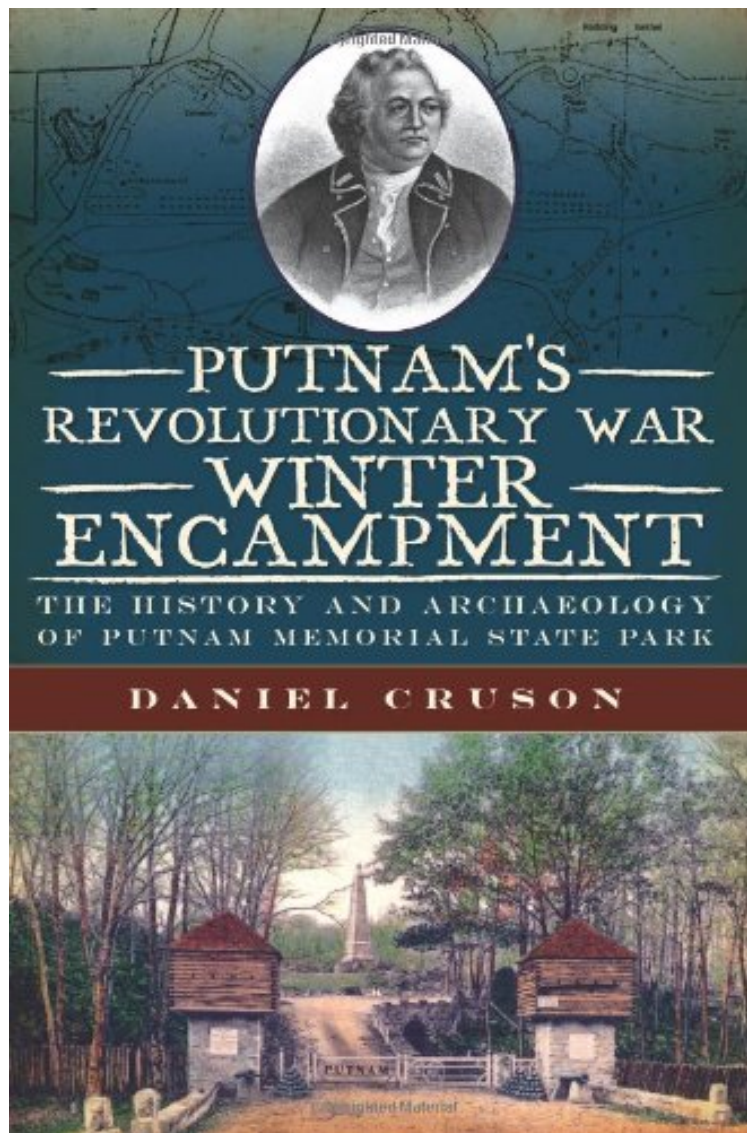


(Pdf free) Putnam's Revolutionary War Winter Encampment:: The History and Archaeology of Putnam Memorial State Park

Putnam's Revolutionary War Winter Encampment:: The History and Archaeology of Putnam Memorial State Park

Daniel Cruson

*DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub*



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#746750 in Books History Press 2011-08-11 2011-08-11 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .31 x 6.00l, .48 #File Name: 1609492315160 pages | File size: 20.Mb

Daniel Cruson : Putnam's Revolutionary War Winter Encampment:: The History and Archaeology of Putnam Memorial State Park before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Putnam's Revolutionary War Winter Encampment:: The History and Archaeology of Putnam Memorial State Park:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. An excellent local study with new archeology and historical

