RESOURCES FOR INTERPRETERS:
BIBLIOGRAPHIES FOR
HISTORICAL INTERPRETATION

Division of Interpretation
National Park Service
Washington, D.C. 20240
1982
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INTRODUCTION

The following fourteen bibliographies, with their variety of topics, are designed as basic references for park interpreters. Compiled through the efforts of many people, each bibliographies' references were chosen because they are readable, well grounded in current scholarship and available. Ponderous writing, inaccurate or dated material, or hopelessly obscure sources have — we hope — been omitted unless they are unique or truly classic.

Each bibliography has two parts -- a key list of ten annotated references followed by other less significant, but still important works. Topics were chosen as those most useful to park interpreters; topics not included here may be subjects of future bibliographies.

Each author(s) -- with expertise in that subject -- sent a bibliography. These were edited in WASO, Division of Interpretation, with some additional works added. Mary Maruca of the Division of Cultural Resources helped greatly in editing and publishing these bibliographies. Intern Nanette James also assisted. Most of all, the authors -- who exercised both good judgement and great restraint in selecting their references -- made this publication possible. They have our thanks.

These bibliographies are places to begin. Use them as background information, to put our specific sites in their larger historical context. References unique to particular parks have generally been omitted, as these parks generally have such resources. Historical interpretation in the Service must balance between being site-specific, and in historical context. These bibliographies are designed to help that balance. May they serve you well.

Heather Huyck
Interpretive Specialist (Cultural Resources)
WASO Division of Interpretation
A historical summary of Indian-White legal relationships and the importance of tribal sovereignty within Indian rights.

A topical approach to North American Indian ethnology that provides much information about various categories of culture, from subsistence to cosmology.


A plea for cultural relativity in trying to understand North American Indian points of view in Indian-White relations, especially by white historians.

A handbook arranged by culture areas of native North America featuring representative groups within each area.

An extensive handbook treatment featuring articles on prehistory, ethnohistory, and ethnography with a volume planned for each culture area of native North America.

An anthology of topical articles focusing on the cultural ecology of Native American groups, i.e. the relationships between the environment, subsistence, and other categories of culture.

An examination of the concept of revitalization movement as a reaction to contact with a dominant society — a significant cultural process, historically and currently, in many Native American societies.
A chronological and topical treatment of major events in American history and their impacts on American Indian cultures. His treatment of present day American Indian movements is biased.

A discussion of major themes, past and present, in American Indian ethnology, emphasizing the similarities and differences among individual cultures.

ADDITIONAL READINGS

Kluckhohn, Clyde and Dorthea Leighton, The Navajo (Cambridge, 1946).
Morgan, Lewis Henry, Houses and House-Life of the American Aborigines (Los Angeles, 1881).
Bailyn, Bernard, The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution. Cambridge: The Belknap Press, 1967. Using pamphlets published through 1776, Bailyn analyzes the legal, religious, literary and political strands in pre-Revolutionary American thought. He concludes that European influences such as English common law and Enlightenment theories combined with a "radical idealization and conceptualization of the previous century and a half of American experience" to provide the intellectual foundation for revolution.


Kurtz, Stephen, and James H. Hutson, Essays on the American Revolution. New York: W. W. Norton & Co., 1973. Published under the auspices of the Institute of Early American History and Culture at Williamsburg, this work contains essays by major historians, including Bailyn, Greene, Shy, and Morgan, covering a variety of topics.


The Revolution as experienced by women. "Colonial women's attitudes were shaped by a combination of their own daily experiences and society's expectations of them."

Quarles, Benjamin, *The Negro in the American Revolution.*
Blacks' roles in, and contributions to, the American Revolution.

Collected articles on diverse topics considering the interaction between war and society. Considers the revolutionary effects of protracted war, and the "importance of perception to decision and action."

Smith, Paul H., *Loyalists and Red Coats: A Study in British Revolutionary Policy*.
Loyalists' impact on the execution of the war. See also Robert Calhoon's *The Loyalists in Revolutionary America, 1760-1781.* (New York: Harcourt Brace, 1965) for the evolution of Loyalist sentiment, their motivations and perceptions.


ADDITIONAL READINGS

Short history of British perspective on the evolving crises with the North American colonies (includes French and Indian War).

Davis, David B., *The Problem of Slavery in the Age of Revolution.*

Considers experiences of free and slave women.

Readable synthesis of colonial and revolutionary history. See Chapter 5, "War and Social Change."

"Invaluable" according to John Luzader.

Kammen, Michael, "Ambiguities of the American Revolution" in *People of Paradox*.


See also:

BLACK HISTORY

William N. Jackson
Fort Stanwix National Monument, and
special thanks to Noralee Frankel,
American Historical Association

Analysis of the cultural and familial life of slaves, and the interplay between the European and African cultures.

Cornish, Dudley T., *The Sable Army: Negro Troops in the Union Army, 1861-1865.*
The history of the almost two hundred thousand black troops who served in the Union Army, and the efforts and issues that came with organizing black regiments.

The most complete textbook on Afro-American history, written by one of the most eminent scholars in the field.

