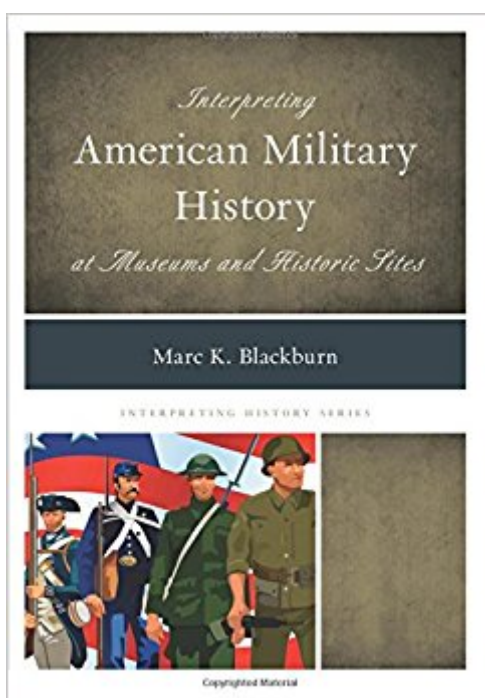


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Interpreting American Military History At Museums And Historic Sites (Interpreting History)



Synopsis

While the lessons of the past are equally important today as when they first occurred, the trouble lies in making them accessible to modern-audiences. *Interpreting American Military History at Museums and Historic Sites* provides a guide to turning those important American military moments into relevant and captivating experiences. The book acts as a primer for those unfamiliar with academic trends of the last forty years.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Drawing on both his own experience and the work of others, Marc K. Blackburn has crafted an essential introduction for beginners, and an excellent refresher for experienced interpreters of America's complex military history. He traces and examines the techniques and goals of historical interpretation over the last decades and provides a framework to build a contemporary model. Blackburn also distills three hundred years of America's wars into a condensed and understandable form for interpreters to access. This is not a dry academic exercise, but practical information on improving the public dialogue on American military history. For those who handle the important task of helping visitors and guests make relevant connections to our past conflicts, *Interpreting American Military History at Museums and Historic Sites* should render indispensable service. (Alan D. Gutchess, Director, Fort Pitt Museum)

Marc K. Blackburn earned a BA in history at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington and a Ph.D. with an emphasis on modern American military and diplomatic history from Temple University. Greenwood Press published his dissertation, "A New Form of Transportation, The Quartermaster Corps and Standardization of the US Army's Motor Trucks" in 1996. He has worked for the National Park Service since 1994, presently at the Mount Rainier National Park in Washington. Dr. Blackburn has always been drawn to interpretation facilitating opportunities for the public to make connections to the meanings inherent in the resources we protect. He has worked as a peer reviewer in the NPS interpretive development program since 2004 and has given presentations on various aspects of historical interpretation at the Western Museum Association and the National Association for Interpretation annual meetings.

I'm on the BoD of a military museum and found the book to be enlightening and informative.

This book contains extremely helpful information for museums and historic sites that might be interested in displaying and interpreting military history of the United States. The author not only clearly states the military timeline throughout U.S. history, but also gives examples of a variety of interpretive ideas that a museum might consider when displaying and discussing military topics with visitors. Even if your American museum or historic site isn't centered around war, I would suggest you read this book to see whether you might consider adding a military element to your interpretive displays.

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