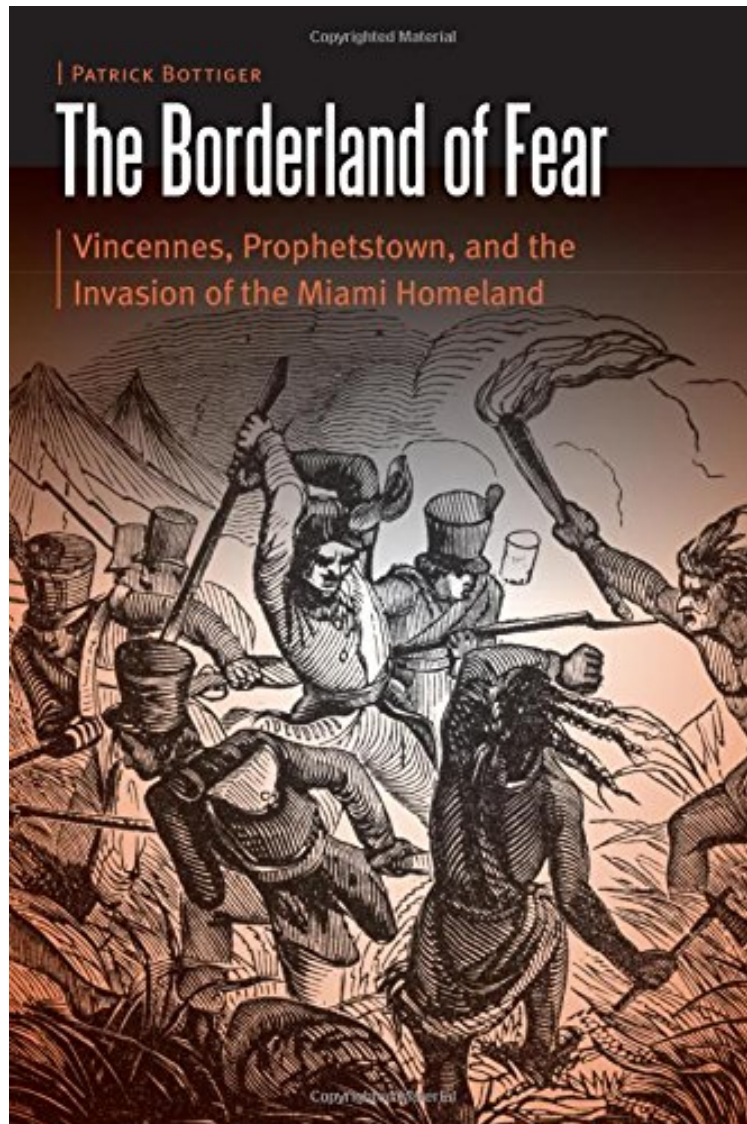


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The Borderland of Fear: Vincennes, Prophetstown, and the Invasion of the Miami Homeland (Borderlands and Transcultural Studies)

Patrick Bottiger

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Patrick Bottiger : The Borderland of Fear: Vincennes, Prophetstown, and the Invasion of the Miami Homeland (Borderlands and Transcultural Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my

time, and all praised *The Borderland of Fear: Vincennes, Prophetstown, and the Invasion of the Miami Homeland* (Borderlands and Transcultural Studies):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. WowBy CustomerGreat read. Great research. Completely changed my understanding of what caused the Battle of Tippecanoe. Who knew just how much the American government depended upon the French and Miami Indians for information.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Indispensable scholarshipBy SpaceNinjaThoroughly researched and impeccably written, this book gave me a new understanding about events I previously thought I understood .

Published through the Early American Places initiative, supported by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The Ohio River Valley was a place of violence in the nineteenth century, something witnessed on multiple stages ranging from local conflicts between indigenous and Euro-American communities to the Battle of Tippecanoe and the War of 1812. To describe these events as simply the result of American expansion versus Indigenous nativism disregards the complexities of the people and their motivations. Patrick Bottiger explores the diversity between and among the communities that were the source of this violence. As new settlers invaded their land, the Shawnee brothers Tenskwatawa and Tecumseh pushed for a unified Indigenous front. However, the multiethnic Miamis, Kickapoos, Potawatomis, and Delawares, who also lived in the region, favored local interests over a single tribal entity. The Miami-French trade and political network was extensive, and the Miamis staunchly defended their hegemony in the region from challenges by other Native groups. Additionally, William Henry Harrison, governor of the Indiana Territory, lobbied for the introduction of slavery in the territory. In its own turn, this move sparked heated arguments in newspapers and on the street. Harrisonians deflected criticism by blaming tensions on indigenous groups and then claiming that antislavery settlers were Indian allies. Bottiger demonstrates that violence, rather than being imposed on the regions inhabitants by outside forces, instead stemmed from the factionalism that was already present. *The Borderland of Fear* explores how these conflicts were not between nations and races but rather between cultures and factions.

Much of what we know about Prophetstown, Patrick Bottiger tells us in this provocative and fascinating new book, is a lie. But lies reveal as well as conceal, and in his hands the world of the Miami borderlands, which the lies both divulge and helped create, is far more compelling than the clashing Indian and American nationalisms that the older stories tell about Tippecanoe. Richard White, Margaret Byrne Professor of American History at Stanford University and past president of the Organization of American Historians