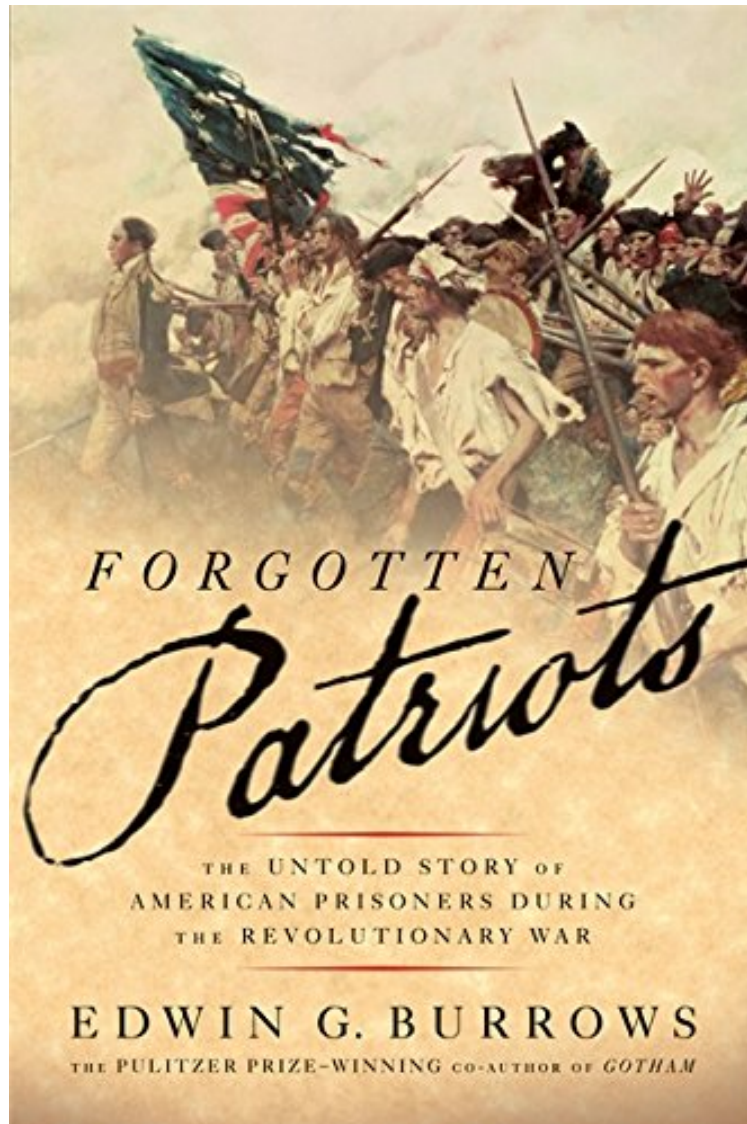


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## Forgotten Patriots: The Untold Story of American Prisoners During the Revolutionary War

*Edwin G. Burrows*

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**Edwin G. Burrows : Forgotten Patriots: The Untold Story of American Prisoners During the Revolutionary War** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Forgotten Patriots: The Untold Story of American Prisoners During the Revolutionary War:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I just wanted to learn more about the plight of prisoners during the

Revolutionary War after learning that my 5th great grandfather was taken prisoner at the Battle of Fort Washington and was held in the Old North Church. I wanted to know more about the my ancestor's trials and tribulations during that time. This book sure delivered.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Well done.By Ted FrederickVery graphic description of the huge price these men paid for our freedom. The reader will need a strong stomach to finish the very graphic suffering and death of these patriots.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I have family that was taken prisoner during the Revolution ...By redhedmedicI have family that was taken prisoner during the Revolution. This book appears well researched and is well written. Shed tons of light on the experience of the average Revolutionary prisoner. Jamaica Bay will never be the same....

Between 1775 and 1783, some 200,000 Americans took up arms against the British Crown. Just over 6,800 of those men died in battle. About 25,000 became prisoners of war, most of them confined in New York City under conditions so atrocious that they perished by the thousands. Evidence suggests that at least 17,500 Americans may have died in these prisonsmore than twice the number to die on the battlefield. It was in New York, not Boston or Philadelphia, where most Americans gave their lives for the cause of independence.New York City became the jailhouse of the American Revolution because it was the principal base of the Crown's military operations. Beginning with the bumper crop of American captives taken during the 1776 invasion of New York, captured Americans were stuffed into a hastily assembled collection of public buildings, sugar houses, and prison ships. The prisoners were shockingly overcrowded and chronically underfedthose who escaped alive told of comrades so hungry they ate their own clothes and shoes.Despite the extraordinary number of lives lost, *Forgotten Patriots* is the first-ever account of what took place in these hell-holes. The result is a unique perspective on the Revolutionary War as well as a sobering commentary on how Americans have remembered our struggle for independenceand how much we have forgotten.

"Washington Post Book World""[A] pathbreaking examination of the treatment of American prisoners during the Revolutionary War... Burrows's book is a landmark whose significance far outweighs recent, popular biographies of the Founding Fathers. His sparkling prose, meticulous research and surprising findings recast our understanding of how the new nation was brought forth... Burrows masterfully explores a subject that had been left nearly untouched for more than two centuries."Seattle Times""[Burrows] offers riveting accounts of what prison life was like in New York...It is as if, more than 200 years later, fitting tribute has finally been paid."About the AuthorEdwin G. Burrows is Distinguished Professor of History at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. He is the co-author of *Gotham: A History of New York City to 1898*, which won the 1999 Pulitzer Prize for History, and has received awards also from the Municipal Art Society, the St. Nicholas Society, and the New York Society Library, among others. Mayor Rudolph Giuliani named him a Centennial Historian of New York. For the past five years Burrows has been a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians, and he serves on the board of the Dyckman Farmhouse Museum in Manhattan. He lives in Northport, New York.