A detailed account of slave life, including many aspects useful to interpreters. See also Herbert Gutman, *The Black Family in Slavery and Freedom, 1750-1925.*

Evolution of black/white relationships. See also Leroy Bennett, Jr., *Before the Mayflower,* Chicago: Johnson Publishing Co., 1964.

A collection of essays and primary sources on black women's history.

Using black songs, folk tales, and oral traditions, Levine analyzes the formation of a separate Afro-American culture.

A social history of the early reconstruction period in the South.

A history of black intellectuals and their understanding of the black situation during the Progressive Era.

The history of black soldiers' fighting for freedom on their own behalf.
The three century history of the black role in American life, a general introduction.

One of the few descriptions of seventeenth slavery.

**ADDITIONAL READINGS**

Not all blacks in the South were slaves; a class of free blacks lived between the white masters and black slaves. These free blacks, while restricted in various ways, had different experiences -- and perceptions -- than the majority of blacks who were slaves.

A history of the early Civil Rights Movement.

Using techniques of urban history, Cusmer explains the formation of black community life in the North.

A memoir by the most important black intellectual of the twentieth century.

The separatism, unequal pay, and degradation suffered by the black soldier countered by the pride he instilled in his fellow troops in dress, marching, and in battle.

Black History from the death of Crispus Attucks in 1770 to Gabriel Posser's conspiracy in Virginia at the turn of the century.

McDaniel, George, *Hearth & Home: Preserving a People's Culture*.  

How American Negroes felt and acted during the war for the union.
Fictionalized account of her family's history. Not only well written but
well researched and very powerful.

Painter, Nell Irvin, Exodusters: Black Migration to Kansas after Reconstruction.
A work discussing the first major migration of ex-slaves to the North.

Rayford, W. Logan, The Betrayal of the Negro: From Rutherford B. Hayes to
   Woodrow Wilson.
Discusses the growth of segregation in the South after Reconstruction.

Williams, George W., A History of the Negro Troops in the War of Rebellion
Very readable and thorough. Mandatory reading, especially in Civil War sites.
CIVIL WAR

David Lilley
Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County
Battlefield Memorial National Military Park

COMPILER'S NOTE: Collecting an incisive, but still general bibliography of Civil War titles is easier said than done. The greatest sin committed in amassing Civil War bibliography is omission; the transgression is unavoidable. In fact, the multitude of titles is one of the joys of studying the conflict -- the imaginative interpreter should never exhaust the stacks of material to examine. Here, it has been my express intent to resist making any semblance of a complete list and many topics were consciously ignored so as to eschew such a label. But by using this paper as an introduction to a few of the more general of the literally thousands of titles devoted to the War Between the States, anyone interested in gaining some background to the conflict can begin. The titles selected were chosen for both their value as interpretations and their worth as bibliographic references.

Some will decry the lack of any mention of books specifically discussing women, slavery (and other causes of the war), economics, examinations of specific battles, or one of the dozens of other topics, but such topics are found among these references. Other people will point at the scholarly nature of many of the standard works espoused, but these books all have valuable bibliographic content, one of the features this bibliography was to display, in order to provide intelligent readers some background and ideas for pursuing further reading.

D.L.

Europeans are often better able to detach themselves from the emotional ties which cloud the judgment of native historians. Barker's musings are thought provoking and pertinent. This book is perhaps the shortest and least demanding of this bibliography.


Catton's is undoubtedly the best known of all historians of the War Between the States. Although his work is heavily interpretive and tends to focus on the Union and its eastern armies, his books offer good general introductions to the uninitiated. The Picture History has many excellent illustrations and was recast as The Golden Book of the Civil War which is as good an introduction for any reader as it is for the younger audience at which it is aimed. Another virtue is its availability at many of the parks. The Centennial study is adequate, but not as broad in scope or depth as Allan Nevins, cited below. The three books on the Army of the Potomac remain the best history of that group from the overall view. Catton is a fine author with whom to begin, but most readers will probably want to sink their teeth into something more solid (like the original sources) once they have a taste for Catton's masterly overviews.

Foote is the Confederacy's Catton, with many of the same virtues and vices.


Few biographies appear in this list because most parks should have a good collection of accounts about the careers of the soldiers pertinent to their story. Freeman's examination of Lee, however, is regarded as the finest American biography. Freeman revered his subject, but not at the expense of good judgment. More recent studies have challenged Freeman's conclusions without significant success. The sequel about the Army of Northern Virginia, Lee's Lieutenants, A Study in Command, 3 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1942-1944, is a model history of a Civil War army and an important bibliographical tool.


Of the many compendia of information, facts, and figures about the war, this is the best and most complete. Its day-by-day chronicle of the war in each theatre and on every front puts events in perspective with one another. Also useful as guide to further study.


If there were only one Civil War book(s) to read, this would be it. Although quite thick, it considers every phase and theatre of the war (with admittedly less emphasis on some and often giving the Southern side short shrift) in great and amazing detail for a book of its scope. Nevins also provides a good source of other titles to consider for the various aspects of the conflict. Combined with his earlier set of four volumes which describes circumstances that brought on the war, it is the most up to date and complete single study of the crisis of the Union.


This is one of the most popular, if not the best college textbook. Although more recent scholarship is reassessing its judgments, few will equal its massive and penetrating critical bibliography, which alone makes the tome worthy of consideration. Randall was a famous mid-twentieth century Lincoln scholar and Donald a more recent scholar. All things considered, this is probably the best one volume account of the war for the purpose of creating a program for additional study.


A recent and adequate examination of the South's attempt to forge a nation. Robert Selph Henry's single volume treatment is older but not necessarily less useful.


Despite many more recent studies, Thomas' biography of the sixteenth president is a good single-volume study, devoid of the psycho-sociological examinations. One can hardly go wrong with Thomas as a place to begin studying the career of the Unionist president. The new Abraham Lincoln Encyclopedia by Mary E. Neely, Jr. (New York, 1982) is being widely touted as the reference source on the "railsplitter."
Wiley, Bell I. Johnny Reb, the Life of the Common Soldier of the Confederacy, and Billy Yank, the Life of the Common Soldier of the Union. New York: Bobbs-Merrill Co., 1943 & 1951 respectively. Until some future historian musters the time and the energy to sift through countless newly discovered collections of letters and other material about the individual soldiers who fought the war, Wiley’s books will remain the standard references. They bear up under repeated readings and offer observant readers much food for thought about the average people of that era. Wiley, like many of the other authorities mentioned above, was a leader in his field and contributed other important works to the genre.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES: These are the more ambitious listings of Civil War books. Randall, Donald, and Nevins should also be examined for other possible titles and topics.

Dornbusch, Charles E., Military Bibliography of the Civil War. 3 vols. New York: New York Public Library, 1971, 1972, & 1975. As complete as humanly possible, Dornbusch is presently updating his massive list. Without critical analysis of individual titles, it does present as complete a list as can be found in any one place. An indispensable reference for the military history park.

Freeman, D. S., The South to Posterity. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1935. Although quite old, this analysis of various books' usefulness is handy and readable.


ADDITIONAL READINGS*


Out-of-print publications can be ordered from Morningside Bookshop, P.O. Box 1087, Dayton, Ohio 45401. A checklist can be obtained from Broadfoot's Bookmark, Rt. 2, Box 28-A, Wendell, NC 27591.

*additional readings suggested by Edwin Bearss, Chief Historian, WASO.*
Still provocative and stimulating, it remains the last great synthesis of the colonial period. Primarily intellectual history, it examines ideas, institutions, and aspects of material culture to illustrate a controversial thesis about the impact of the American environment on abstract ideas and institutions. It gets under your skin, and you will find yourself drawing on it even if you disagree with it.

The underside of 17th-century New England. Uses psychological theories, social history, and material culture to capture the patterns and emotions of daily life. Has many telling details that the interpreter will find useful.

Focusing on images and ideas, Jones examines the growth of American culture as an event in Western Civilization, illustrating the complex interplay between America and Europe with wonderfully rich materials from Discovery to the early 19th century. Those whose primary addiction is to material culture or social history will find this a deceptively sweet but powerful antidote. Interpreters will probably find themselves drawing on it even if they find the approach alien.

The best of the more recent syntheses that take account of some of the new work of the social historians. An attractive alternative to the simpler "consensus" and "conflict" interpretations (which used to preoccupy historians), it presents a rich series of insights and analyses about the process by which the impact of colonization on inherited ideas and social patterns created some characteristic paradoxes of American life.

Lest we forget that there was more to America than New England and Virginia, this book uses the techniques of the geographer and social historian to trace the characteristic social structure of 19th-century America to the middle colonies of the 18th century.

Classic explanation by the dean of colonial history on the Puritans' ideological reasons for settling in the New World. Short and brilliant.
New York: Norton, 1970. $4.95.*
Easy to read but sophisticated social history, examining the lives of the people of Dedham, Massachusetts in the "lost period" of American history (mid-17th to mid-18th century).

Uses the social history of the Chesapeake to explain the contradiction between slavery and the commitment to political liberty. Highly readable and useful for understanding the region.

Tate, Thad W., and Ammerman, David L., eds., *The Puritan Dilemma: The Story of John Winthrop.*
Boston: Little Brown, 1958. $4.95.*
Everybody's introduction to 17th-century New England, it must be read before reading anything else to acquire and overcome some of the stereotypes. Easy and enjoyable.

Tate, Thad W., and Ammerman, David L., eds., *The Chesapeake in the Seventeenth Century: Essays in Anglo-American Society and Politics.*
New York: Norton, 1980. $5.95.*

Very important and readable study of the achievements of black people, the evolution of West African culture in America, and the development of the harshest slave system in the colonies.

*available in paperback

**ADDITIONAL READINGS**


Heimert, Alan, Religion and the American Mind: From the Great Awakening to the Revolution. (No longer in print).
Miller, Perry, The New England Mind: From Colony to Province. No longer in print.
Morgan, Edmund S., "The Puritans and Sex" in New England Quarterly, 15(December, 1942)
Nash, Gary B., Red, White, and Black: The Peoples of Early America (Prentice-Hall) $10.95.*

*available in paperback


———, Preservation Comes of Age, From Williamsburg to the National Trust, 1926-1949. (2 volumes), Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1981.


