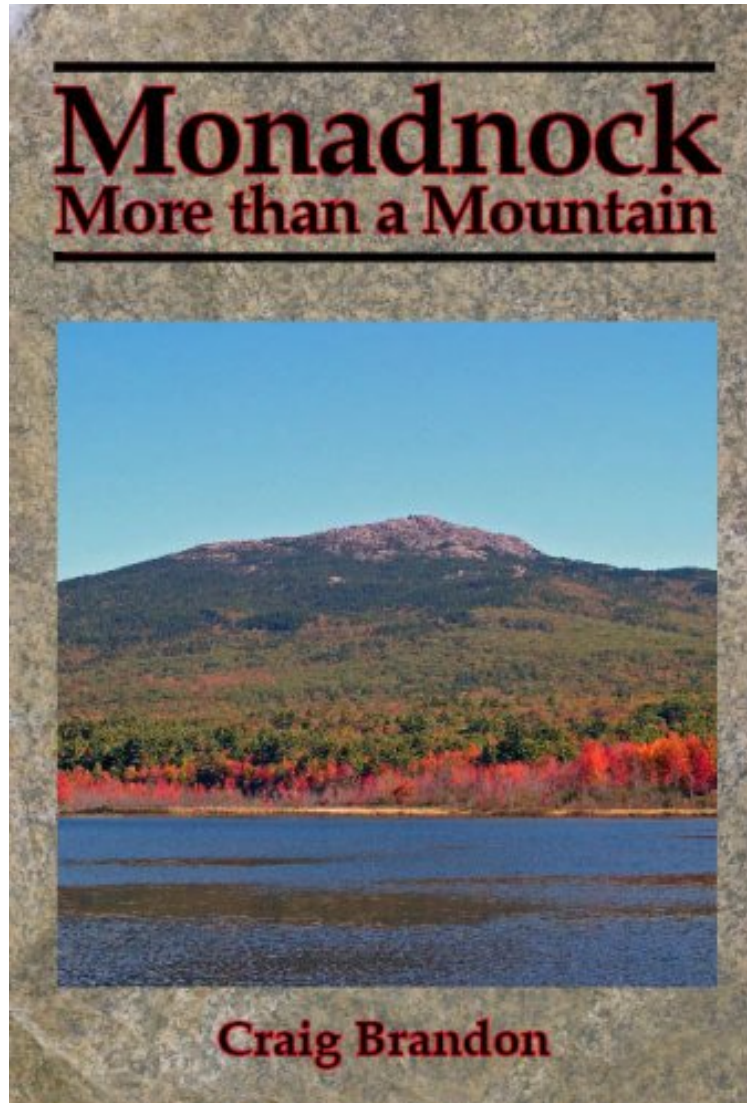


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## Monadnock: More than a Mountain

*Craig Brandon*

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**Craig Brandon : Monadnock: More than a Mountain** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Monadnock: More than a Mountain:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Amazing compendium on the Grand Monadnock Mtn. By WayneChicagoCraig has nailed it! I have lived around southern NH my entire life, and never have I read a book so enjoyable, so comprehensive--almost encyclopedic, but easy to read and enjoy--as this book. I bought extra copies for my family. It documents the refreshment stand atop the mountain, the Half Way House, the Toll Road, the hidden shelters and forts, and has many exquisitely written tales (including the one about the man that died on the mountain).

Mention about trails and access points (but this is not a chart book for hikers, thankfully), and stories about the organizations that preserve the mountain. It has tributes to those that made the trails, and the famous names of the mountain: Fassett, Pumpelly, Smith, etc. All explained, all with photos, and a joy to read. I particularly liked the chapters about the poets, authors and painters that were inspired by the mountain. The biographies of those that were influenced by the mountain echo the reasons that Monadnock is meaningful to us all. The price is on the high side, but understandable with the glossy pages and numerous photos. It is a heavy weight book of fine quality, and a paperback book of the highest printing standards. I do hope an economical e-text of this book will be published. The photos are black and white, but numerous and richly printed. They are not simply the postcards of the mountain as seen on the internet; these photos include many that I have not seen before and are interesting, in and of themselves. The book is arranged in a logical manner, with each chapter revealing another facet about the Monadnock, its people, and how it affects those communities around it. I enjoyed reading, for instance, about the role of the rangers, and how they observe hikers coming down the White Dot/White Cross trails by binocular, particularly near sunset, to pre-empt a nighttime rescue of a lost hiker. There are hundreds of small anecdotes about how this mountain works, how it functions, that are truly intriguing reading. I pray that the author continues to update this nonfiction work (particularly easy if e-version), as more news and stories about the mountain are created yearly. For instance, I'd adore reading more (there is a small story in the book now) about "Larry Davis", known as the man of Mt Monadnock, who has been profiled by local and city papers (Boston Globe), a machinist from Jaffrey, and has reputedly climbed the mountain some 6000 times (he's on a youtube video--amazing). I know that current updates, for instance of the recent addition of acreage near Toll House Road, would be welcomed and mandatory to keeping this book relevant. Lovely reading, highly recommended. A supreme work. Addendum: I have used this book on a recent trip to Monadnock as a reference...it's exceptional. It is the best book on Monadnock that I have ever read. I have now read it fully, cover-to-cover, twice, plus used it as a reference for questions I had about the mountain many times over. I wager that this book will have a bump in sales when the long-anticipated "The Mountain That Stands Alone: Monadnock" documentary comes out in early 2014. Mr. Brandon's book is a must-read! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book to read. By LeoArrived as advertised. Great book to read. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Superior to any other work on Monadnock. By VladykaSuperior to any other work on Monadnock. Worked several summers on the mountain under Charles Burrage and this book brought back more memories than any other work. Thanks for the indepth research.

The most climbed mountain in North America, Mount Monadnock in southern New Hampshire has a long and interesting history from visits by Thoreau and Emerson to the 100,000 people who hike it each year. This book includes the literary and artistic impact it has had on artists for more than a century and the efforts to preserve it.

"In the newly published "Monadnock More than a Mountain," Craig Brandon offers a sweeping and colorful history of what is the most climbed mountain in North America." --Jan Gardner, Boston Globe 8/26/07 "An enlightening, detailed account of how the centuries of vocal and written admiration fueled the passage of preservation laws to give us the Monadnock we have today...a worthy descendant of Allen Chamberlain's stalwart history..Brandon has touched on the breadths and heights of the historical Monadnock mosaic." --Steve Sherman, Keene Sentinel 11/18/2007 "Craig Brandon's "Monadnock More than a Mountain" is an informative, useful and long-overdue successor to Allen Chamberlain's "Annals of the Grand Monadnock," first published by the Forest Society in 1936. This all new and updated history of Monadnock is a worthy addition to the rich literary legacy of the most-climbed mountain." --David Anderson, education director, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests About the Author Craig Brandon is the author of Murder in the Adirondacks, The Electric Chair and Grace Brown's Love Letters. His writing has won awards from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the American School Boards Association and the Associated Press. He teaches writing and editing at Keene State College in New Hampshire