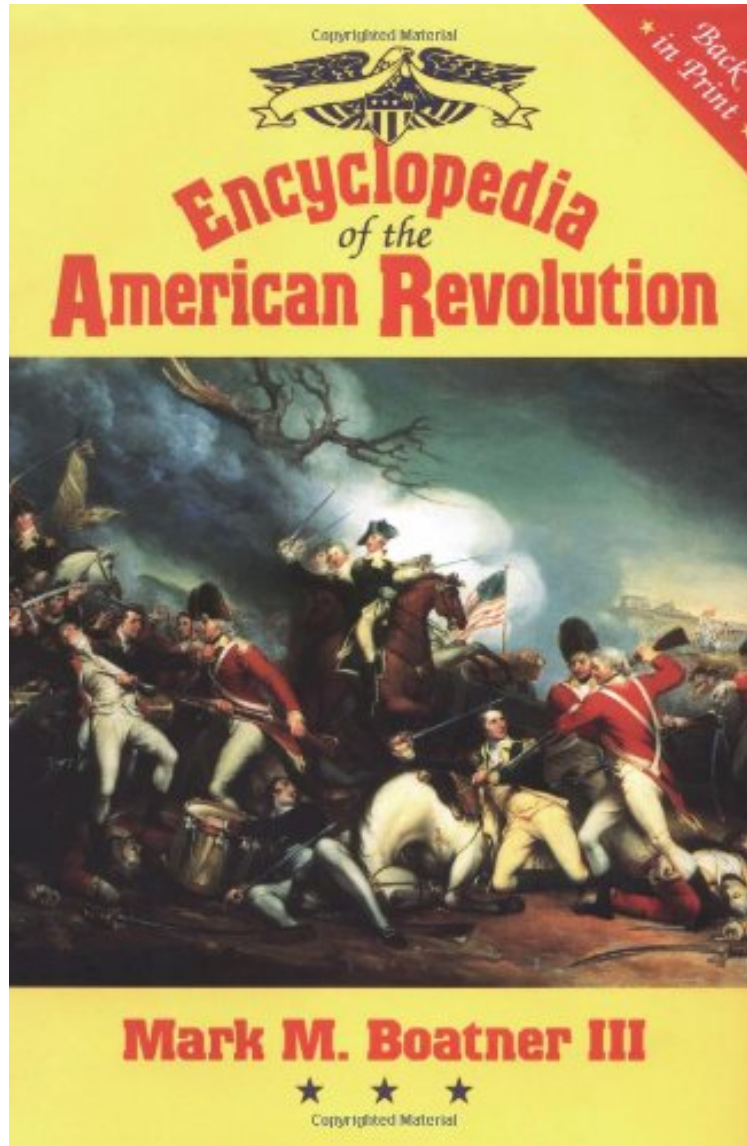


Encyclopedia of the American Revolution

Mark Mayo Boatner

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Mark Mayo Boatner : Encyclopedia of the American Revolution before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Encyclopedia of the American Revolution:

6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Best Desk Reference for the Revolution on the Market Today!By gloine36As a historian of the American Revolution and Early Republic I often needed a handy reference book available to me instead of shelves of books when looking for quick pieces of information. This volume fits the bill quite nicely. While it is not an in depth study of the war in any way, it is a good desk reference. One could have

several volumes on the Revolution and I already have far more than several volumes on that event and still am lacking in several areas. This encyclopedia does allow a researcher to quickly confirm dates, names, and places which is one of its greatest uses. In that regard alone it is a valuable time saver. Boatner's work is older, but still relevant. It is not dedicated to exploring the why aspects of the period, but rather the who, what, when, and where aspects. In this regard it excels mightily while also remaining relevant to the study of the period. Few books manage this feat after a few decades as historians and their interpretations changed over time. Boatner included hand drawn maps in this volume, but no pictures. If there is a drawback to this work, the lack of illustrations and pictures is it. However, including pictures for each entry would probably come close to doubling the price of the work and it is not a cheap purchase. I personally have found it worth every penny I paid for it though. It is easy to get lost in reading the many entries and more than one comment has been made about the time involved in reading the volume. That is a sign of a good book and this is only an encyclopedia. I myself have found a few hours disappearing when I opened the book to look up an entry only to explore its connections in greater detail. That could be a downfall, but then that is also a great way to use my time in my opinion. All in all, I really recommend this book for students of the period. I do caution potential readers that this is not a narrative, but an encyclopedia. In depth analysis of specific entries will require the use of other sources, but then that is something any student of history learns quickly.

17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Must Have Reference for Revolutionary War Researchers
By BGI first became aware of Mr. Boatner's work over ten years ago when I purchased his book, "The Civil War Dictionary". This book was indispensable in my writing and researching of the Civil War. His work is accurate, concise, and balanced. When I turned my efforts to the Revolutionary War and learned Mr. Boatner had a book that covered this war, it went to the top of my list of a must have reference books on the Revolutionary War. When I received it I was not disappointed. Mr. Boatner turned in another quality piece of work. I was very surprised that the Revolutionary volume was over 300 pages bigger than the Civil War volume. There is also a better index and more cross references for to help one find the specific topic you are looking for. This is not a fluff book with a lot of pictures. In fact there are no pictures, just a lot of facts on every aspect of the war, the battles, places, and people on all sides who participated. There are a lot of maps and organizational charts to help visualize these facts. If you are serious about learning about the Revolutionary War, this book is a must for your home or town library.

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