Pitcaithley, Dwight T., "The Interpretation of History: Monographs and Museums."


JOURNALS


Historic Preservation, National Trust for Historic Preservation, published quarterly.

Preservation News, National Trust for Historic Preservation, published quarterly.

Monumentum, International Council of Monuments and Sites.

ADDITIONAL READINGS


Now in its fourth edition with a later date, this is a primary textbook on both eastern and western frontiers. It contains an extensive bibliography which alone is worth the cost of the book.

Bolton, Herbert E., Spanish Borderlands. 1921.
This is the classic on the Spanish Southwest.

This book stresses family relationships rather than the hardships of the trail.


Extensive study of both private and public explorations and surveys.

Extensive use of letters, diaries, and reminiscences which emphasizes the similarities between eastern and western women.

Parkman, Francis, The Oregon Trail, 1849.
Classic account of his trip on the trail and the various people he met.

Porter, Kenneth W., The Negro on the American Frontier.

Dividing his book into chapters on migration, slavery, military, principal western industries, professions and civil rights, Savage believes the West was not the promised land but that better opportunities existed there than in the East.
Stratton, Joanna L. Pioneer Women: Voices from the Kansas Frontie.
Gleaned from a newly discovered collection of 800 documents on the lives of pioneer women in Kansas; author uses extensive quotes but includes little evaluation of them.

This publication contains Turner's 1894 essay, "The Significance of the Frontier in American History." The book title may be different in recent reprints.

An instant classic. The research is stupendous. Stresses the interaction between all the different groups on the trail.


The classic study of the Great Plains frontier.

FICTION

Cather, Willa, My Antonia (1918).
, Death Comes for the Archbishop.
Clark, W. Van T., The Ox-Bow Incident (1940).
Harte, Bret, The Luck of Roaring Camp (1870).

BIBLIOGRAPHY


ADDITIONAL READINGS*

Clark, Thomas D., Frontier America.
This is an excellent story of the Western Movement. Similar to Billington's account, it is less detailed but very readable.

Perhaps the best documented book dealing with the overland trails, it covers the trail from St. Joe to Ft. Laramie. It is a particularly good source for information on modes of travel, incidents of death, types of equipment, and animals. Especially excellent are the maps, statistics, and diary accounts of the Great Platte River Road. The bibliography is particularly good.

Merk, Frederick, History of the Western Movement.
A comprehensive text written from a "western" point of view. Good reading.
Paden, Irene D., The Wake of the Prairie Schooner. 1943. The detailed maps resulted from extensive fieldwork by the author. They depict precise trails, landmarks, rivers, etc.


*additional readings suggested by Christopher White (Ozark) and Mert Dan (Scotts Bluff).

**paperback
Deetz, James, *In Small Things Forgotten*, Garden City, NY: Anchor Press, 1977. A small and wonderful book that challenges us to use artifacts as evidence of America's past. Deetz details methods to go from the artifacts themselves to the underlying culture value of our forebears. Includes analyses of housing, graveyards, African influences, and the significant change from the medieval to modern era in Anglo-America.


Lowenthal, David, "Past Time, Present Place: Landscape and Memory." in *Geographical Review* 65 (1975) 1-36. Brilliant article on the relationship between the tangible evidence of history and our current uses of that past.


Stilgoe, John R., *Common Landscape of America: 1580 to 1845*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1982. Fascinating, comprehensive and incisive explanation of American "landscapes" as defined most broadly to include the land, roads, structures, as well as customs (camp meetings, etc.), studying the interaction between the land and its people. Strong on the colonial hispanic culture. Worth the high price.

Articles on the land, different ethnic and racial groups, regional variations in different periods (colonial, frontier), and urbanization. Ward has a somewhat different viewpoint than historians usually take.

Watts, May Theilgaard, Reading the Landscape of America.

Watts shows the relationship between human and natural actions, tracing the resulting evolution in the landscape. She looks at a variety of ecosystems and historic periods.

*available in paperback

ADDITIONAL READINGS

Clay, Grady, Close-up: How to Read the American City (Chicago, 1980).*
Lynch, Kevin, What Time is This Place? (Cambridge, 1972)
Meinig, D. W., ed., The Interpretation of Ordinary Landscapes: Geographical Essays (New York, 1979).*
Nash, Roderick, Wilderness and the American Mind. rev. ed. (New Haven, 1973).*
Newcomb, Robert M., Planning the Past (Hamden, Conn., 1979).
Petulla, Joseph M., American Environmental History: The Exploitation and Conservation of Natural Resources (San Francisco, 1977).*
Procter, Mary, and Bill Matuszesci, Gritty Cities (Philadelphia, 1978).*
Sloane, Eric, Our Vanishing Landscape (New York, 1974).*
Smith, Henry Nash, Virgin Land: The American West as Symbol and Myth (Cambridge, 1973).*
Tuan, Yi-Fu, Topophilia: A Study of Environmental Perception, Attitudes, and Values (Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, 1974).*
Robert Weible  
Lowell National Historical Park  
Ellen Calomiris  
Independence National Park


A recent study of contrasting ethnic groups and working hierarchies, Bodnar's book is an excellent source for those interested in the relationship between industrialization and immigration. Further readings in this general area include the studies by Ehrlich and Greene listed below.

