

May 2011 Vol. 48 No. 09

SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

History, Geography & Area Studies - North America

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The following review appeared in the May 2011 issue of CHOICE:

48-5297 E99 2009-52891 CIP
Miles, Tiya. **The house on Diamond Hill: a Cherokee plantation story.** North Carolina, 2010. 315p bibl index afp
ISBN 9780807834183, \$32.50

Miles (Michigan) is a prize-winning historian of African American and Cherokee relations. An elegant plantation house built in the 1820s by the Vann family of northern Georgia--wealthy Cherokee slaveholders, traders, and planters--shapes this history. Today, the restored historic house is a romanticized tourist destination that embodies both Indian and plantation mythologies. Miles uncovers the realities: black slavery, murder, interracial and intercultural conflict and exploitation, and the Cherokee struggle for survival in the face of violent, naked persecution. Beginning in 1828, the state of Georgia succeeded by stages in taking over Cherokee lands and dissolving autonomous Cherokee social and political institutions. The Indian Removal Act of 1830 established a federal policy of expelling Indian nations westward. By 1834, the Vanns huddled in their house, threatened by voracious whites who occupied it, threatened burning, and gobbled their land and businesses, driving the Vanns out forever. Miles's extensive sources range over Vann papers, Moravian mission papers, WPA Writers' Project research, Cherokee Nation papers, and a great variety of other archival and published sources. Her book is accessible and well written, its story important. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. All levels/libraries. -- R.
Berleant-Schiller, emerita, University of Connecticut