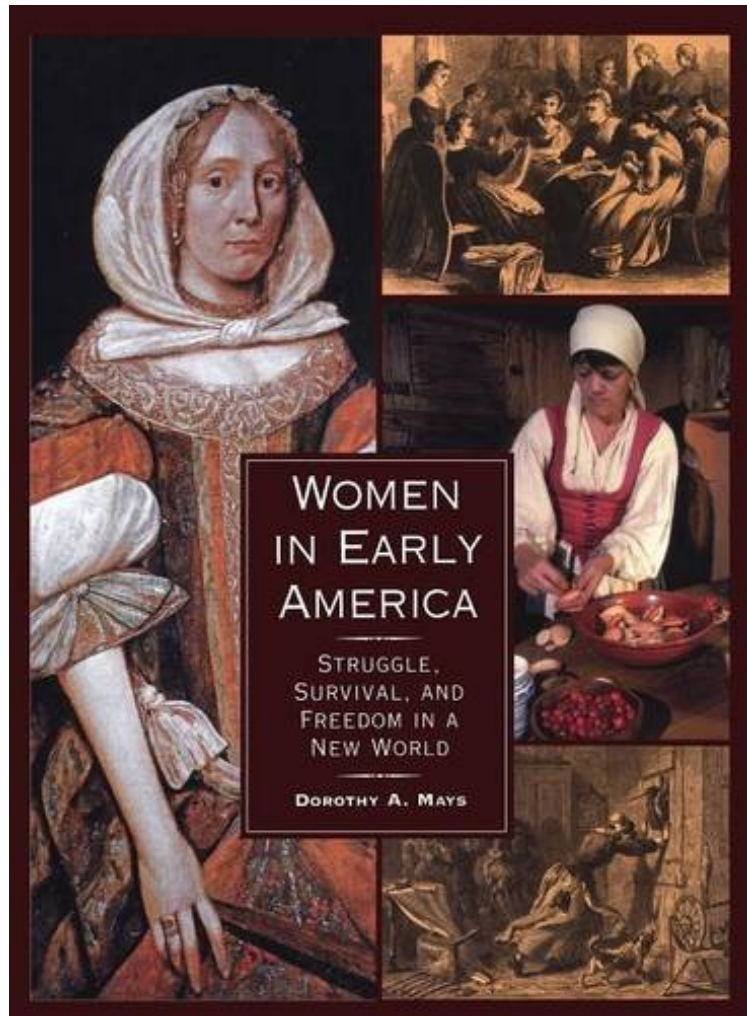


(Mobile book) Women in Early America: Struggle, Survival, and Freedom in a New World

Women in Early America: Struggle, Survival, and Freedom in a New World

Dorothy Auchter Mays
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Dorothy Auchter Mays : Women in Early America: Struggle, Survival, and Freedom in a New World before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women in Early America: Struggle, Survival, and Freedom in a New World:

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This volume fills a gap in traditional women's history books by offering fascinating details of the lives of early American women and showing how these women adapted to the challenges of daily life in the colonies. Nearly 200

AZ entries on women's lives, contributions, and struggles during the years of early America Illustrations of the habits of dress, material goods, and buildings that reflect the culture of these women Extensive annotated bibliography of recommended readings covering legal issues, ethnic groups, customs, and novels set during the era Sidebars highlighting interesting experiences of early American women

From School Library JournalGrade 8 UpMays greatly expands the scope of Carol Berkin's First Generations: Women in Colonial America (Farrar, 1996) with this alphabetically arranged encyclopedia. Combining articles on several dozen individual women with both general ("Cooking," "Sport and Leisure") and more specific ("Widowhood," "Islamic Women," "Marriage and Family among Enslaved Women") topical studies, she draws heavily from both primary sources and modern scholarship to present clear overviews of the diversity, as well as the commonalities, of both immigrant and native women's experience between 1607 and the outbreak of the War of 1812. She enhances many narratives with boxed (and sourced) asides, and an occasional dark but usually relevant black-and-white illustration. Along with a documentary appendix, the author closes with an extensive annotated bibliography, plus some Web sites, to back up the bibliographies that close nearly every article. With entries linked by an analytical index, many "see" references, and topical and alphabetic tables of contents, this resource offers large doses of easily accessible, hard-to-find-elsewhere information. Collections of any size serving students of our country's past will find it a popular and worthwhile addition. John Peters, New York Public Library Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From BooklistIntended "for pre-collegiate as well as college-level researchers," this cross-disciplinary encyclopedia makes available the research on women in America from 1607 to 1812. Approximately 175 entries cover groups (Aging women, Quaker women, Milliners and seamstresses); activities (Gardening, Quilting, Travel); and various other topics, such as Childbirth, Housing, Religion, and witchcraft. Around a quarter of the entries are biographical. In part because of the chronological limits, emphasis is on the eastern part of the territory that became the U.S and on women of European descent. Nevertheless, there are entries for African American and Native American women, among them Sally Hemmings, Pocahontas, and Phillis Wheatley, as well as for broader topics such as African American women and the American Revolution and Indian women and leadership. African American and Native American women are also represented in entries such as Diet and Interracial marriage. A number of entries shed light on unexpected topics, such as depression and personal hygiene. Entries generally range in length from one to seven pages, and each includes a list of further readings. Numerous black-and-white illustrations and informative sidebars (for example, "Did Puritans Really Use Scarlet Letters?" and "Eighteenth-Century Cough Medicine") complement the text. The A-Z entries are followed by two appendixes, one describing common household chores of the period and the other containing 10 primary documents. The bibliography, organized into broad categories and annotated, is an extremely useful resource, listing historical fiction and online databases as well as primary and secondary sources. Navigational aids include cross-references, a "Topic Finder" that lists entries by category, and a robust index. Though there is some overlap with other resources, especially in the biographical entries, the value of this work lies in the particular context it provides. It would be an excellent addition to academic and larger public libraries. Mary Ellen Quinn Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved " the value of this work lies in the particular context it provides. It would be an excellent addition to academic and larger libraries." - Booklist "With entries linked by an analytical index, many 'see' references, and topical and alphabetic tables of contents, this resource offers large doses of easily accessible, hard-to-find-elsewhere information. Collections of any size serving students of our country's past will find it a popular and worthwhile addition." - School Library Journal "Mays (librarian, Rollins College) offers in her fascinating encyclopedia insight into the lives of ordinary women, 1607-1812. Highly recommended. General and academic readers." - Choice "This work will be an excellent addition to any high school or college library." - American Reference Books Annual