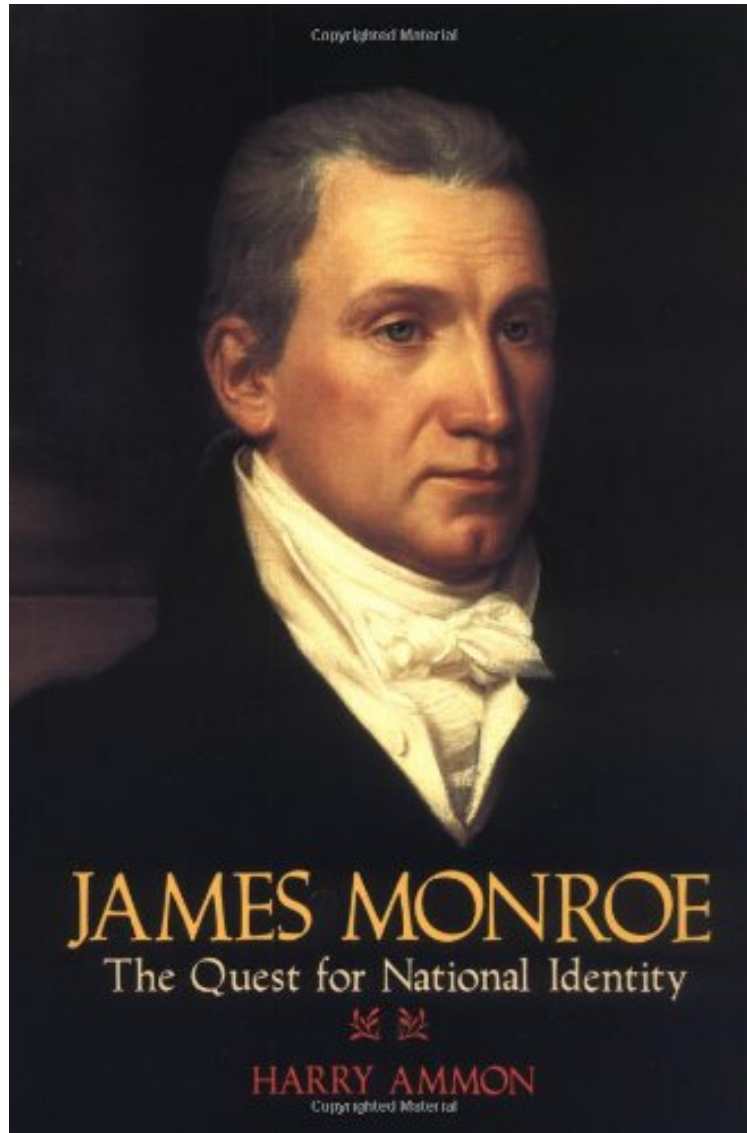


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James Monroe: The Quest for National Identity

Harry Ammon

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#704863 in Books University of Virginia Press 1990-03-15 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.25 x 6.25 x 2.001, 2.20 #File Name: 0813912660706 pages | File size: 65.Mb

Harry Ammon : James Monroe: The Quest for National Identity before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised James Monroe: The Quest for National Identity:

14 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Authoritative but Ponderous Life of Monroe By Steve Fast This biography is an authoritative account of Monroe's life. Although Monroe seems to have been a highly private person who never wrote about non-political subjects in his letters and left no diary, Ammon writes an amazingly complete review of his life. Another strength of the book is how well Ammon covers the careers of the contenders for the presidency in 1825 (JQ Adams, Crawford, Clay, and Jackson). Most authors tend to be biased in their writings on

these polarizing figures, but Ammon is fair in his judgments. He also goes beyond JQA's diary as a source for Crawford, which is a big plus since JQA loathed (probably with good reason) Crawford. The writing is more scholarly than memorable, so it can be tough slogging at points. Also, the book is sparse on analysis and interpretation. It is subtitled "Quest for National Identity," but I don't see that Ammon makes the case for how Monroe was involved in the creation of the American identity. He is actually much more interested in Monroe's relations with the dying Federalist Party and how the four-way presidential election of 1825 affected Monroe's second term than he is with the formation of a national identity. Overall, the book is well worth reading, but it's not an easy read and Ammon could have done better at relating the significance of Monroe. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. many gems. By nick masterson this book was very educational about those times. lots of detail. many gems I loved it. if you want to learn about a period in American history its good to read a biography of the president of that time. this book certainly delivered that. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great biography By Customer Very very good. I knew very little about Monroe before I bought this book. But now, after reading this wonderful biography, I feel like I know much. The author had no apparent political bias. The book was very well researched. Highly recommended.

A biography of James Monroe who became the fifth president of the United States in 1816. Ammon recreates his remarkable career, through his service in the revolutionary army, the Confederation Congress, to his exertions in James Madison's cabinet and his subsequent presidency.

"This monumental survey of James Monroe's life and career is exhaustively researched and documented, a work of patient and perceptive scholarship that sheds a good deal of light on the politics and personalities of the early American Republic. (Publishers Weekly)" From Monroe's birth on the Virginia Tidewater, through his service in the revolutionary army, the Confederation Congress, the United States Senate, and as governor of Virginia, to his diplomatic missions, exertions in Madison's cabinet, and presidency, we now have a detailed authoritative recording of that remarkable career.. One feels sure that we now have, for a long time to come, the book on Monroe to which all will turn. (Ralph Ketcham Virginia Magazine of History and Biography) About the Author Harry Ammon is Professor Emeritus off History at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. He is also the author of The Genet Mission (1973).