

RECENT REVIEWS

Working Americans Series

Working Americans, 1880-1999, Vol. I: The Working Class

Working Americans, 1880-1999, Vol. II: The Middle Class

Working Americans, 1880-1999, Vol. III: The Upper Class

Working Americans, 1880-1999, Vol. IV: Their Children

Working Americans, 1880-2003, Volume V: Americans at War

Working Americans, 1880-2004, Volume VI: Women at Work

Working Americans, 1880-2006, Volume VII: Social Movements

Working Americans, 1880-2007, Volume VIII: Immigrants

Working Americans, 1770-1869, Volume IX: The Rev. War to the Civil War

Working Americans, 1880-2009, Volume X: Sports & Recreation

Working Americans, 1880-2010, Volume XI: Inventors & Entrepreneurs

Working Americans, 1880-2011, Volume XII: Our History Through Music

“From many standpoints, this is a wonderful book... The chapters are consistent in format, covering life at home and at work as well as family budgets, incomes, and the prices of goods and services... Overall this volume is a great combination of history, economics, and sociology. Summing Up: Highly recommended.”

-CHOICE

“This is a wonderful teaching tool with an engaging layout and fact-filled content, perfect for secondary and post-secondary educators seeking to enliven history courses.”

-Library Journal

“The 12th in a series on working class Americans, this unique volume portrays music and musicians in America over the past 130 years. Historical photographs and images provide visuals and scattered throughout are charts of contemporary prices for various consumer goods. Timelines are a useful feature... The intent of the work is to profile individuals involved in music at all levels of the work and the publisher in large achieves that lofty goal.”

-ARBA

“Studded with period photographs and advertisements, bulleted lists of enlightening details, and sidebars containing period magazine articles and diary entries, this is an extraordinary contextual tool for teachers.”

- Library Journal

Grey House Publishing

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“The accounts of the families make compelling reading. The overview of the decade that begins each chapter and the economic profile provided for each decade are useful for setting the context of the lives of the families examined. But it is the accounts of each family’s experiences that make for the most compelling reading. Although existing sources contain the economic data and major events of the decades covered, this volume is unique in that it puts a human face on the statistics...Each family profile also provides great insight into the manner in which the challenges and struggles of working-class families has changed across the decades. The volume ‘promises to enhance our understanding of the growth and development of the working class over more than a century.’ It capably fulfills this promise. This work will be a valuable tool for both researchers and educators. It is recommended for all types of libraries.”

–ARBA

“A unique study of the American working class...Overall, this volume engages and informs, contributing significantly and meaningfully to the historiography of the working class in America...A compelling and well-organized contribution for those interested in social history and the complexities of working Americans.”

–*Library Journal*

“This work is highly recommended for school libraries from middle school through high school as well as college libraries from community college through graduate school. It should be found in public libraries of every size.”

–ARBA

“This eighth volume in the Working Americans series takes a thematic approach, and like the rest of the series, it describes its topic not by focusing on the achievements of the famous but on ordinary people. The volume is arranged by decade, and for each decade, two or three people who typify the immigrant experience are profiled. Accompanying the profiles are time lines, reproduction of period advertisements, excerpts from newspaper and magazine articles, and other items providing a sense of the period.”

–*Booklist*

“Derks adds to the genre of social history known as “history from the bottom up,” which examines the lives of ordinary people... Recommended for all college and university library collections.”

–*Choice*

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