Center Magazine, 7 (July/August, 1974). This one issue, devoted to the study of ethnicity, includes three articles that focus on the assimilation vs. pluralism debates alluded to above. Michael Novak's "The New Ethnicity," pp. 18-25, maintains that recognition of the fact of ethnic diversity is in the national interest. Gunnar Myrdal, in "The Case Against Romantic Ethnicity," pp. 26-30, takes an opposing viewpoint, arguing that the "new ethnicity" is a largely abstract, romantic, and upper-class movement, and by diverting attention from economic and class issues, the movement ultimately seves the interests of conservatives and reactionaries. John Higham's "Another American Dilemma," pp. 67-73, concludes that neither the assimilationist nor the pluralistic interpretation is valid and explains why.


A classic study, Glazer and Moynihan's book asserts that the "melting pot" is more myth than reality, and that ethnicity persists in twentieth-century America often along racial and religious lines, if not according to national origins alone. This book has influenced government policy, and its controversial thesis opened the doors to numerous assimilation vs. pluralism debates that are as yet unresolved.


Both books are classics in the field of immigration history. The Uprooted, having won a Pulitzer Prize, remains a popular study of the immigrant experience even today. Boston's Immigrants, better written, more specific, and better documented, focuses on the interaction of Boston's Yankee and Irish residents during the nineteenth century.


Recognized by most as the best study of nativism and the reaction by many established Americans to the large-scale immigration of the late nineteenth century, Higham's very readable book is essential reading in American immigration history.
Very readable synthesis of current scholarship. Highly recommended.

This book grew out of the Smithsonian Institution exhibit of the same name. Its many photographs show three dimensional objects reflecting American settlement patterns and immigrant cultural contributions. Especially good for those new to the field.

A very recent and very conservative version of immigration history, Sowell's book sets aside the assimilation/pluralism issue in favor of the simple, traditional notion that hardships are overcome by hard work, no doubt a thinly veiled message to minority groups today. Sowell examines the experiences of nine ethnic groups in order to support his potentially fashionable arguments.

A general history of immigration, Taylor's book is particularly strong in dealing with the forces in Europe that encouraged emigration and with the trip across the Atlantic; it addresses other key issues too, including work, immigrant communities, nativism, and assimilation.

Very much a reference book, this single volume provides a brief history of each group of American immigrants, from their origins through their social structures to their levels of assimilation. A brief bibliography follows the history of each group.

In this general and reasonably recent historiography of immigration, Vecoli lists its major subtopics and includes most of the authors and titles of interest to anyone concerned with immigration history.

* available in paperback

ADDITIONAL READINGS

Cole, Donald B., Immigrant City: Lawrence, Massachusetts, 1845-1921 (Chapel Hill, 1963).


INDUSTRIALIZATION AND ECONOMIC HISTORY

Robert Weible
Lowell National Historical Park


Focusing on the phenomenon of economic growth, this book provides a good overview of industrialization and American economic history, as well as an insight into recent scholarship. Written for undergraduate history and economics students, it is consequently nontechnical and understandable.


The best and most influential business history to be written in recent years. Chandler's book traces the evolution of the modern corporation and relates it to corporations' social functions.


The first essay in this volume is a particularly useful introduction to the "new" labor history. In it, Gutman does not focus on trade union activity; rather, he examines the impacts of industrialization on working people in general: their communities, values, and lifestyles.


Although these books focus primarily on Europe, they explain industrialization and its political and social impacts as well as any book available. They also put American industrialization into a larger context and provide a point of view sometimes overlooked by historians concerned with the United States alone.


This book describes ways in which nineteenth century Americans merged their republican values and their agrarian self-image with their desire to industrialize and enrich themselves. The book is readable and will be especially helpful to field historians and interpreters concerned with the cultural and intellectual impacts of industrialization.


A good textbook and introduction to the topic, these volumes are praiseworthy for their attempt to view technological developments in their social context. Volume I deals with the subject through the nineteenth century, volume II the twentieth century.

Unlike the other books listed here, this book can be described as a popular history, easy to read and well-illustrated. Readily available, it surveys the material quickly. More in-depth history can be found in the textbooks by Dulles, Rayback, or Taft listed below.


A short survey of the topic, Porter's book is readable and very useful. Porter makes constant references to the relevant literature, and his book is an excellent place to begin for one interested in business history. His short "Bibliographical Essay" is particularly good.


*available in paperback

ADDITIONAL READINGS

I. Bibliographies

Lovett, Robert W., American Economic and Business History: A Guide to Information Sources (Detroit, 1971).

II. General


### III. Business History


### IV. Labor History


V. History of Technology


Hindle, Brooke, Technology in Early America: Needs and Opportunities for Study (Chapel Hill, N.C., 1966).


Mumford, Lewis, Technics and Civilization (New York, 1934).


VI. Miscellaneous


Writing in a popular manner, these two volumes contain an excellent examination of period styles and design sources. Virtually every major branch of the decorative arts is included -- cabinet and chairmaking, carving, needleworking, potting, silver and pewter making, ornamental painting, and glassmaking. Generally, the information given is reliable, although the publication suffers from an absence of footnotes and other reference sources.

