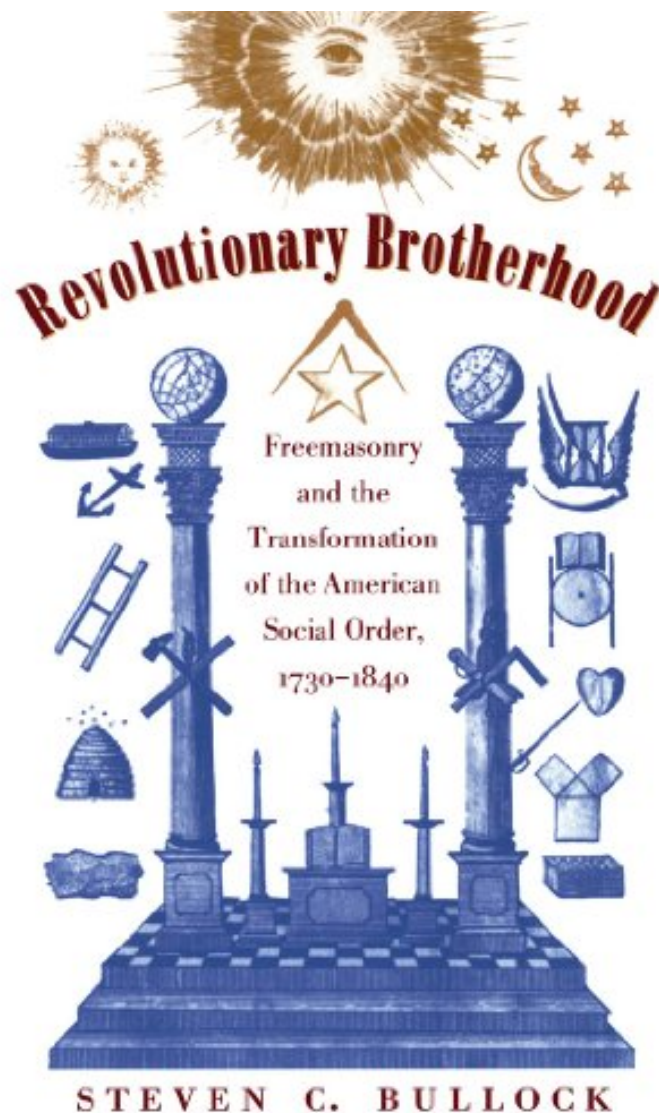


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Revolutionary Brotherhood: Freemasonry and the Transformation of the American Social Order, 1730-1840 (Published by the Omohundro Institute of Early ... and the University of North Carolina Press)

Steven C. Bullock

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2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Part of American History By Al J. Conetto I was amazed at the influence Masonry had on the development of this country. We all know that Washington, Franklin, etc were Masons and contributed to making our country what it is now. But, I didn't realize that the fraternity and its teachings and philosophy played such a part in our freedom and representative government. Every Mason should read this book twice. The first time I couldn't digest all the information and so I am reading it again. I especially want to make sure I didn't miss anything. Very thorough, deep, history of Masonry in the United States from the beginning of our nation. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Customer A very good book. Informative without conspiracy-fueled drama. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Very interesting By Customer great addition to my library.

In the first comprehensive history of the fraternity known to outsiders primarily for its secrecy and rituals, Steven Bullock traces Freemasonry through its first century in America. He follows the order from its origins in Britain and its introduction into North America in the 1730s to its near-destruction by a massive anti-Masonic movement almost a century later and its subsequent reconfiguration into the brotherhood we know today. With a membership that included Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Paul Revere, and Andrew Jackson, Freemasonry is fascinating in its own right, but Bullock also places the movement at the center of the transformation of American society and culture from the colonial era to the rise of Jacksonian democracy. Using lodge records, members' reminiscences and correspondence, and local and Masonic histories, Bullock links Freemasonry with the changing ideals of early American society. Although the fraternity began among colonial elites, its spread during the Revolution and afterward allowed it to play an important role in shaping the new nation's ideas of liberty and equality. Ironically, however, the more inclusive and universalist Masonic ideas became, the more threatening its members' economic and emotional bonds seemed to outsiders, sparking an explosive attack on the fraternity after 1826. *American History*

The book's strength is its placement of Masonry in a variety of surrounding intellectual contexts. "Journal of Southern History" "[Bullock's] research is exhaustive, his argument learned and subtle, his prose clear, and his insights numerous." *Pennsylvania History* "Assuredly will be recognized as a landmark in the field." *Journal of Social History* "Bullock's research is exhaustive, his argument learned and subtle, his prose clear, and his insights numerous." *Pennsylvania History* "[A]ssuredly will be recognized as a landmark in the field." *Journal of Social History* "Bullock does an outstanding job linking Masonry to larger social and political developments." *Journal of the Early Republic* "The book's strength is its placement of Masonry in a variety of surrounding intellectual contexts." *Journal of Southern History* "[Bullock's] research is exhaustive, his argument learned and subtle, his prose clear, and his insights numerous." *Pennsylvania History* "Any further inquires into the order of Freemasons in America will turn to this book as their starting point." *Journal of American History* "The book's strength is its placement of Masonry in a variety of surrounding intellectual contexts." *Journal of Southern History* "The book's strength is its placement of Masonry in a variety of surrounding intellectual contexts." *Journal of Southern History* "The book's strength is its placement of Masonry in a variety of surrounding intellectual contexts." *Journal of Southern History* "I am persuaded by Bullock's interpretation. He not only traces the history of the Masons but also demonstrates how Masonry served as a vehicle for the emergence and consolidation of American elites. He does an outstanding job of illuminating Americans' changing ideas about the nature of 'society--that is, social relations among men.--Jan Lewis, Rutgers University-Newark Bullock's thorough and engaging volume compels us to integrate the seemingly arcane rites of this fraternity into our understanding of the factors that have shaped America.--New York History Steven Bullock has discovered the secret of Freemasonry: Masons played a very important role in the formation of the American nation. . . . An accurate portrait of the ancient, honorable fraternity. . . . The reader can appreciate the true influence of the Craft.--S. Brent Morris, book review editor of *The Scottish Rite Journal* Bullock's account of how populist, evangelistic, politically inventive anti-Masons deflated Freemasonry's claim to republican elitism is both timely and expert.--Choice Bullock has given us a marvelously detailed and carefully argued exploration of American freemasonry, in a book that will be the point of departure for any debate about its place in the early modern Atlantic world.--*Journal of Interdisciplinary History* [Bullock's] research is exhaustive, his argument learned and subtle, his prose clear, and his insights numerous. *Revolutionary Brotherhood* is a major work of historical scholarship.--*Pennsylvania History* Any further inquires into the order of Freemasons in America will turn to this book as their

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