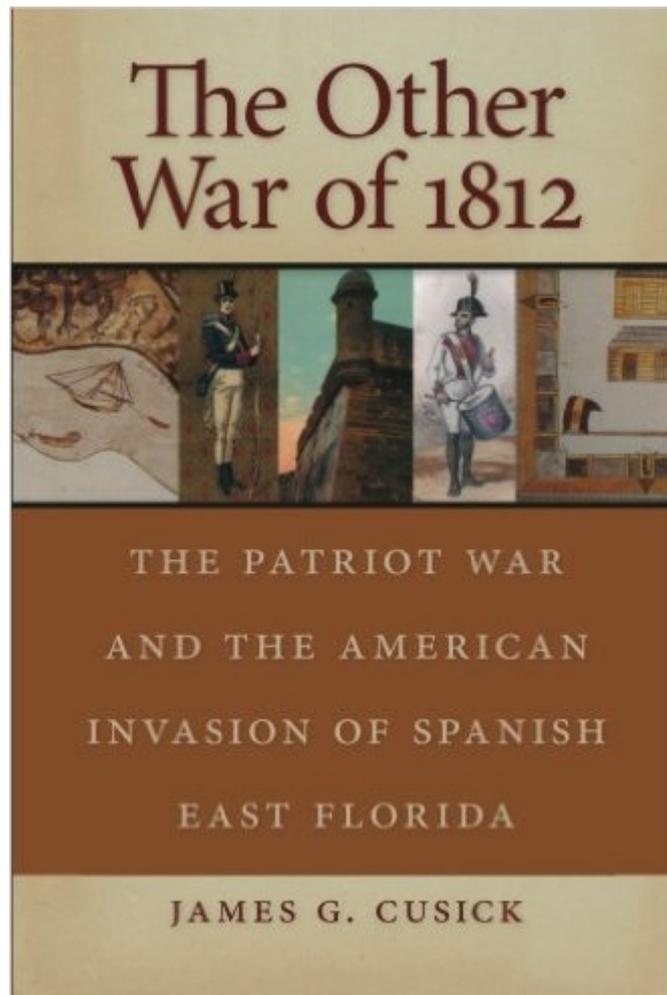


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The Other War Of 1812: The Patriot War And The American Invasion Of Spanish East Florida



Synopsis

Resurrecting a forgotten chapter in transatlantic history, James G. Cusick tells how, just before the United States went to war against Great Britain in 1812, an ill-advised invasion of a Spanish colony became a stage on which the young republic clumsily acted out its imperial ambitions and racial fears. With the halfhearted backing of President James Madison and Secretary of State James Monroe, a party of Georgians invaded East Florida, confident that partisans there would help them swiftly wrest the colony away from Spain. The raid was a strategic and political disaster. Few sympathizers materialized, official U.S. support dissolved, and an extended guerrilla war ensued. This was the "other war of 1812," or the Patriot War. Cusick, a lively storyteller as well as a meticulous scholar, conveys the savagery of the borderlands conflict that pitted American adventurers and anti-Spanish partisans against Spanish loyalists and their allies, who included Seminole Indians and escaped slaves. At the same time, Cusick looks at the American motivations behind the invasion, including apprehensions about Florida's growing population of unregulated blacks and geopolitical intrigues involving Spain, Britain, and France.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I read this after seeing it on a War of 1812 bicentennial list. It had a great deal of new information, focussing mostly on the South and how that fit into the larger War of 1812--mostly a subject hardly mentioned in other books. As such it had a great deal of new and interesting material on Florida, New Orleans and the Creek Indians--all topics that usually come into being very late in other histories of the war. I liked the subject and new take but I found it more than a little hard going. It is

clearly written for academics, which I am not, with lots of historiography, discussions of other historians and footnotes. That is fine, but I thought it helpful to forewarn general interest readers.

This book is very descriptive of the events that happened in north Florida during the war of 1812. The book is based on real documents; therefore, its content is real. Not only give information about the details of the war; but it describes the events that took place during that time, and its consequences, as well the occupations of the citizens, and it give some of their names. A map of Old Fernandina shows the streets' names. Because of this book I can visit Fernandina and have an idea where those people lived even though the houses are not longer there. This is an awesome book for Florida history lovers. A job very well done!!!!

I live on Amelia Island and do love history, thought I could not learn more about this subject till I read this book by James G. Cusick. If you love U.S. History or the history of the southeast this book is for you!

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