical Studies*  
"In the winter of 1763-64, colonists from the Susquehanna-side settlements of Pennsylvania committed acts of extraordinary violence against Indians living near Lancaster. This spasm of cruelty, the Paxton riots, sets in motion Kevin Kenny's *Peaceable Kingdom Lost* -- a patient, clearly written narrative, organized by the unraveling during

wartime of a half-century of intercultural peace, that lingers especially on the murky figures of the rioters and on the Wyoming Valley of eastern Pennsylvania, a landscape contested between Natives, Pennsylvanians, and Connecticut Yankees, where intercultural animosities became intercolonial and, at last, revolutionary." --Peter Silver, author of *Our Savage Neighbors: How Indian War Transformed Early America*"A compelling study of the Paxton Boys' massacre of Conestoga Indians and of the volatile world that produced it. Grounding his story in the context of the French and Indian War and the escalating ethnic, social, and political tensions of eighteenth-century Pennsylvania, Kevin Kenny shows how William Penn's utopian dream of a peaceable kingdom degenerated into a nightmare of racial violence."--Colin G. Calloway, author of *The Scratch of a Pen: 1763 and the Transformation of America*"The massacre of the small Native American community of Conestoga by the 'Paxton Boys' has long symbolized how William Penn's vision of peaceful relations with Native peoples went horrifically wrong. Readers seeking an introduction to these tragic developments will find no surer guide than Kevin Kenny."--Daniel K. Richter, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania"Kenny reveals how self-interest overrode the public good, with hell to pay for all concerned. In that regard, it rings true today as cause and consequence of Pennsylvania's persistent problem--how to cultivate the necessary 'common weal' to create a commonwealth.... This book should remind us how much creating 'facts on the ground' can defeat ideals and turn practices into policies."--Randall M. Miller, Philadelphia Inquirer"Kenny's account of the Paxton Boys incident and its aftermath adds an interesting dimension to the scholarly literature on the relationship between European settlers and INdians and the policies that governed or directed it. ...By restoring a sense of contingency to the chaotic affairs of the winter of 1763 and spring of 1764, Kenny asks us to remember that human decisions shape history, and those that involve putting aside the law for short-term political gain can have disastrous consequences." ---Law"Kevin Kenny has laid out a smooth and engaging narrative alongside an impressively researched analysis of the secondary historical debates surrounding the Paxton Boys. *Peaceable Kingdom Lost* is also the most detailed treatment of the subject to emerge in a generation, and it is an indispensable introduction to one of the most troubling and transformative episodes in the history of colonial Pennsylvania. --Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography"*Peaceable Kingdom Lost* is an important work that does much to reinterpret provincial politics and the development of racial attitudes on the Pennsylvania frontier. Most importantly, it provides detailed insight into the mentality of frontiersmen in the mid-eighteenth century."--Journal of American History"Essential reading not only for Americanists but also for those interested in the Irish diaspora." -- s in History"*Peaceable Kingdom Lost* is distinguished by Kevin Kenny's narrative skill. This well-researched book is ideal for use in history courses as a readable and engaging narrative that very ably synthesizes much of the recent scholarship on Indian-European relations in colonial and revolutionary Pennsylvania."-David L. Preston, Pennsylvania History "Kenny's fluid prose makes his a very entertaining account...Kenny masterfully weaves the perspectives of Pennsylvania's westerners, colonial leaders, and native peoples to craft a compellingly tragic narrative." -Kevin T. Barksdale, American Historical AssociationAbout the AuthorKevin Kenny is Professor of History at Boston College where he specializes in eighteenth and nineteenth-century Atlantic migration. He is author of *Making Sense of the Molly Maguires* and *The American Irish: A History*, and editor of *Ireland and the British Empire*.