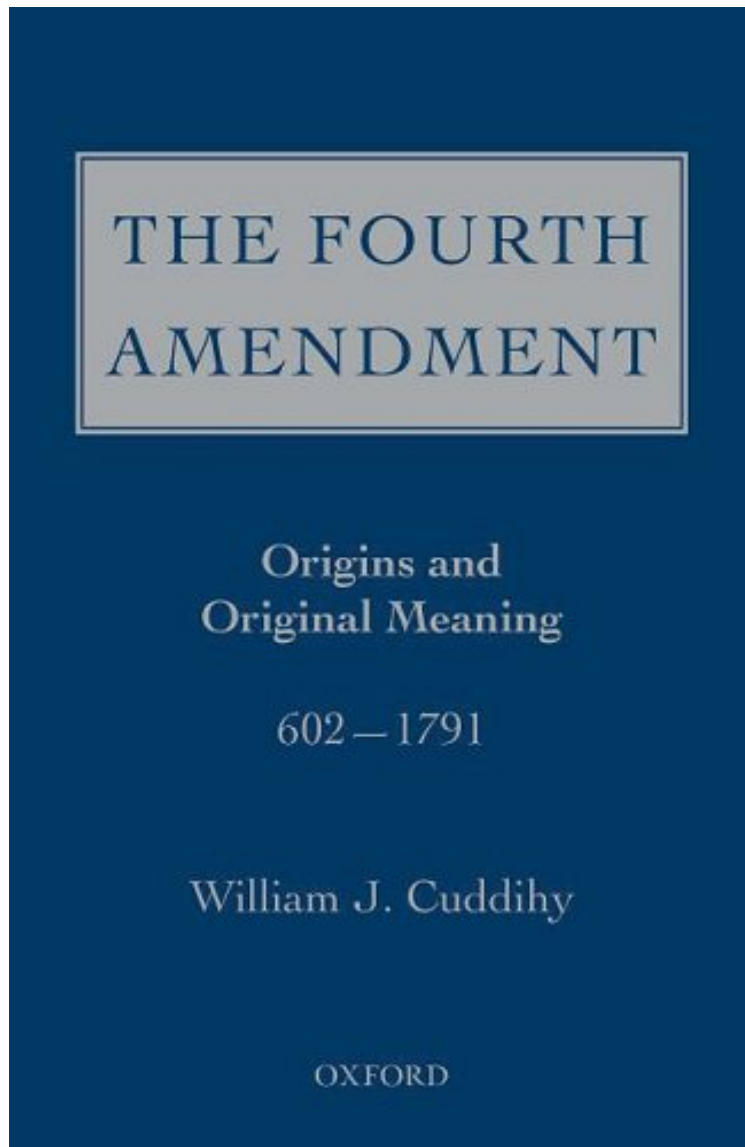


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The Fourth Amendment: Origins and Original Meaning 602 - 1791

William J. Cuddihy

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William J. Cuddihy : The Fourth Amendment: Origins and Original Meaning 602 - 1791 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fourth Amendment: Origins and Original Meaning 602 - 1791:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. The sole and singular essential work on the history of the Fourth Amendment By Frequent Customer This exhaustive work remained in relative obscurity until Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor cited what was at the time available only as a dissertation thirteen times in her dissenting

opinion in *Vernonia School District 47J v. Acton*, 515 U.S. 646 (1995). To the best of my knowledge, there are no other works available that would rival this one in terms of the painstaking level of detail that the author provides to fully illuminate the subject matter. This is the sole and singular essential work on the history of the Fourth Amendment, leaving other books on the subject to serve only as primers. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Magisterial. By Jeffrey W. Purcell. William Cuddihy's *The Fourth Amendment: Origins and Original Meaning 602 - 1791* is by consensus the best book ever written on the history of the Fourth Amendment. There is nothing even in the same ballpark. As a former student of the superb Revolutionary War historian Gordon Wood, I stand by the statements of Michael Solove in the preface: "The Fourth Amendment Origins and Original Meaning, 602--1791 is magisterial. It reminds me of the esteemed historian Gordon Wood's work in its ambition, erudition, and scope. This book is an essential resource for anybody interested in legal and constitutional history, criminal procedure, and the original intent behind the Fourth Amendment." Preface at xiv. As one who is writing a biography of James Otis and the 1761 writs of assistance, I find Mr. Cuddihy's work invaluable both in its meticulous attention to detail and to scope of primary sources reviewed. Mr. Cuddihy's analysis is almost always outstanding. A book review compares Cuddihy to Homer: "William J. Cuddihy's history of the Fourth Amendment is to search and seizure what the Iliad is to Greek literature. Epic in scope, Cuddihy's work traces debates over the Searching of houses, persons, and effects from 602 to 1791, showing how governmental searches evolved in the English and American contexts and how such searches engendered intense political responses." Reviewed by Anders Walker *Law and History Review*, Volume 28, Issue 03, August 2010, pp 859-860. Well Cuddihy is not Homer but perhaps he is at the level of National Book Award winner Gordon Wood. I, Jeffrey Purcell, am an attorney and writer of legal history who has spent the last thirteen years doing research for my in-progress biography of James Otis. For my article see Jeffrey W. Purcell, James Otis: "Flame of Fire:" *Revolutionary Opposing the Writs of Assistance and Loyal British subject?* *Massachusetts Journal of Legal History* 5. (Annual 1999) pp. 147-178. I say this not to toot my own horn but to suggest I may have some authority in the history of the fourth amendment. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. What an amazing historical study of the Fourth Amendment. By Tony. What an amazing historical study of the Fourth Amendment! Thoroughly researched and cogently written, the book will undoubtedly remain the definitive scholarly history of the Fourth Amendment for many years. For anyone tasked with drafting appellate arguments about innovative searches and seizures, this is an indispensable guide to the Fourth Amendment's original meaning (and thus, for certain Supreme Court justices, its scope).

The Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable search and seizure provides the bulwark for police regulation and many other government functions in the United States. One of the most controversial rights in the Bill of Rights, this amendment is also among the most frequently adjudicated provisions of constitutional law. Yet its meaning has remained deeply contested, and the story of its origins is largely unknown. This book tells the full story of the Fourth Amendment's complex lineage, including its intellectual roots in England. This book has particular relevance today given the long list of controversial new surveillance measures undertaken by the government in recent years, including the USA Patriot Act and the NSA wiretapping program. The preface has been written by privacy expert Daniel Solove.

"William J. Cuddihy's history of the Fourth Amendment is to search and seizure what the Iliad is to Greek literature." -- Anders Walker, *St. Louis University Law and History* About the Author William Cuddihy is an independent scholar living in California.