

Resources

Forgotten Patriots: A Book Review

Diane L. Richard reviews the DAR's second edition of this fantastic resource

THE DAUGHTERS OF the American Revolution (DAR) has released the second edition of *Forgotten Patriots*. This detailed book identifies more than 6,600 names of African Americans and American Indians who contributed to American independence and is a nearly five-fold expansion in pages over the 2001 edition. It contains details of the documented service of the listed patriots, historical commentary on happenings of the time, an assortment of illustrations and an extensive bibliography of research sources related to the topic.

For US-based African Americans and American Indians, the book is organized by geographic regions (the Northern States and the South). Within the Northern States you have a further breakdown into New England and Middle Atlantic, with chapters for the individual states. Within the South, there is a chapter per state.

There are also chapters on the Old Midwest, Miscellaneous Naval and Military Records, Foreign Allies and West Indies.

Additionally, several appendices elaborate on related topics: Map of the Enslaved Population — 1790 Census, Documenting the Color of Participants in the American Revolution, Names as Clues to Finding Forgotten Patriots, The Numbers of Minority Participants in the Revolution, etc.

For each state-focused chapter, you first have an overview of that state, the impact of the Revolutionary War and an assessment of the availability of records for identifying "minority" participation in the conflict. For example, for

North Carolina, it is stated "North Carolina's records have been reluctant to reveal the names of very many African American participants in the Revolution. Color references are largely absent in the sources from the late 18th century;

driver, JWLBRM1:II:115, Franklin Co.

- Bell, Richard, Lumbee Indian, W25231 [wife Candis reported in W25231 that he died August 6, 1848], RNC:453, OLIK, Anson Co., res. Randolph Co.

- Gowen/Goins, Jenkins, Mixed descent ("Mulatto"), RNC:600, HEI-2, GC:1:11, Granville Co.

- Jeffries, John, ("Dark"), HEI-2 (Continental Line), Bute Co.

- Mason, Patrick, "Free Colored", 1800NC, HEI-2, Person Co.

Some examples of found documentation are also reproduced and an extensive bibliography is provided. Similar information is also included in non state-specific chapters.

If you are researching African American (whether free or slave) or American Indian participation in the Revolutionary War, regardless of locale, check out this book — between the names listed and the bibliographies included, this book is invaluable. You can

purchase it from the DAR for \$35 US (plus \$8 S&H). It can be ordered online from the DAR Store, <http://www.dar.org/omni/shopping/shopping.html>, or by calling the store toll-free at 1-888-673-2732.



American Indians were even more hidden in the North Carolina sources of this period." Next is a listing of abbreviations and sources used in documentation for Revolutionary War service, which is followed by an alphabetical listing of those identified as serving in the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783.

These entries from North Carolina illustrate the information provided for each patriot.

- African American Man ("Negro"), Patriotic Service, enslaved man of Presly Nelms,