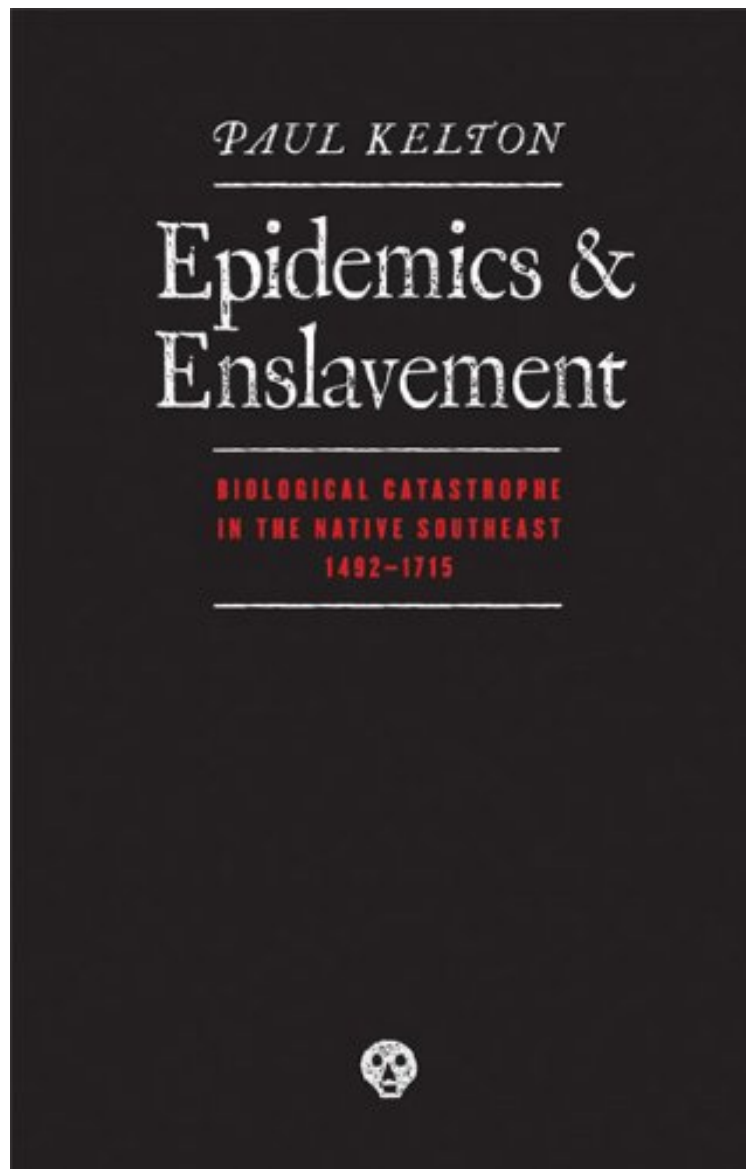


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Epidemics and Enslavement: Biological Catastrophe in the Native Southeast, 14 (Indians of the Southeast)

Paul Kelton

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Paul Kelton : Epidemics and Enslavement: Biological Catastrophe in the Native Southeast, 14 (Indians of the Southeast) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Epidemics and Enslavement: Biological Catastrophe in the Native Southeast, 14 (Indians of the Southeast):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding!By teacherThis is a truly groundbreaking book which establishes on a solid foundation that the pandemic Old World diseases did not ravage the now-U.S. Southeast until the very late 17th century. Furthermore, the effects of the diseases (smallpox being key) spread only in the context of the Indian slave trade especially and with the colonial conquests that inflamed war and brought starvation. This is scholarship at its best applied to a largely neglected area of history. It effectively debunks the common "wisdom" so often retold. I salute Paul Kelton and thank him. My only regret is that it took me 8 years after publication to discover this fine work.

Epidemics and Enslavement is a groundbreaking examination of the relationship between the Indian slave trade and the spread of Old World diseases in the colonial southeastern United States. Paul Kelton scrupulously traces the pathology of early European encounters with Native peoples of the Southeast and concludes that, while indigenous peoples suffered from an array of ailments before contact, Natives had their most significant experience with new germs long after initial contacts in the sixteenth century. In fact, Kelton places the first region-wide epidemic of smallpox in the 1690s and attributes its spread to the Indian slave trade.

"With its valuable description of the connection between colonialism and epidemics, this book is a welcome addition to existing scholarship on the ecological aspects of European colonization."H. G. Kong, Choice