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Sally Schwartz

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#4800807 in Books NYU Press 1989-01-01 1989-01-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x 6.00 x 1.00l, .0 #File Name: 08147788281 pages | File size: 33.Mb

Sally Schwartz : A Mixed Multitude: The Struggle for Toleration in Colonial Pennsylvania (The American Social Experience) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Mixed Multitude: The Struggle for Toleration in Colonial Pennsylvania (The American Social Experience):

Religious and national diversity characterized the settlements of the Delaware Valley almost from the first arrival of Europeans, and America's first pluralistic society evolved from this colony established by William Penn on the western shore of the Delaware River in 1681. Penn himself set forth a new, ideological basis for pluralism and tolerance, and this transformed a tentative, pragmatic pattern of relative harmony and tolerance into official policy. The English culture transplanted to Pennsylvania was itself fragmented. Quakers and Anglican, for example, had very different religious, social, and cultural values. Colonists from different parts of the British Isles the Welsh, the Scots, and the Scotch-Irish did not share common experiences or cultures. The Swedes were both Swedish and Finnish in origins and culture and, while often designated Germans or Palatines by English-speaking Pennsylvanians, emigrants from the Rhineland spoke different dialects, practiced a wide variety of religious observances, and had little in

common historically or culturally. Penn's ideals, ideas and policies set in motion forces that had significant effects on the development of this extremely heterogeneous colony. This book explores the ways in which the implications of Penn's ideals were gradually worked out in Pennsylvania and how a stable and generally tolerant society was created.

About the Author Sally Schwartz is Associate Professor of History, Eastern Montana College.