

## SOURCES

an introductory section and additional essays that further expand upon subsections of the topic. In addition, each essay includes a further reading lists and many topic sections also contain primary source documents.

Organized chronologically, this highly accessible work is well suited for high school and undergraduate students seeking to become familiar with a rebellion, revolt or demonstration. A major strength of this encyclopedia rests with the organization of each topic section. An introductory essay places each protest or revolt within the broader scope of American history, while separate shorter essays define and describe more specific events, people, groups and movements. For example, the “Homestead Strike (1892—1893)” section contains an essay on the strike itself and supplementary short entries on the union that initiated the strike, Carnegie Steel, lockouts, the Pinkertons, and yellow-dog contracts, with each entry containing a list of further readings. In addition to these shorter essays, the “Homestead Strike” section also includes excerpts from primary source documents associated with the strike. While some topic sections in *Revolts, Protests, Demonstrations and Rebellions* are more in-depth than others, all explain the causes, significance and general outcome of each protest or demonstration in a concise and well organized layout with many containing primary source excerpts.

Danver’s encyclopedia stands out among the many reference works focused on American social history. While works such as Immanuel Ness’s *Encyclopedia of American Social Movements* (Sharpe Reference, 2004) and Gina Renée Misiroglu’s *American Countercultures* (Sharpe Reference, 2009) address some similar themes, *Revolts, Protests, Demonstrations and Rebellions* is markedly different as it focuses solely on groups and individuals who, through collective action, acted out in the form of protests and/or rebellions. The subjects included in this set span the political, religious and socioeconomic spectrum. Therefore, *Revolts, Protests, Demonstrations and Rebellions* is not a reference work that chronicles only groups or individuals seeking social justice. Instead, this work includes protest and revolts that sought to expand freedoms, as well as, the “dark side” of protests that sought to restrict freedoms and intimidate minority groups.

*Revolts, Protests, Demonstrations and Rebellions* achieves its goal as a reference work intended for high school and undergraduate students. This unique encyclopedia, with its well thought-out organization, is a welcome addition to the large body of American social history encyclopedias. It is recommended for high schools, medium to large-size public libraries and academic libraries.—Joseph A. Hurley, *Data Services Librarian, Georgia State University Library, Atlanta, Georgia*

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***Spies, Wiretaps, and Secret Operations: An Encyclopedia of American Espionage.*** Ed. by Glenn P. Hastedt. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio, 2011. 2 vols. acid free \$180 (ISBN 978-85109-807-1). E-book available (978-1-8510-9818-8), call for pricing.

Hastedt, a professor in the Justice Studies Department at

James Madison University, is a prolific author and has written or edited a number of works related to U.S. foreign policy, intelligence, and related topics. These two volumes, a spinoff of the first chapter of his *Espionage: A Reference Handbook* (ABC-Clio, 2003) is the latest of his offerings, contributing to the surprising paucity of encyclopedic treatments focusing specifically on American espionage. A woefully outdated comparable reference is G. J. A. O’Toole’s *The Encyclopedia of American Intelligence and Espionage: From the Revolutionary War to the Present* (Facts on File, 1988), which is curiously missing from the extensive bibliography in volume 2.

The arrangement of the book is a puzzlement. Touted by the publisher as uniquely chronologically organized, covering the same periods as in Hastedt’s aforementioned work (the American Revolution, the early Republic, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, World War I and the interwar years, World War II, the Cold War, and the post-Cold War era), it is decidedly not. Rather, the several hundred cross-referenced entries, varying in length from less than a page to several, are alphabetically arranged. This is, in some respects, unfortunate, since the promoted historical arrangement would, in fact, probably have been preferable, given the book’s purpose.

The List of Entries speaks to the wide range of topics treated, which focus primarily on individuals (some obscure), organizations, and significant events. The entries are complemented by a list of “References and Further Reading.” Although each is “signed” by its contributor (there are over 80 of them named), their credentials and affiliations are not indicated. In addition to the remaining entries, volume two contains an 11-page glossary, general bibliography, and index. Nowhere to be found therein, however, are the advertised dedicated sections (mentioned in the blurb on the back cover) that provide “overviews of important agencies in the American intelligence community and intelligence organizations in other nations . . . , plus details of spy trade techniques, and a concluding section on the portrayal of espionage in literature and film.” These are presumably covered in the entries themselves.

The disparity between the work as publicized and the final result suggests the proposed original arrangement was changed, but somebody in public relations didn’t get the word. This does not undermine the books’ overall value, however. Notwithstanding the fact it does not live up to its billing, it is substantively solid. Bound to appeal to a varied audience, academic and public libraries alike should seriously consider adding it to their collections.—David Ettinger, *International Affairs and Political Science Librarian, Gelman Library, George Washington University*

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***What Happened? An Encyclopedia of Events That Changed America Forever.*** Ed. by John E. Findling and Frank W. Thackeray. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio, 2011. 4 vols. acid free \$365 (ISBN 978-1-59884-621-8).

