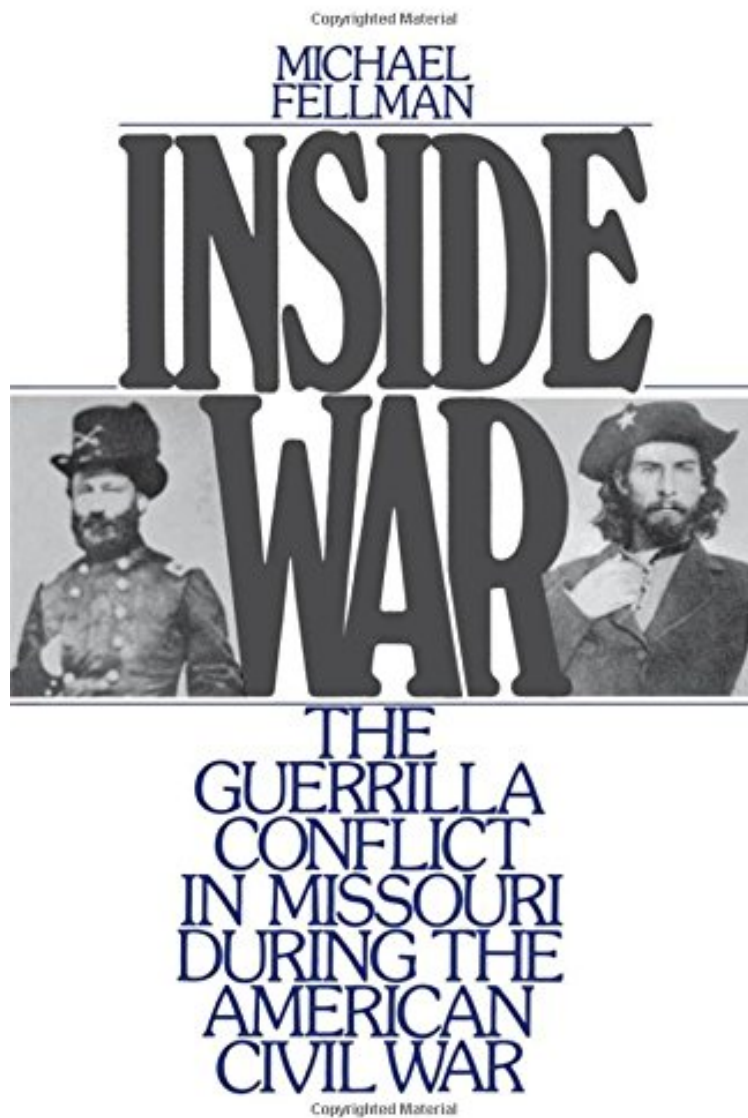


(Download) Inside War: The Guerrilla Conflict in Missouri During the American Civil War

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Michael Fellman

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Michael Fellman : Inside War: The Guerrilla Conflict in Missouri During the American Civil War before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Inside War: The Guerrilla Conflict in Missouri During the American Civil War:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best studies of the guerrilla conflict in Missouri during the Civil War. By gloine36 This is a book that covers the guerrilla conflict that rocked Missouri during the Civil War. Unlike the conflict east of the Mississippi River, the events in Missouri were shaped by a guerrilla war that pitted friends and family against one another. In many cases the fighting had more to do with personal grudges and vendettas than the cause of the Civil War itself. No one was safe from the raiding and quite often it was difficult to tell who was friend or foe. When one studies the history of the period it is often hard to tell who was right and who was wrong due to the terrible nature of the conflict perpetrated by both sides. Fellman uses a lot of primary sources in this book and that makes it a hard read at times. The information is stellar and it is obvious that Fellman did some really good research in digging up the data. He doesn't take a side in the conflict although that is sometimes hard to gauge because so many of the surviving sources were Union-based accounts. That also reflects the savagery of the guerrilla struggle. As noted in other similar conflicts, guerrilla warfare is nasty and often it is hard to tell who is who. Counter-guerrilla strategies often are just about as bad as the guerrilla warfare itself and that was shown time and again in this conflict. As a student of the Missouri aspect of the Civil War, this book is a great resource. It has been cited numerous times and is one of the leading go-to books for historians who are looking at the literature on this part of the war. Fellman, who passed away in 2012, was Professor Emeritus of History at Simon Fraser University in Canada. He wrote several books on the Civil War and this one is probably the one that had the most impact in Civil War circles. I bought the book second hand and was happily surprised to find a letter signed by Fellman on Simon Fraser stationery inside the book. I love it when I find something like that. The book was probably part of an estate sale and no one knew or appreciated the contents. I am leaving it in the book so that eventually, another collector will get to share in the discovery. Again, this is a very good book. Anyone looking at Missouri's role in the Civil War will want to read the book. There is so much to understand about this conflict that is overlooked or downplayed by the larger works on the Civil War. Missouri's role was totally different than any other state. Its history was negatively impacted by the war, especially the guerrilla war. In order to understand Missouri's post-Civil War history, one must first understand what shaped it. 8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Not for the Novice By Missouri Eagle Other reviewer's have covered this book and what it is very well. I do study Missouri Civil War History and in particular the Guerrilla's (i.e. Bushwhacker/bushwacker). Missouri families and communities did indeed suffer in that we truly had brother against brother against brother, (Union, confederate, and (bushwackers/guerrillas) in many families. Both Union and confederate soldiers and sympathizers raided, burned, killed, conscripted throughout Missouri. Many towns were literally deserted of people and buildings during or by the end of the war. Fellman is truly one accepted scholar on this area of the Civil War. In spite of my knowledge and experience/research, I found the book a little bit difficult to read for any length of time. So much detail is given (some with questionable 'documentation') that a novice would probably get lost in trying to read *Inside War* if he didn't already have a pretty good understanding of Missouri, its part in the Civil War, and the events that lead to the rise of guerrilla warfare here. I will keep this important writing as a part of my references because it is so thorough and I do pick it up frequently in my studies and my own writing about the Guerrillas of Missouri. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Helpful with my genealogy. By Laetitia S. Cook Found a paragraph about my Great-great grandfather's murder in 1863. Just what I needed to add to my family tree.

