

# Download Aiming For Pensacola Fugitive Slaves On The Atlantic And Southern

Matthew Clavin recovers the story of fugitive slaves who sought freedom by paradoxically sojourning deeper into the American South toward an unlikely destination: the small seaport of Pensacola, Florida, a gateway to freedom.

Just when some have declared the idea of slave resistance passé, *Aiming for Pensacola* brilliantly illustrates the political sophistication of the enslaved in taking advantage of social geography, abolitionist allies, and military conflicts to become architects of their own freedom.

*Aiming for Pensacola* highlights the liminality of Pensacola, much as Landers did years ago for St. Augustine. Situated between the vast currents of Atlantic exchange to the South and entrenched slave power to the North, Pensacola provided fugitives a rare window of opportunity to mount a meaningful and persistent resistance against slavery.

*Aiming For Pensacola: Fugitive Slaves On The Atlantic And Southern Frontiers* Neal Polhemus Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.lsu.edu/cwbr> Recommended Citation Polhemus, Neal (2016) "Aiming For Pensacola: Fugitive Slaves On The Atlantic And Southern Frontiers," *Civil War Book Review*: Vol. 18 : Iss. 4 , Article 26.

Before the Civil War, slaves who managed to escape almost always made their way northward along the Underground Railroad. Matthew Clavin recovers the story of fugitive slaves who sought freedom by paradoxically sojourning deeper into the American South toward an unlikely destination: the small seaport of Pensacola, Florida, a gateway to freedom.

Bücher (Fremdsprachig) Wählen Sie die Abteilung aus, in der Sie suchen möchten.

Matthew Clavin provides an insightful study of fugitive slaves in Pensacola, Florida, by offering a corrective on the prevailing narrative of the Underground Railroad and situating it within the historiographies of the Atlantic world, the southern frontier, and interracialism.

Clavin is not quite as successful in establishing a tradition of interracialism because he does not define or expand upon what that entailed: a set of practices

In *Aiming for Pensacola*, Matthew J. Clavin contends that existing scholarship on fugitive slaves in the antebellum era has neglected liminal spaces in the antebellum South, where enslaved people could find sympathetic allies willing to aid them in escaping bondage.

Clavin examines how Pensacola's reputation as a gateway to freedom grew in the minds of slaves and slaveowners, and how it became a beacon for fugitives who found northern routes to liberation inaccessible. The interracial resistance to slavery that thrived in Pensacola in the years before the Civil War, Clavin contends, would play a role in demolishing the foundations of Southern slavery when that fateful conflict arrived.

## Other Files :

[Aiming For Pensacola Fugitive Slaves On The Atlantic And Southern Frontiers,](#)