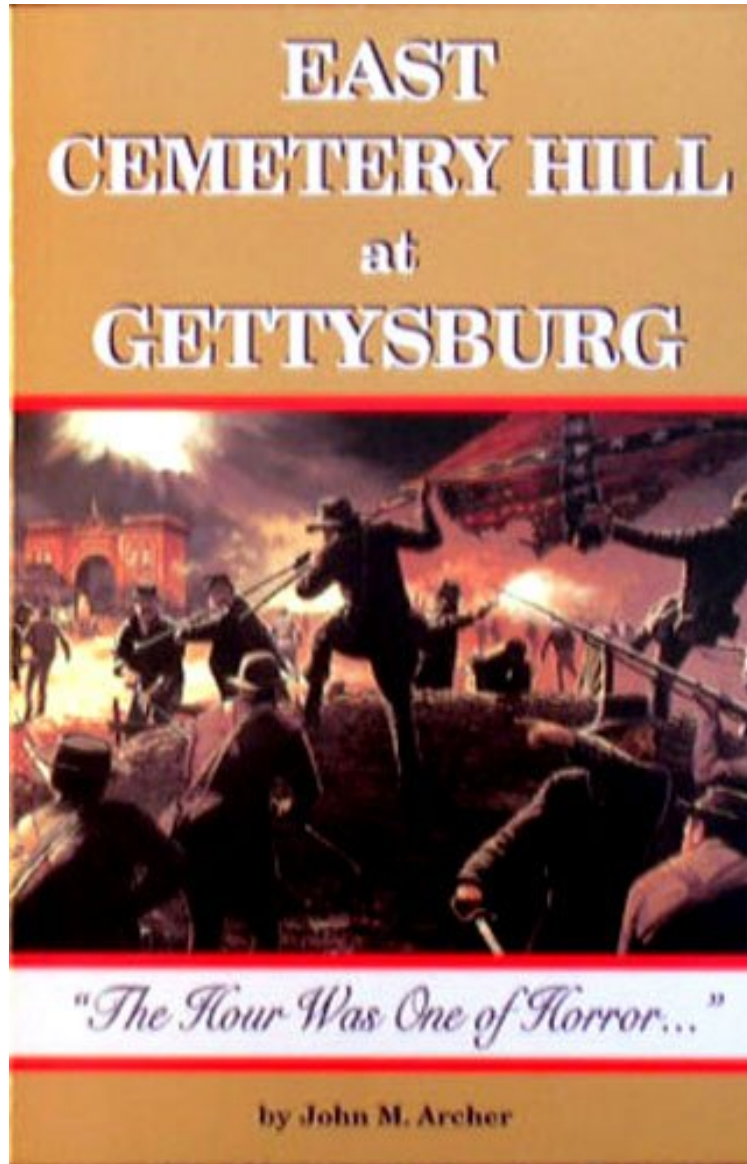


(Mobile ebook) East Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg "The Hour Was One of Horror"

East Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg "The Hour Was One of Horror"

John M. Archer

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John M. Archer : East Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg "The Hour Was One of Horror" before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised East Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg "The Hour Was One of Horror":

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. East Cemetery HillBy hodgeExcellent work. Well written, and I

suspect a very useful guide on my next trip to Gettysburg. An effective use of pictures, both period and modern provide a sense of what happened and why. It is a shame that the commercialization of Gettysburg has shifted focus from the singular key of the Union position to other points of the field, but Mr. Archer addresses the fighting here, and paints a vivid picture of that fighting. A good read, and what I think will be a good companion for any visit to Cemetery Hill.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy PeteVery informative.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy R. KillianInteresting, but too brief for in depth research.

It has been long neglected by historians and visitors to the battlefield, but the eastern-most reaches of Cemetery Ridge formed the critical apex of the Union battle line. The land nestled between Culp's Hill and the Soldiers' National Cemetery at Gettysburg is the only ground on which fighting occurred during each of the three pivotal days of the battle. Crested by the State of Maine monument where the statue of Oliver Otis Howard still stands watch over the valley below, East Cemetery Hill is a little known and less visited piece of the Gettysburg battlefield. Within days of the fighting in July 1863, the pivotal role of Gettysburg in the war was already apparent, and efforts were underway to preserve sites considered essential to commemorate and interpret the battle. The first areas to be secured and those most popular with early visitors, were where the scars of war intruded on the rural landscape. With its sweeping view of the town and battlefield from near the center of the Federal position, East Cemetery Hill was popular with early tourists and veterans' reunions alike. But as the scars faded and the historic significance and visual appeal of other areas became known, sites such as the High Water Mark, the Peach Orchard, and Devil's Den grew in popularity. It is ironic then, but not surprising, that interest in one of the first areas chosen for preservation has declined dramatically. Today, the exigencies of development have permanently altered much of the ground around East Cemetery Hill, making it difficult to interpret the site and understand what made the area critical to the development of the battle. This study invites the reader to tour this seldom explored segment of the battle, using first-hand accounts to help understand the area-much of which has changed dramatically in the past 130 years-with a participant's eye.

About the AuthorAlthough Yankee born and bred, John Archer's fascination with the Civil War stems from a childhood discovery of Confederate ancestors in his family tree. He now lives in Gettysburg, where in addition to writing, he works as a Licensed Guide for the Gettysburg National Military Park, and at Gettysburg College. His interpretive tours have been featured in PCN TV's Gettysburg Battlewalks Series. His written work includes two histories of the battle, "The Hour Was One of Horror: East Cemetery Hill at Gettysburg" and "Culp's Hill at Gettysburg," as well as articles in "Blue and Gray," "Gettysburg Magazine," and other periodicals. His first work of historical fiction, "After the Rain: A Novel of War and Coming Home," was released in 2011, and is a finalist to receive the Langum Prize in American Historical Fiction.