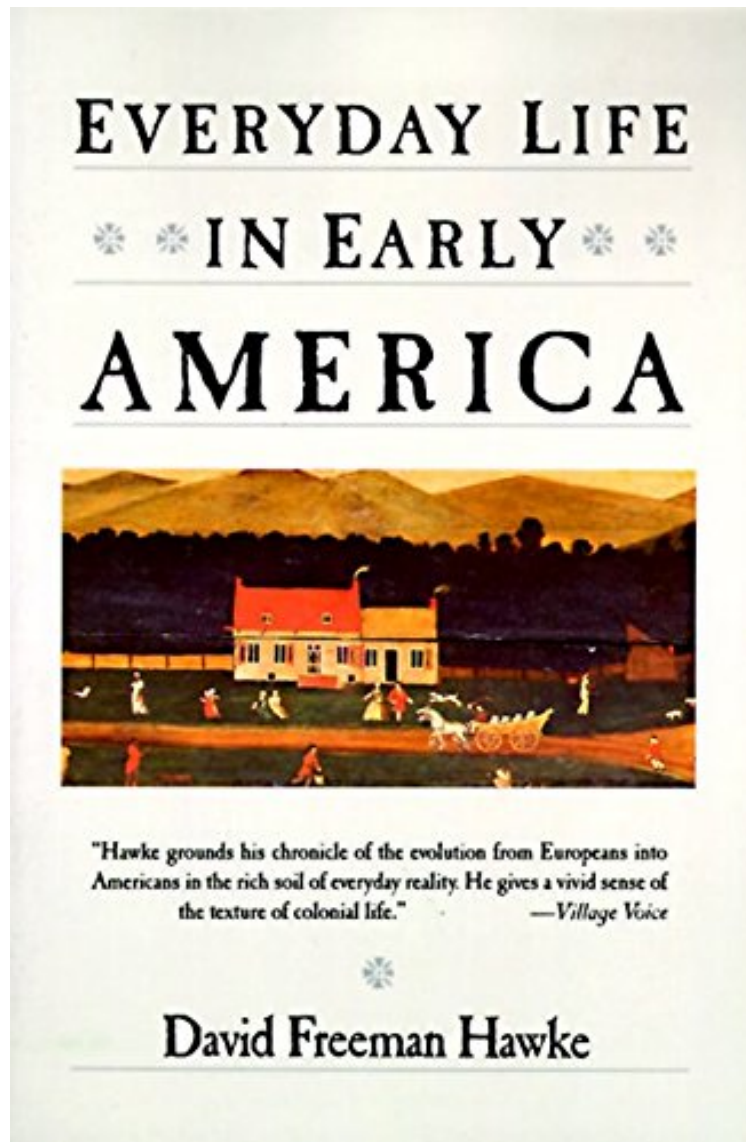


Everyday Life in Early America

David Freeman Hawke

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David Freeman Hawke : Everyday Life in Early America before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Everyday Life in Early America:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Interesting But a Bit PloddingBy L. M YoungI'd already had the post-Revolution and Victorian books in the "Everyday Life" series, and just bought the Westward Expansion/Civil War volume, so decided to buy the other two books in the series. This, the first, is, sadly, a bit tedious, and that's a shame, because there are facts here I'd never read anywhere else, such as that the Pilgrims had little experience in

farming; or how the amount of land a colonist had in different parts of the country determined what type of fence you would build (incidentally, "good fences make good neighbors" was a truism: if you did not have your crops properly fenced in and cattle ate them, it was your fault, not the owner of the cattle). There is a continual emphasis on the colonists' use of wood from the plentiful forests, England having nearly been deforested by that time by the regular need for wood. One of the interesting points of discussion is how the traditions of English life changed, for instance, that in England farmers lived in the village and walked to their fields every day; once in the United States they moved their homes to their fields. It's a good summary of colonial life, but rather dry. I'm glad to have it to complete the set, though. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. It just gives you the basics but it is a nice framework and if you want to read further this ...By Alley Kat This is a bare bones book. It just gives you the basics but it is a nice framework and if you want to read further this will give you a good timeline. I found the dynamic between the natives and the newly arrived white man interesting and also the situation with black slaves in the South. They were not treated oppressively until around 1700 when their numbers increased to the point that they became a threat. I highly recommend this book if you want just a taste of what life was like during this period. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Five stars By Ali I needed this book for a class and at the time i couldnt afford to buy all my books in new condition so i decided to go with a used one from . I could not be any happier with my desicion. When i opened the book up, because it was used it was filled with notes on the margins which helped out a lot. I know maybe i just got lucky but it still deserves a perfect review.

"In this clearly written volume, Hawke provides enlightening and colorful descriptions of early Colonial Americans and debunks many widely held assumptions about 17th century settlers."--Publishers Weekly

From Publishers Weekly In this clearly written volume, Hawke provides enlightening and colorful descriptions of early Colonial Americans and debunks many widely held assumptions about 17th century settlers. He argues that most pioneers were not young and that their families weren't much larger than present-day households. In addition, he states that adults lived longer than has been believed and that most early settlers were artisans and craftsmen with little knowledge of farming, although the wilderness soon forced them to adapt. Hawke includes entertaining discussions of what the first white Americans ate (for example, raccoon was served in New York). He also discusses how colonial Americans were punished for crimes and how they treated enslaved blacks and indentured servants. This book is informative but could have been more deeply researched. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc.