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Heijmans, J. & Mallon, B. (2011). *Historical dictionary of cycling*. Lanham, MD: Scarecrow

Kevin McDonough

Northern Michigan University, kmcdonou@nmu.edu

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801. Heijmans, Jeroen, and Bill Mallon. **Historical Dictionary of Cycling**. Lanham, Md., Scarecrow, 2011. 415p. (Historical Dictionaries of Sports). \$95.00. ISBN 13: 978-0-8108-7175-5; 978-0-8108-7369-8 (e-book).

The *Historical Dictionary of Cycling* appears to be compiled as a labor of love by the authors, Bill Mallon and Jeroen Heijmans, both who are avid cyclists. It covers a wide variety of topics. The beginning provides a brief chronology of cycling from 1493 to the present, followed by short introductions to seemingly random topics: road cycling, women in cycling, bicycle technology, popularity of cycling, track cycling, and more. A majority of the book consists of definitions of equipment, individuals, and events. Most entries are short, generally one or two paragraphs. Occasionally there will be longer entries for famous bicyclists or events like the Tour de France. Even these, however, rarely exceed two pages. About one-third of the book is dedicated to appendixes, which offer lists of winners from various races or tours, the Olympics, and world championships. World record holders in the hour and speed categories are also provided. The book concludes with a 20-page bibliography, organized into topics, in order to encourage further reading.

The problem with print reference sources like these is that they are infrequently used anymore. Google searches are faster and more convenient. The *Historical Dictionary of Cycling* does not provide extensive entries that might encourage purchase by public libraries for their patrons. Although compiling past winners of various races in one place is helpful, this information can be often retrieved quickly online, as this reviewer confirmed with the Tour of Fitchburg and Tour of Somerville. This source may be of interest to cycling aficionados. However, for a retail price of \$95, the cost is likely too prohibitive.—**Kevin McDonough**