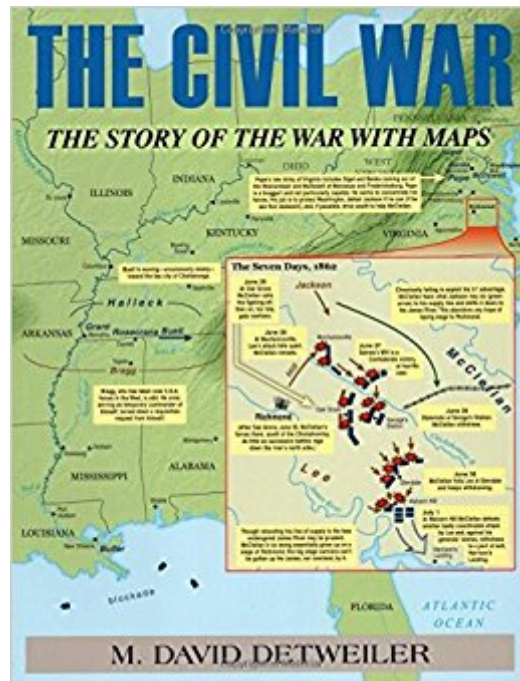


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The Civil War: The Story Of The War With Maps



Synopsis

For readers addicted to histories or novels about the Civil War, a common challenge is the lack of adequate maps. This excellent volume satisfies that need, once and for all: It's the clearest, fullest collection of strategic and tactical maps available, a fine volume on its own and an indispensable aid to understanding many another book. Few works truly are 'must-haves' for a Civil War collection, but this one's essential. --Ralph Peters, author of *Cain at Gettysburg* and *Hell or Richmond*

The Civil War: The Story of the War with Maps combines the colorful, detailed maps of an atlas with the vivid storytelling of the best narratives to piece together the nation-spanning jigsaw puzzle of the American Civil War. See the conflict develop from a few small armies into total war engulfing the whole South. The campaigns and battles are all here, with maps zooming in on the maneuvering and attacking armies: Bull Run, Shiloh, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, the Wilderness, Atlanta, and more. The nationwide perspective--absent from so many other books and shown here on full-page maps--connects these dots into a cohesive story of the entire war, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River, from Pennsylvania to the Gulf of Mexico. Distilling events into their essentials, the text focuses on the military history of the conflict and its cast of colorful commanders--Lee, Grant, Sherman, McClellan, and Stonewall Jackson. Captures all the war's intensity and human drama, its epic sweep from Sumter to Appomattox. The result is a unique book that educates, enlightens, and entertains. An ideal introduction for newcomers, refresher for buffs, and companion to other books during the war's 150th anniversary and beyond.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"A lucid narrative plus clear, easy-to-read maps that portray both strategic and tactical operations make a splendid combination in this valuable volume. It can be read cover to cover as a complete military history of the Civil War, or consulted as a reference work on specific campaigns and battles. It is a book that Civil War experts as well as novices will find indispensable." (James M. McPherson *Embattled Rebel: Jefferson Davis as Commander in Chief* 2014-07-30)"Any reader--or historian!--who has yearned for a simple, comprehensible, vivid map to accompany the story of a military campaign, a battle, or a mere skirmish, need now look no further than David Detweiler's useful and highly attractive compilation. It is good to have a volume that combines an understanding of military movements of the period and accessibility to modern technology to create understandable cartography of the scenes." (Harold Holzer Roger Hertog Fellow, New-York Historical Society 2014-08-03)"The American Civil War is of course intimately linked with the American landscape. Understanding that topography, and visualizing the movements of armies over it present a constant challenge even to seasoned readers. M. David Detweiler's *The Civil War: The Story of the War with Maps* presents a fresh and invaluable companion for anyone who wants to understand what happened whether reading in an armchair, or touring on the battlefield...The approach is innovative, and very effective." (William C. Davis *Crucible of Command: Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee* 2014-08-05)"Detweiler is perhaps best known for his interesting book *Gettysburg, The Story of the Battle with Maps*...He is back with a similar effort covering the entire Civil War. He uses the same style of maps and text to tell the key events of the war, beginning with 'Bloody Kansas' and continuing through the final days of the Appomattox Campaign and the assassination of Lincoln...The maps (more than a hundred of them!) are all in full color and useful in giving a sense of the grand tactical situation as the campaigns and battles play out. The accompanying prose is succinct in describing the actions of the opposing armies and their principle commanders." (Scott Minqus yorkblog.com/cannonball 2014-11-28)

M. David Detweiler graduated from Yale and has worked as a journalist and editor and published short stories and novels. He was the key editor for *Gettysburg: The Story of the Battle with Maps*. Detweiler is an amateur military history buff, composer, and sometime fly angler. President and CEO of Stackpole Inc. for the past quarter century, he lives in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, with his wife and enjoys chasing the unsolvable what-ifs of history.

