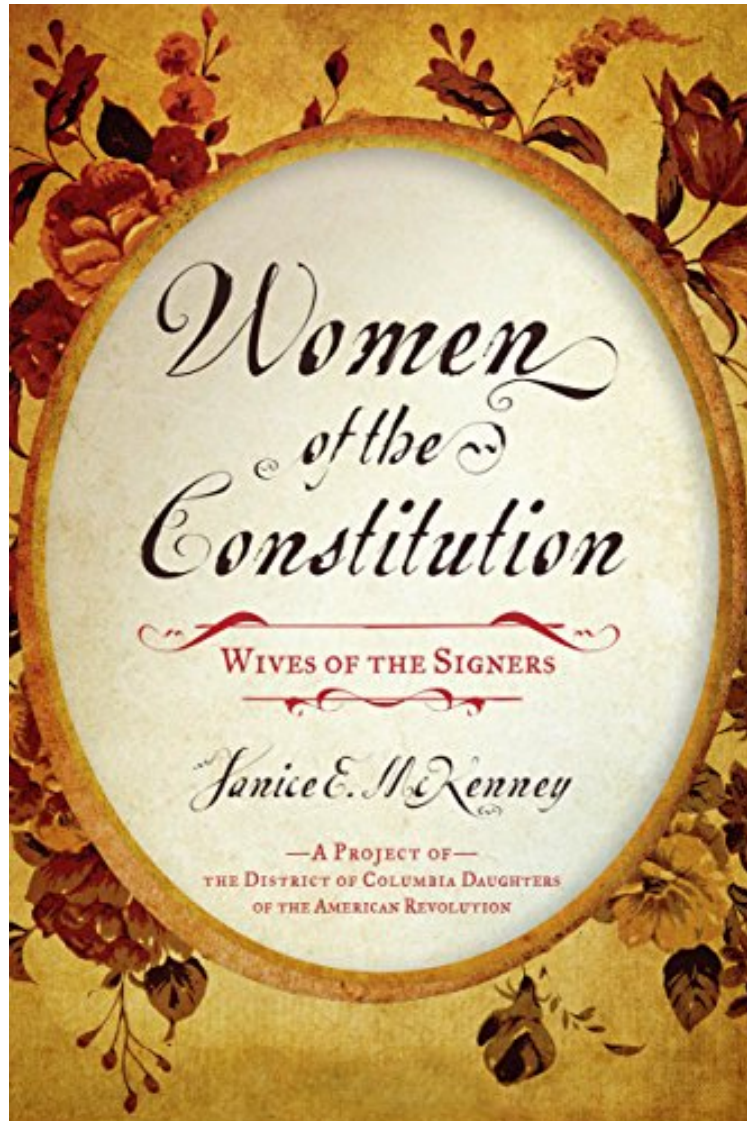


[Download free ebook] Women of the Constitution: Wives of the Signers

Women of the Constitution: Wives of the Signers

Janice E. McKenney

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Janice E. McKenney : Women of the Constitution: Wives of the Signers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Women of the Constitution: Wives of the Signers:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Ladies FoundBy VA DuckIf you are an interested student of the people of the Constitution - this book is a must. I think that it is fair to say that it is also a FIRST, there is simply nothing like it. Be aware that it is an ENCYCLOPEDIA presentation: it will normally be accessed as a reference document, although it is readable cover-to-cover if you like, but there is no continuous story line. Each of the 43 ladies

is treated as a separate biography (36 of 39 signers wives and seven more through re-marriage following a death: three signers never married.) It can be all too easy to "forget" the wives of the Signers, and except for a name and date of marriage - the women ARE often ignored! This book sets about fixing that oversight. The record in some cases, as the book's author Janice E. McKenney mentions, can be scant, but pulling together what there is in a single volume is a large step forward. It is unfortunate that the book didn't include all of the 55 (participating) Delegates to the Constitutional Convention. There are some interesting characters of the 16 that are left out by focusing only on the 36 married (or to be married) signers. Portraits are by necessity uneven, but where they exist (31) they are included. A very nice bonus is the Appendix of Historic Houses associated with the wives of the signers; some houses private, but many public. If you live on the East Coast or travel there, the appendix offers a convenient means to see for yourself the architecture and sense the history of the 18th century. There are 201 pages devoted to the ladies and another 40 afterward for the already mentioned Appendix and a very well done index. This book nicely compliments Joseph Morton's *Shapers of the Great Debate at the Constitutional Convention of 1787: A Biographical Dictionary* and it also augments John R. Vile's *The Constitutional Convention of 1787: A Comprehensive Encyclopedia of America's Founding* (2 Volume Set). Five stars is high praise on the , but this is a seminal work. If there is a complaint it is the price, but even so - worth it if this is your interest. Well done D.A.R.!

10 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars
By Customer Thorough, informative, rather dry. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars
By Holly Richards Great

Women of the Constitution follows in the footsteps of the 1912 work *The Wives of the Signers*, which was devoted to biographical sketches of the spouses of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. This new publication will be the first work devoted exclusively to brief biographies of the forty-three wives of the signers of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787. Each entry includes vital information, where known such as birth, parents, marriage, children, and death as well as a footnoted biography with its own bibliography. Also provided are illustrations of many of the wives and their homes, as well as an appendix describing the now historic residences in which the signers and their spouses resided.

McKenney (Field Artillery; Air Defence Artillery) here provides concise details on the wives of the signers of the U.S. Constitution. The book, a project of the District of Columbia Daughters of the American Revolution, is well researched, with information from primary sources where available. Each entry begins with a block of basic biographical data such as places and dates of birth and death and details on the woman's marriage and children; the entries that follow provide further facts about the wives' education, family, and married life. Most of the entries include a photo or illustration and all entries include notes and a bibliography. An appendix provides information about the historic homes of the subjects. VERDICT Any researcher interested in women's lives in Colonial America could use this title as a starting point for their research. The book will be a useful addition to reference collections at school, public, and two-year college libraries. (Library Journal) This title, a project of the District of Columbia Daughters of the American Revolution, provides concise details on the wives of the signers of the U.S. Constitution. Research for the title was done primarily from primary sources and entries include such information as place of birth and death, details of their marriage and children, education, and family. Many of the entries are accompanied by a photograph or illustration and all include a useful bibliography. The work includes an appendix that lists historic homes of the women mentioned in the book. Useful for academic and high school libraries, this title will be of interest to anyone researching Colonial American history as well as historical women's studies. . . . [I]t will serve well as a jumping-off point to more detailed research. (American Reference Books Annual) Reading this book. . . . may provide useful bits of information for researchers. The notes and bibliographies, for instance, may prove to be good resources. (Feminist Collections: A Quarterly Of Women's Studies Resources) About the Author Janice E. McKenney is a military historian and is retired from the U.S. Army Center of Military History. She has published books and articles on U.S. Army artillery.