What are the 50 events in American history that “changed America forever”? Finding consensus among historians on

this issue would be nearly impossible; selecting the top ten might be easy (Columbus's voyage, the Civil War, Reconstruction, the New Deal, the Civil Rights movement, etc.) but selecting nos. 11 through 20, 21 through 30, and so on would spark endless debate.

The editors of *What Happened? An Encyclopedia of Events That Changed America Forever* have done a good job of selecting, describing, and interpreting the 50 events in American history that in their view had the most lasting impact on the nation. This is not a purely alphabetical encyclopedia like the venerable *Dictionary of American History* (Scribner's, 2003), nor a series of alphabetical encyclopedias for ten periods of U.S. history, as is the *Encyclopedia of American History* (Facts on File, 2003). It lists the 50 events in 4 volumes in rough chronological order. The entries average about 25 pages and include an introduction presenting the historical facts, an interpretive essay written by a specialist in the field, entries on 5 or 6 important people and events pertinent to that event, and the text of one or two significant documents. Appendixes in each volume include a timeline and a glossary.

Reference librarians may assume by the title of this work that it is a guide to battles, discoveries, riots, or the passage of landmark treaties or legislation. However, the editors have interpreted "events" to be broad social, political, and religious phenomena that in some cases span decades. The Lewis and Clark expedition does not get its own entry, but rather is one of the sub-entries under "Louisiana Purchase"; similarly, the Cuban Missile Crisis is a sub-entry under "Cold War, 1946–1991."

While the entries on the New Deal, Civil Rights movement, etc. are of high quality, this is material that will be well covered in most reference collections. What makes this work interesting and potentially valuable are the entries such as the "Suburbanization and Consumerism, 1945–1990" and "The Rise of Television, 1948–2010." Although not covered in many traditional historical reference works, these "events" have had an incalculable impact on modern American life.

*What Happened? An Encyclopedia of Events That Changed America Forever* is fairly expensive and could gather dust if reference librarians don't remember to incorporate its excellent entries into their recommendations for users who want to research a broad topic in American history. The essays provide a nice intermediate level of coverage for the researcher who doesn't want to start with a book, yet more extensive than a general or historical encyclopedia.—Peter Bliss, *Reference Librarian, University of California, Riverside*

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***World of a Slave: Encyclopedia of the Material Life of Slaves in the United States.*** Ed. by Martha B. Katz-Hyman and Kym S. Rice. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Greenwood, 2011. 2 vol. acid free. \$180.00/set. (ISBN: 978-0-313-34942-3). E-book available (978-0-313-34943-0), call for pricing.

The experience of slavery has been referred to as "a living death." One need only scan a few lines of an entry such as

"Whips" to realize the aptness of that epithet. Objects malignant and benign crowd the pages of this novel reference work, as this is primarily a catalog of artifacts, the tangible evidence left behind in the wake of the so-called "peculiar institution." In addition to articles on manmade things, such as "Auction Blocks," "Buttons," and "Coins and Currency," there are headwords for items from the natural world as well: "Fish and Shellfish," "Sugar," and "Tobacco," being but a few examples. Rounding out the coverage of subject matter are essays on institutions within the institution of slavery, as in "Benevolent Associations" and "Underground Railroad." All of the approximately 175 entries are alphabetically arranged, are signed by the individual author that wrote it, and conclude with a short bibliography for further research. The set is illustrated with crisp black and white photographs.

The editors are well versed in their respective areas of expertise. According to the biographical sketches listed on the contributor's pages, Katz-Hyman is "an independent curator and consultant to museums on historic house furnishing and interpreting pre-Civil War African American material culture" (577). Rice is "the director of the Museum Studies Program at George Washington University and a long-time curator and consultant to museums on African American interpretation" (577). Close to 90 historians, curators, college professors and others likewise engaged in scholarly pursuits wrote the majority of the articles.

What makes this such an interesting and engaging volume is the way in which the lives of enslaved African Americans are reflected in what they ate, the tools they used, the clothes they wore and all the other physical *stuff* they either made, found or otherwise put to use. As pointed out in the Introduction, the totality of these possessions ". . . suggest the ways that material goods added richness and color to an individual's life and contributed in no small measure to creating and maintaining personal and collective identity" (xi-xii). In short, material culture is one more window through which we can observe and understand the past. The reference literature on slavery is, as one would expect, extensive, but typically consists of broad overviews of the subject. A case in point is *Slavery in the United States: A Social, Political, and Historical Encyclopedia* (Junius P. Rodriguez, ed. Santa Barbara, Calif.: ABC-Clio, 2007). While these are generally well researched and informative works in their own right, the uniqueness of *World of a Slave* is that, aside from breaking new ground, the narrow focus permits in-depth discussion of an overlooked aspect of this dark chapter in American History. However, it should be noted that a highly specialized work of this nature would be most at home in equally specialized libraries, such as those that support museums, historical societies and academic institutions with curricula in archeology, American history and the like. For these niche markets, this two-volume set is highly recommended for purchase.—Michael F. Bemis, *Assistant Librarian, Washington City Library, Woodbury, Minnesota*