An outstanding examination of early American material culture. Reflects the attitude that everyday household objects can reveal as much about a society as do its unusual and costly artifacts.

This article proposes a model that can help the beginner "read" historic artifacts. It recommends a classification system based on the five basic properties of an object (history, material, construction, design, and function) and then establishes a set of operations to be performed on these properties (identification, evaluation, cultural analysis, interpretation).

This examines broad patterns in the development of American architecture and furniture and explains how these patterns reflect the character, aspirations, standard of living, religion, and politics of the society that created them.

This volume emphasizes the regional approach to American furniture. Confining itself to the Queen Anne and Chippendale periods, it examines the differences in both construction and aesthetics in over 180 chairs from five major style centers -- Philadelphia, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, the Connecticut Valley, and the South. The techniques employed here can be used by the reader to study other furniture forms and time periods.
Kirk, John T., Early American Furniture. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1979. Directed at understanding the elements that go into making up a piece of furniture, this book concentrates on the principles of design — proportions, organization, and detailing. Unlike many museum publications, it deals with "country," "primitive," and "rustic" objects, as well as with the "high-style" ones.

Montgomery, Charles F., American Furniture, The Federal Period (1788-1825). New York: Viking Press, 1966; reprinted by Bonanza Books, 1978. Although intended primarily as a catalogue of Federal-style furniture at the Winterthur museum, this is still the most comprehensive study of American cabinetmaking of the period. In addition to photographs and commentaries on some 491 items, a number of scholarly, introductory essays analyze various aspects of the furniture making trade — business practices, price books, primary and secondary woods, and upholstery. An additional essay on the identification and evaluation of an object establish the principles of connoisseurship upon which all Federal furniture can be judged.

Quimby, Ian M.G., ed., Material Culture and the Study of American Life. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., 1978. This volume contains the papers presented at the 1975 Winterthur Museum Conference. For that meeting eleven scholars, representing several different disciplines, were asked to consider the question: "How has our study of artifacts altered our perception of American history?" Although their responses varied, the interchange did underscore the need for interdisciplinary cooperation in obtaining a more comprehensive view of our nation's past.

Tracy, Berry B., et al. 19th-Century America: Furniture and Other Decorative Arts. New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1970. Catalogue of an outstanding loan exhibition held at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in celebration of its 100th anniversary. Some 298 objects documenting the medley of styles in 19th-century decorative arts are illustrated, many in color. A brief introductory essay, together with individual object commentaries make this one of the most comprehensive surveys available.


ADDITIONAL READING


Fleming, E. McClung, "Early American Decorative Arts as Social Documents," The Mississippi Valley Historical Review, XLV, No. 2 (September, 1958).


Madigan, Mary Jean Smith, Eastlake-Influenced American Furniture 1870-1890 (Yonkers, N.Y.: The Hudson River Museum, 1974).

The Magazine Antiques (New York: Straight Enterprises, Inc., published monthly)

Quimby, Ian M. G. and Polly Anne Earl, eds., Technological Innovation and the Decorative Arts (Charlottesville: The University of Virginia Press, 1974).


Every publisher seems to want their own history textbook. While the quality varies, the scary part is that whenever you know a fair amount about any given topic, or keep up with new articles on it (they're more current, taking less time to be published), you will probably violently disagree with whatever text you're using. Some texts are even more interesting as historic documents themselves. But for general overviews, begin with textbooks (but never end with them!). Several classics exist. For more specific and current information, there are numerous journals in history, the two most useful being the Journal of American History and History News. The articles are not often as useful as the book reviews and lists of articles in back. See also ABC—Clio's annotated bibliographies, America: History and Life. Or visit your friendly local history department.


A dated but still very useful reference work, covering a variety of topics—some obvious, others obscure. The book stresses military and political history but also includes entries on pemmican, canal boats, American Bible Society, etc. As one volume, a handy reference.

Twenty five articles, each full of bibliographic references, assess the state of American history, race and nationality in American history, new perspectives (women, urban, war, intellectual). Fourteen sections chronologically detail American History from the earliest colonies to 1970. The articles, more current and more specialized than the Harvard Guide, also evaluate them.

Davidson, James West and Mark Hamilton Lytle, After the Fact: The Art of Historical Detection, 2 vols. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1982.* Marvelous, scholarly effort to make history and "doing history" lively. Using a series of "detective stories," West and Lytle examine a variety of sources (from court records to photographs to oral history), and issues in American history (from Jamestown's mortality to John Brown's questionable sanity, to Freedmen, immigrants and the numerous drafts of the Declaration of Independence). West (co-author of The Complete Wilderness Paddler) and Lytle have written a superb and useful book.

A thick book with short biographies of some 1000 Americans between its covers. Each entry includes a factual and an interpretive section. Living
people are included. Useful for introductions; short on further references.


Originally published in 1953 and now available in a one volume paperback edition, the Harvard Guide has four parts -- Research Methods and Materials, Biographies and Personal Records, Comprehensive and Area Histories, and Histories of Special Subjects. The Guide lists books and some articles on diverse subjects and is a key general reference.