researchBy T. AbbottThe 1778-1779 winter encampment of a portion of Washington's Army in Redding, Connecticut is less well known than those that took place during the American Revolution at Valley Forge or Jockey Hollow, but that is one of the very things that attracts historians and history buffs alike to this period. There is plenty of room for fresh research, and in particular for the skills of the archaeologist and those of the historian to dramatically reinterpret everything from the material culture of the time to the ebb and flow of battle. When such scholarship is combined in an attractive, readable style, it is of particular value and interest. Such is the case with Daniel Cruson's (2011) "Putnam's Revolutionary War Winter Encampment: The History and Archeology of Putnam Memorial Park". Mr. Cruson is a dedicated historian and clearly was a fine teacher of anthropology and local history. Now in retirement, he shares more than a decade of research and excavations with his students and volunteers at Redding's Putnam Park, where in the best tradition of public / private partnerships he and those responsible for the care and preservation of the site recognized the benefits of collaboration. The Park authorities were willing to let the evidence speak for itself when it contradicted long established interpretations of the site, and to their credit also recognized the value of leaving erroneous but now historic reconstructions in place with new signage reflecting Cruson's team's research. Along the way, they made excellent use of an unpublished enlisted man's diary housed in the Pennsylvania Historical Society and may possibly have excavated the very hut site where Sgt. Maj. John Hawkins spent the winter. They also determined that what was once thought to be a cemetery is far more likely to be the remains of Lt. Col. Henry Dearborn's two room officer hut, that an artillery park may have stood where the reconstructed enlisted man's hut stands today, and theorize that a powder magazine was more likely at the site of a reconstructed officer's hut. The text is amplified by a number of historical images and maps, by photographs of the site, and especially by some exceptionally fine artifact drawings by Carol Franson-Serra. Cruson treats the entire site as an artifact, examining not only the events of that winter but how it was remembered and commemorated through the history of the park itself. As one who is very familiar with the new, although to my knowledge not published research at Jockey Hollow in Morristown National Historical Park, I was struck by both the similarities and differences in hut construction at each of these sites (apparently the chimney's were places on the wall opposite the door at the Redding Encampment, whereas evidence suggests they may have been on a side wall, and possibly even contained entirely inside the structures themselves at Jockey Hollow). Cruson's team determined the layout of the floors of the huts they excavated by a layer of bone scatter from the soldier's meals, and were able to determine that much of the wood was likely salvaged by the property owner once the armies moved on. This is an important contribution to period scholarship as well as local history and I am grateful both to Mr. Cruson and his publisher for making it available to us. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy William P. L. Maynard IIIa+ thank you! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting. Being a part of my family and learning ...By Jennie MeyerInteresting. Being a part of my family and learning about the camp was very interesting to me.

Putnam State Park, Connecticut's first state park, was the site of Revolutionary War general Israel Putnam's last command. In the winter of 1778-79, three thousand troops of the Continental army built and lived in "the city," a winter encampment in the valleys of northern Redding. Historian Daniel Cruson describes in fascinating archaeological detail the construction of the camp and the soldiers' daily struggle to survive. Mutiny, execution, skirmishes and the heroism of Putnam himself are revealed in this compelling history. The story of Putnam State Park doesn't end when Continental troops marched out to engage the British; Cruson takes readers from the creation of the park itself to the present day.

About the AuthorDaniel Cruson is a retired high school teacher who designed and taught courses in anthropology and local history. His abiding interest in these fields has led him to do extensive research and writing on the history of the towns of central Fairfield County, including Easton, Redding and Newtown, as well as conducting several archaeological investigations in these towns in an attempt to learn more about the lifestyles of their past citizens. He has investigated deeply the subjects of rural slavery, vintage photography, early Connecticut architecture, colonial and post-colonial road building and early cemeteries and their grave markers. Mr. Cruson has been a member of the historical society in Newtown, where he lives, for forty years, having served as its president for five years. He was also a charter member of the Easton Historical Society and served a number of years on its board of trustees and as vice-president. Mr. Cruson is active with the Heritage Preservation Trust of Newtown, Society of American Archeology and the Archaeological Society of Connecticut, for which he is currently serving as president. He is also the town historian for Newtown and served as the chairman of the Newtown Tercentennial Commission in 2005. He has published several books.