During the Civil War, the state of Missouri witnessed the most widespread, prolonged, and destructive guerrilla fighting in American history. With its horrific combination of robbery, arson, torture, murder, and swift and bloody raids on farms and settlements, the conflict approached total war, engulfing the whole populace and challenging any notion of civility. Michael Fellman's *Inside War* captures the conflict from "inside," drawing on a wealth of first-hand evidence, including letters, diaries, military reports, court-martial transcripts, depositions, and newspaper accounts. He gives us a clear picture of the ideological, social, and economic forces that divided the people and launched the conflict. Along with depicting how both Confederate and Union officials used the guerrilla fighters and their tactics to their own advantage, Fellman describes how ordinary civilian men and women struggled to survive amidst the random terror perpetuated by both sides; what drove the combatants themselves to commit atrocities and vicious acts of vengeance; and how the legend of Jesse James arose from this brutal episode in the American Civil War.

"Most important....Imaginatively using the abundant civilian and military sources available, Fellman constructs a compelling analysis of the impact of Missouri's irregular warfare on the federal military, the guerrillas, and the civilian population....Engrossing."--*Georgia Historical Quarterly*"A detailed and well-written narrative account of the guerrilla fighting in Civil War Missouri....Fellman deserves enormous praise for this insightful look into the complicated nature of guerrilla warfare among ordinary Americans."--*The Maryland Historian*"The best account I know of this 'inside' war--in Missouri or in any of the other border regions where it flared with lesser but still powerful intensity."--James M. McPherson, *The New York Times Book Review*"A powerful book, filled with some of the most immediate and unforgettable first-hand testimony available from nineteenth-century America. It brings the Civil War home front to life in a way no other book does, and does so with sophistication and subtlety."--Edward L. Ayers, University of Virginia "If war is hell,

Fellman here opens to us one of its innermost rings: a conflict breaking beyond limits, one in which Confederate guerrillas become brigands and executioners, Union soldiers become purveyors of an identical violence and civilians become helpless victims of all armed men. He depicts with power and persuasiveness an aspect of the American Civil War about which we do not ordinarily wish to think."--Gerald F. Linderman, author of *Embattled Courage: The Experience of Combat in the American Civil War*"An original and significant contribution to the study of American history and culture. It fills in the factual background of a neglected aspect of the Civil War, the guerrilla struggle in Missouri. But in so doing it also illuminates the origins of one of our major myths, the legend of social banditry associated with Jesse James."--Richard Slotkin, Wesleyan University"Fellman takes readers within the war itself....*Inside War* strips away the romantic nostalgia that surrounds the Missouri guerrillas on both sides."--*The Kansas City Star*"Fellman takes readers within the war itself....*Inside War* strips away the romantic nostalgia that surrounds the Missouri guerrillas on both sides....A solidly researched, well-written book that gives a balanced account of the most traumatic, terrible years in Missouri history."--*The Kansas City Star*"The author provides a model that other historians could profitably emulate in studying other areas and aspects of the Civil War....*Inside War* makes an original and significant contribution, not only to its field of study, but to an understanding of the consequences paid when law and order give way to anarchy, and civilization yields to barbarism, as they did in Civil War Missouri."--*Civil War Times Illustrated*"Fellman...has a both a vivid narrative gift and a respect for firsthand documentation."--*The New Yorker*
From the Back Cover During the Civil War, the state of Missouri witnessed the most wide spread, prolonged, and destructive guerrilla fighting in American history. With its horrific combination of robbery, arson, torture, murder, and swift and bloody raids on farms and settlements, the conflict approached total war, engulfing the whole populace and challenging any notion of civility.
About the Author Michael Fellman is Professor of History at Simon Fraser University in Canada. He is the author of three previous books on nineteenth-century American history.