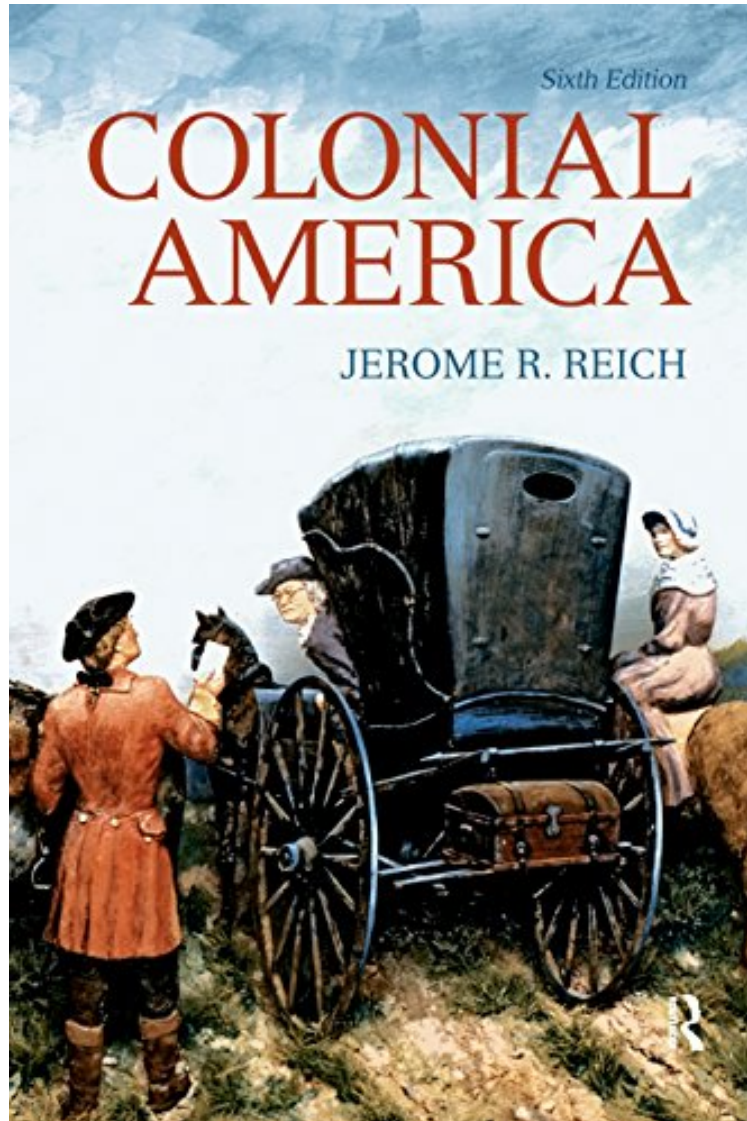


Colonial America

Jerome R Reich

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Jerome R Reich : Colonial America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Colonial America:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Colonial American - A Must ReadBy Ronald C. HallWith a history textbook, there is no mystery or drama. We all know how it will end. This book is a collection of information gathered throughout the years documenting the early development of what came to be the United States of America. Mr. Jerome R. Reich's book does an excellent job of presenting this information from the earliest colonists to citizens of the revolutionary era. With strong organization of this information, he provides an incredible look at each step of the

development of this country and some of the key individuals that made this country what it is. If you are interested in this period, this book is a must read. The earliest settlers struggled to get a foothold in this country. Instead of glossing over this period Mr. Reich makes sure you are aware of the timing and the race between the major nations of Europe once it became known of the possible riches available here. He points out that England claimed the North American continent from John Cabot's visit in 1497. It took almost one hundred years before colonization was believed to be practical by England. "By 1582, many English people agreed that the colonization of America would be of inestimable benefit to the entire nation" (Reich, 2011, p. 47). The settlement in Jamestown established in 1606, which was believed to be the first, faced many problems before finally establishing additional colonies in the area. Colonists were only able to do this with the arrival of additional settlers. Most did not survive the trip, native attacks or the difficulties of the land being settled. In 1620, another group called Pilgrims and led by John Winthrop set out to settle in the new world. One of the key differences pointed out by the author between the Jamestownians and the Pilgrims is that the Pilgrims settled with their families. The natives believed you did not go to battle with your women and children in tow but assisted the Pilgrims in overcoming the difficulties of settling in their new homes. Once many colonies were well established, the focus of the race became control of trade and profit. During the early years, the Dutch controlled most trade from the new world. This led to war between the English and the Dutch but, "A more effective weapon against the Dutch monopoly was the Navigation Act of 1651" (Reich, 2011, p. 81) which addressed the battle for dominance over the trade with the new world and also was the beginning of tensions between the new world and England. The act required most cargo from the colonies could only be sold to England. The new world would have to deal with many other legislative acts from England that began to shape this nation. With communication and presence of the ruling class months away, merchant and businessmen began to ignore or develop ways around legislation from England. The struggles of trade were not the only issue facing the now thriving colonies, but also obedience to English control. Colonial governments began to spring up at higher levels than settled communities. For instance, the colony of Virginia established a House of Burgesses modeled after English parliament but English appointed Governor William Berkeley kept adjourning it. In 1676, "the Lords of Trade sent Edward Randolph to Massachusetts to investigate the colony in general and its obedience to the Navigation Act in particular" (Reich, 2011, p. 97). The result ended Massachusetts' charter and officially made them a royal colony. The obedience issue is well addressed in this book and why both sides identified that as one of the major issues that resulted in the Revolutionary War. The two hundred thirty seven years since we have become a nation are well documented. The two hundred eighty four years leading up to the founding of this nation, in general, are not. But Jerome R. Reich does an excellent job of addressing almost every part of colonial life. If you have an interest or are conducting research about this era, then this book is a must read. It is not only educational and informative but it is very enjoyable. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great book! By Megan I used this book in a university class and it has been one of my favorite textbooks! I really liked the way it was written- it seemed pretty simple and straightforward and easy to follow. It was a good copy to get a general understanding of this period in American history. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Marjorie REQUIRED TEXT. ok.

This brief, up-to-date examination of American colonial history draws connections between the colonial period and American life today by including formerly neglected areas of social and cultural history and the role of minorities (African-Americans, Native-Americans, women, and laboring classes). It summarizes and synthesizes recent studies and integrates them with earlier research. Key topics: European Backgrounds. The Native Americans. The Spanish Empire in America. The Portuguese, French, and Dutch Empires in America. The Background of English Colonization. The Tobacco Colonies: Virginia and Maryland. The New England Colonies. The Completion of Colonization. Seventeenth-Century Revolts and Eighteenth-Century Stabilization. Colonial Government. African-Americans in the English Colonies. Immigration. Colonial Agriculture. Colonial Commerce. Colonial Industry. Money and Social Status. The Colonial Town. The Colonial Family. Religion in Colonial America. Education in Colonial America. Language and Literature. Colonial Arts and Sciences. Everyday Life in Colonial America. The Second Hundred Years' War. The Road to Revolution. The Revolutionary War. Governments for a New Nation. Market: For anyone interested in Colonial History, American Revolution, or Early American Social History.

From the Publisher A comprehensive exploration of all facets of life in colonial America -- based on the most recent scholarship. About the Author Dr. Jerome R. Reich is an American historian whose specialty is the search for democracy in American life. His writings include "Leisler's Rebellion: A Study of Democracy in Colonial New York," "Cooles's Rebellion in Maryland," the "Dorr War: A Substudy of Jacksonian Democracy," and "The Black American Experience." Dr. Reich is an emeritus professor of history at Chicago State University and is the author of several standard text books in American history.