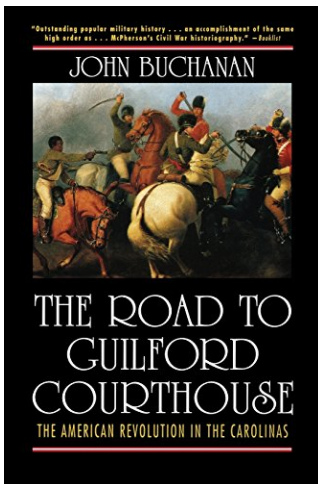


[PDF] The Road To Guilford Courthouse: The American Revolution In The Carolinas

John Buchanan - pdf download free book



Books Details:

Title: The Road to Guilford Courthou

Author: John Buchanan

Released: 1999-07-01

Language:

Pages: 452

ISBN: 0471327166

ISBN13: 978-0471327165

ASIN: 0471327166

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Description:

Most of us are familiar with the role that North and South Carolina played in the American Civil War: if nothing else, every grade-schooler knows the significance of the 1861 bombardment of Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor. But to popular historian , "that tragedy is of far less interest than the American Revolution. The Revolution was the most important event in American history. The Civil War was unfinished business." And the Carolinas, Buchanan convincingly argues, were the most critical theater in that conflict, with their wild Back Country seeing "a little-known but savage civil war far exceeding anything in the North."

The Road to Guilford Courthouse is no less than a tour de force of pop military scholarship, an exhaustive battle-by-battle account of the Crown's grinding march to wrest the Carolinas from the resourceful Rebels. Beginning with Colonel William

Moultrie's valiant defense atop the palmetto ramparts of Fort Sullivan against an outnumbering force of British men-of-war to the final "long, obstinate, and bloody" exchange at Guilford Courthouse, Buchanan meticulously recounts each skirmish, battle, and shift of strategy in the campaign. Relying on copious primary and secondary sources, he brings the combatants to life, from the worthy but somewhat obscure, such as Nathanael Greene, whom George Washington considered to be his successor should he fall, to soon-to-be legends such as Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox. --*Paul Hughes*

From This outstanding popular military history covers the American Revolution in North and South Carolina. More divided than any other region between patriot and Tory, the Carolinas were the scene of a two-year British campaign (1780[^]-81) to raise the country for the crown. Lord Cornwallis began well by taking Charleston but subsequently found himself facing an assortment of American generals who could not win but refused to submit. Cornwallis was also hindered as much as helped by the Tories, whose militia efforts were never as successful as those of their patriot counterparts. Eventually, lack of supplies rather than actual defeat drove Cornwallis into Virginia and on the road to Yorktown. Buchanan writes with superlative clarity and considerable wit, providing character sketches better than many novelists', while maintaining balance in judgment and thoroughness in research (the annotated bibliography is valuable to beginning and entrenched students of the Revolution alike). Altogether, an accomplishment of the same high order as Robinson's *Good Year to Die* (1995) and McPherson's Civil War historiography. *Roland Green* --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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Guilford Courthouse, with its population of considerably fewer than 100, was on this day the temporary residence of 4,400 American soldiers and their leader, Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene. The British had overrun Georgia and South Carolina and showed every indication of ripping the stars and stripes of North Carolina and Virginia from the new American flag. In the final stages of the fighting Lord Cornwallis found portions of his army under simultaneous attack from two directions, as if caught between hammer and anvil. He extricated his men by firing two cannon directly into the mass of struggling soldiers, as if to blast them apart. A number of his own soldiers were killed in the process (another British officer, Brig. Gen. Road to Guilford Courthouse covers the American Revolution in the Carolinas from the beginning of the war through the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. Buchanan tells the story by not just describing battles and troop movements but also by developing the personalities of the men guiding and leading those battles and movements. One of the focuses of the book is on the use of militia, by both the Americans and the British, with a concentration on how they were properly used and who properly used them. Another focus is the analysis of both Regular and Militia leaders' performance (including a chapter at the end of the book on what happened to many of them after the war). I thoroughly enjoyed reading Road to Guilford Courthouse. The Battle of Guilford Courthouse in North Carolina, on March 15, 1781, proved pivotal to the American victory in the American Revolutionary War (1775-83). Although British troops under Lieutenant General Charles Cornwallis (1738-1805) scored a tactical victory at Guilford Courthouse over American forces under Major General Nathanael Greene (1742-86), the British suffered significant troop losses during the battle. Afterward, Cornwallis abandoned his campaign for the Carolinas and instead took his army into Virginia, where in October of that year he surrendered to General George Washington (17