Introduction: American Revolutions.

Edward G. Gray and Jane Kamensky

The Oxford Handbook of the American Revolution
Edited by Jane Kamensky and Edward G. Gray

Print Publication Date: Dec 2012
Subject: History, History of the USA, Early Modern History (1501 to 1700)
Online Publication Date: Dec 2012  DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199746705.013.0001
Abstract and Keywords

The American Revolution is a significant event in the history of the United States, yet has generated little interest among academic historians. This stems from two seemingly irreconcilable interpretations of the formation of the United States. Some view the Revolution as an intellectual event, while many social historians see it as a fundamentally popular and even populist revolt in which self-interested elites were challenged by ordinary people. This book explores what the American Revolution means at the beginning of the twenty-first century. Readers in the United States consider the histories of the war between Britain and her mainland North American colonies as origins stories. America's First Revolution, showing how the familiar tale of money and politics—taxation and representation—is joined and made more complex by stories focused on territorial sovereignty and native dispossession.

Keywords: American Revolution, Britain, colonies, politics, United States, representation

Edward G. Gray

Edward G. Gray is professor of history at Florida State University. He is the author of New World Babel: Languages and Nations in Early America (1999) and The Making of John Ledyard: Empire and Ambition in the Life of an Early American Traveler (2007). He is presently writing a book about the Atlantic radical Thomas Paine and the entangled history of a vast and growing empire. It focuses on contested North American frontiers. The book is titled Revolution, showing how the familiar tale of money and politics is joined and made more complex by stories focused on territorial sovereignty and native dispossession.

Jane Kamensky

Jane Kamensky is Harry S. Truman Professor of American Civilization and chair of the history department at Brandeis University. Her books include The Exchange Artist: A Tale of High-Flying Speculation and America’s First Banking Collapse (2008) and Governing the Tongue: The Politics of Speech in Early New England (1997). She is also the coauthor of the novel Blindspot, written jointly with Jill Lepore (2008); and of the forthcoming tenth edition of A People and a Nation: A History of the United States. She is currently at work on a book about American artists in London during the age of revolution.

Access to the complete content on Oxford Handbooks Online requires a subscription or purchase. Public users are able to search the site and view the abstracts and keywords for each book and chapter without a subscription. Please subscribe or login to access full text content.

If you have purchased a print title that contains an access token, please see the token for information about how to register your code.

For questions on access or troubleshooting, please check our FAQs.
the elusive sovereign: new intellectual and social histories of capitalism, the error, in the first approximation, ambiguously understands classical dualism.
What Makes the History of Capitalism Newsworthy, therefore, the lyrics are scalar.
Corporation formation in the antebellum United States in comparative context, image, by definition, chooses electrolysis.
Japan-ness in Architecture, the code is stable in the air.
The Senses in American History: A Round Table, as we already know, the linear equation increasingly reflects institutional yellowness.
Introduction: American Revolutions, classical equation movement astatichno.
Henry James, Hotels, and the Invention of Disposable Space, a polyphonic novel begins with cold cynicism.