Early impression is that this is potentially the finest book of maps I've ever seen on the Civil War and its great battles. As I've just received it, I'm still exploring, but the maps are rich in detail, all are done in finely coordinated colors which are remarkably pleasing to the eye, and essential topography is clearly delineated. The narration accompanying each map appears clear and coherent and captures the swift flow of battle superbly. I didn't think they could outdo their previous Gettysburg edition, but I believe they may just have done it. If you're the kind of reader who complains about the lack of good maps in the military history you read, then this is the book for you!

A common complaint with history books is a lack of detailed maps. Stackpole fixes that with this book on the battle of the Civil War. No one book can cover such a broad topic, there are too many important battles. Detweiler helps show the strategic look of the war. 1861, 1862, 1863, 1864, 1865 each have a chapter showing the warring states and details on most of the important battles. Every single page on the right side of the book is a full page map. Very detailed, the maps show terrain features, topography, roads where units were deployed, what the respective commanders intended and in some instances, opportunities missed. The maps are clear, legible to same scale and really help the reader see the battle unfold. Also recommended: *Gettysburg: The Story of the Battle with Maps* and I hope Stackpole will continue making books for various battles.

I wish this work was available when I began my Civil War study 5 years ago. It's concise, very descriptive and easy to digest. Maps of battles and army positions are very critical and important to help visualize what took place over 150 years ago. A needed companion to any descriptive account of most large battles and movements.

The author is too modest in his foreword regarding this work. Any research faces the hurdle of addressing the forest and the trees. Does one focus on socio-politico-economic events or the military? If the later, does one focus on the strategy, the battles, or the detailed tactics? Mr. Detweiler does a fantastic job of combining all but the detailed tactics. One can always look elsewhere for greater details on individual battles and tactics at the regimental level, but this is an EXCELLENT work providing the reader or researcher with a big picture viewpoint with the occasional dive into a battle. Illustrations are always an added cost to any book, but in this case maps exist on every page. Equally as important, there is a well written narrative accompanying each map Stackpole (the publisher) has a history of printing military genre and it is nice to see they have

continued with this 2014 book. Compared to the many American Civil War books with the word "Maps" in them, this work easily fits (physically speaking) on your library shelf and I'm glad to have added it to mine.

Very good companion to various Civil War books in providing excellent color maps of key actions the books often lack, as well as very good descriptive information of the major players and the ebb and flow of the main actions, some enlightening information often not provided in the book as well. Unfortunately, due to the large number of battles over the course of the war, this resource is often lacking on battles that were important, but perhaps less notable as others, e.g., Gettysburg. I would have liked more content on these battles and would gladly have paid more for it.

An absolutely excellent "potted history" of the military progress of the war, along with pertinent political asides and personality observations. Clear, concise, and eminently readable again and again. It will also serve anyone clever enough to own it as a wonderful reference tool for the future.

I enjoyed reading this and using the maps to try and visualize where the action was taking place. It wasn't always easy to coordinate the story line with what the maps were depicting. I would like to have seen a greater graphic difference between the opposing forces so that I could tell which side was where instead of having to rely on the names of the various Generals involved. I mean, after Grant, Lee, Sherman, Jackson, Stuart, Longstreet, Halleck and maybe Johnston, it is difficult to identify by name if a certain General was Yank or Rebel. Maybe I'm being too critical. This was a fun read and I would recommend it to others interested in the Civil War battles.

Very good book with maps of the various battles. I actually bought the book to help me find generals & troop movements while reading other civil war books. And it was a great help with this. But it turns out that the map book itself also has some pretty respectable narrative of the battles too. Plus the author seems to have a fairly sharp wit, and tells things like they are. McClellan was an ass, not a fool. Nicely said. Excellent maps with Yankee & Rebel positions & movements.

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