Notable American Women is a three volume biographical reference work on American women from 1607 to 1950. Each woman's entry has a short biography followed by further references about her life. A fourth volume from 1950 has now been published but is not yet available in paperback.


The classic publication on museum collections -- what to do with them, how to handle furnished historic structures, and exhibits maintenance -- written by one of the masters.


Others before you have faced many of the same issues. Here's what we do.


A series of articles on material culture coming from a Winterthur conference. The collection is somewhat uneven; several pieces are particularly wonderful, however. Very useful as an introduction to material culture.

*available in paperback.

ADDITIONAL READINGS

America: History and Life, annotated bibliographies published by ABC - Clio with regular indexes. These volumes give relatively current information on articles being published.


Introduction surveys the entire museum field, and discusses both collections and interpretation.


A collection of fascinating and very readable articles written by leading scholars which provide a somewhat different perspective on using tangible evidence (artifacts and structures) in interpreting history and culture.


Fischer clearly enjoyed taking on the great historians to expose their logical foibles. In the process, he explains appropriate approaches to researching and writing history. Worth reading as a means to avoid all kinds of pitfalls.

Tilden's famed principles of interpretation.


Collection of articles on American families in different periods and ethnic groups: childhood and youth; women; behavior and ideology of sex and demographic trends. Generally good quality pieces.


History as the sum of many, mostly anonymous, lives. Maddon documents a variety of such lives -- railroad workers, homesteaders, immigrants, strikers -- arguing for a counterpoint to traditional historical accounts.


Collection of articles covering many of the tangible aspects of the cultural resources we interpret.


Evaluation of the multiple elements involved in the recreated historic house interior, the research and preparation to restore, and the work itself, including floors, walls, lighting, collections and transient objects. Sixty photographs of furnished rooms add to this book's reference value. Appomatox, Grant-Kohrs, and Independence rate photos.


Although this handbook has sections on writing articles and book reviews, its real value comes from listing some 350 journals, from local and subject history to the most esoteric.


A technical handbook on the issues and approaches to historic preservation, including the variety of roles (architect, historian, curator, archeologist), materials (wood, masonry, metals, paints and varnishes) and standards. Preservation and Conservation is a gold mine of information.

Hometown, Ill.: The Dorsey Press, 1973.*

Not easy going, but challenging to our means of interpreting the past. Full of examples and critiques of earlier writings of American history.

The following journals will also help: William and Mary Quarterly, Journal of American History, History News, American Historical Review, the Winterthur Portfolio, and The Public Historian.

*available in paperback*
This study details the administration of Manuel Salcedo, last governor of Spanish Texas.

This work is a serious study that deals with the reorganization of the Spanish military in Mexico during the late eighteenth century. Defense of the metropolis, the coast and the frontier area of New Spain are treated.

This book offers a survey of New Spain's northern frontier that stretched along a line from Florida to California.

Recounting the Coronado expedition of 1540-42, it covers Sonora, Arizona, New Mexico, northwest Texas, Oklahoma and Kansas. A good study on the early Spanish-Indian contact period.

John offers a useful synthesis of Spanish-Indian relations with special emphasis on New Mexico and Texas. The bibliography is excellent.

John Kessel offers an excellent analysis of the Franciscan mission effort in Pimeria Alta (Arizona-Sonora) from 1767 to 1856.

Military history of fortifications in Spanish borderlands.

Nasitir offers a synthesis of the history -- chiefly diplomatic history -- of the Spanish claim to the Mississippi River Valley.

This study surveys a neglected topic in Southwestern history. Simmons offers New Mexico in the eighteenth century as a model for administrative history of the borderlands.

ADDITIONAL READINGS


Brinckerhoff, Sidney B., and Odie B. Faulk, trans. and eds., Lancers for the King (Phoenix, Arizona, 1965).


Otermín’s Attempted Reconquest, 1680-1682. 2 vols. (Albuquerque, 1941).

Hodge, F.W., G.P. Hammond, and Agapito Rey, trans. and eds., Revised Memorial of Fray Alonso de Benavides, 1634 (Albuquerque, 1945).


Kinnaird, ed., The Frontiers of New Spain, 1776-1783 (Norman, Okla., 1941).
WOMEN'S HISTORY

Sharon Brown
Jefferson National Expansion Memorial
National Historic Site

Banner, Lois, Women in Modern America: A Brief History. New York:
Harcourt Brace Jovanovitch, 1974. $7.95.*
The text is a readable narrative women's history survey, covering the
period 1890 to the present. Contains photographs and annotated bibliography.

Cott, Nancy F., The Bonds of Womanhood: "Women's Sphere" in New England
Narrative history of white middle-class women's roles as wives, mothers,
and mistresses of households in early U.S. Cott's emphasis is on attitudes
and behaviors of women within prescribed social expectations. Topics in­
clude work, religion, education, and domesticity. Contains lists of women's
documents and ministers' sermons consulted.

Jeffrey, Julie Roy, Frontier Women: The Trans-Mississippi West 1840-1880.
New York: Hill & Wang, 1979. $5.95.*
Narrative history of white women in the West, including farming, mining,
urban, and Mormon frontiers. Jeffrey's sources are women's journals, re­mi­
niscences and letters. Text discusses reasons why women went West, as
well as their work, behavior, society, and status. Contains bibliography.

Documents the history of woman's suffrage, and the shift from arguments
based on justice to those of expediency for women getting the vote. A
classic in women's and intellectual history.

Text consists of short documents pertaining to black women's history.
Documents are arranged chronologically and by subject. Contains editorial
and bibliographical notes.

, The Female Experience: An American Documentary.
Indianapolis: Bobbs Merrill, 1977. $9.65.*
This survey uses a different framework for women's history, not women's
roles in male-centered historical events, but in women-centered history
and frameworks. Text focuses on the experiences, lifecycles and self­
definition of ordinary women.

Key collection of very readable essays defining women's history and women
in history. Also includes Lerner's famous article, "The Lady and the Mill
Girl: Changes in the Status of Women in the Age of Jackson," and several
pieces on Black women. Her theoretical approach is essential for understanding
women's history. See also William H. Chafe's Women and Equality: Changing
Patterns in American Culture (New York: Oxford University Press, 1977),
especially on the relation of gender and race.
Narrative study of Native American women (from Northeast to Eskimo) includes childbirth, economic roles, courtship and marriage, taboos, spirituality and more, based upon anthropological studies and modern Indian women's life experiences. Contains photographs, bibliography, and recounts songs and legends.

Women's lives during the Revolutionary era, and the impact of that war on their legal and political status, and their personal lives. See also Norton's "Eighteenth-Century American Women in Peace and War: the Case of the Loyalists" in William and Mary Quarterly, 3rd ser., 33 (July 1976) pp. 386-409.

Sklar, Kathryn Kish, Catherine Beecher: A Study in American Domesticity.
Focusing on Catherine Beecher, this book explains the choices (and constraints) on middle class nineteenth century women. Catherine Beecher, as an educator and writer, helped shape the ideology of Victorian womanhood, and provides a perspective other than the feminists'. See also Barbara Welter's classic article, "The Cult of True Womanhood: 1820-1860" in American Quarterly XVIII, Summer 1966, pp. 151-174. Reprinted frequently, it explains the cardinal virtues defined as piety, purity, submissiveness, and domesticity.

*available in paperback

ADDITIONAL READINGS

Several excellent anthologies of articles exist. Two of the best are Jean E. Friedman and William G. Shade, Our American Sisters: Women in American Life and Thought (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, Inc., 1973, 1976) which has somewhat different articles in its various editions. The articles are generally the best case studies available. A Heritage of Her Own, edited by Nancy F. Cott and Elizabeth H. Pleck, includes 24 articles. While somewhat more recent and specialized, many of the articles are appropriate to National Park Service sites.


Much shortened version of the original six hefty volumes, these selections of documents, speeches, resolutions, etc. by the leaders for women's rights are placed in context by the editors.

Selections of Western women's writings cover many aspects of frontier life: mining camps, farms and ranches, army wives, women's work, frontier cities and more.


Narrative history of women in the Civil War, including Northern, Southern, white and black women. Massey relates many individual women's activities, including Clara Barton, Sojourner Truth, and others. Text covers the war's political, economic, and sociological effects on women, and uses quotes from women's diaries, letters and other writings. Contains illustrations.


Roosevelt writes of her childhood, her husband Franklin's political life, and her own activities both as First Lady and throughout the 1950's and early 1960's. A first hand historical record. Contains photographs.


Various selections on women's history and feminism written by Abigail Adams, Charlotte Perkins Gilman, and many more, which cover political, economic, sociological and ideological themes. Contains bibliography and excellent introduction on each writer.


Analyzes the interplay between expected and actual behavior of women, and the various ways in which that behavior was defined, both by society and the women themselves. Fairly comprehensive. For a more demographic but quite readable approach, see Margaret Gibbons Wilson, *The American Woman in Transition: The Urban Influence, 1870-1920* (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1979).


Narrative history discusses "ideal" role of the "southern lady," antebellum women, effects of Civil War, political activism, and suffrage. Text uses quotes from women's writings. Contains bibliographical essay.


Text includes writings of forty-seven immigrant women from 1820 to the Present. Excellent introductions precede each topic: why they came, work, family, community life, education, social activists and more. Contains bibliographical essay.


Very readable, although somewhat dated narrative history using many original sources. Topics include: work of homemakers, wardrobe, courtship and marriage, education, and occupations. Contains bibliography of primary sources.
Overview history of white Western army women on the frontier. Discusses army life, pioneer life, women's relationships with Native-Americans, and details of daily social activities. Contains photographs.

Account of the components of housework -- cooking, laundry, serving, etc. -- and their evolution with technological and social change. Useful especially from 1900 on and helpful for interpretation of housework. See also Seven Days A Week: Women and Domestic Service in Industrializing America by David M. Katzman (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1981) which covers 1870 - 1920 and includes substantial material on black women.

Readable, factual overview history of working women. Topics include colonial women, black women, Civil War work, immigrant and ethnic factory women, labor organization, mill and garment workers, teachers and women's wages. Contains photographs and bibliography.

*available in paperback