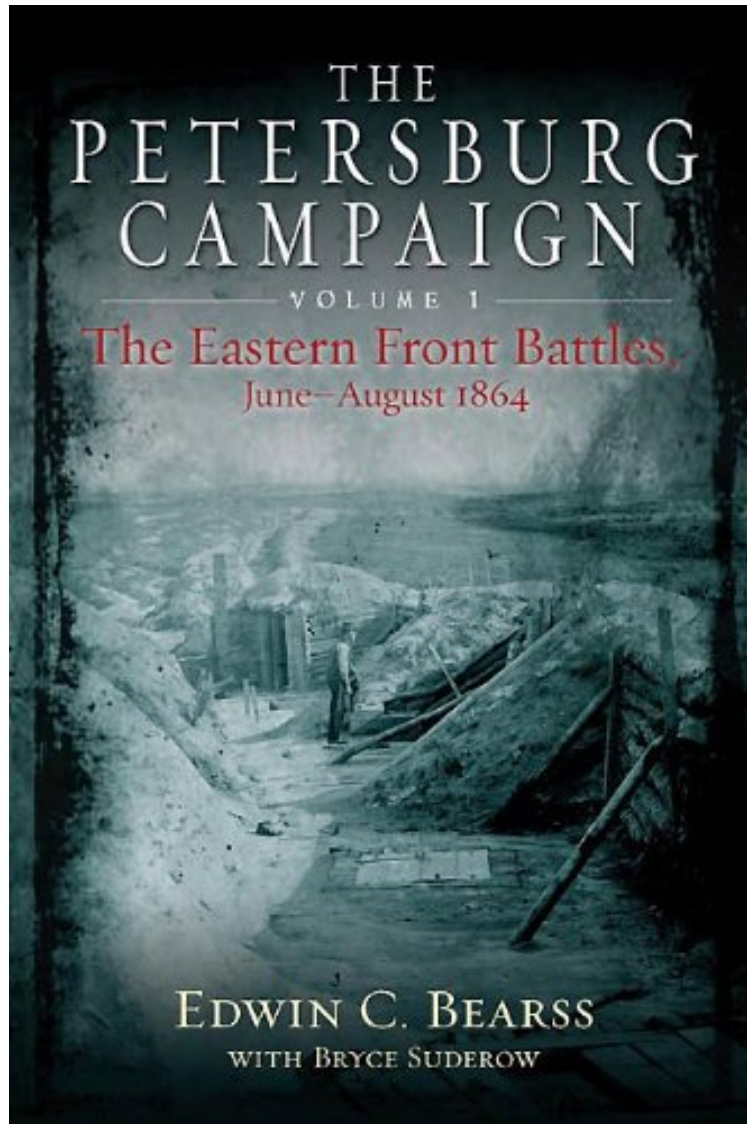


[Free read ebook] The Petersburg Campaign. Volume 1: The Eastern Front Battles, June - August 1864

## The Petersburg Campaign. Volume 1: The Eastern Front Battles, June - August 1864

*Edwin C. Bearss*

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**Edwin C. Bearss : The Petersburg Campaign. Volume 1: The Eastern Front Battles, June - August 1864** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Petersburg Campaign. Volume 1: The Eastern Front Battles, June - August 1864:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Bearss and Suderow Bring Excellence to PetersburgBy Matthew BartlettThe annals of Civil War study tend to look towards the beginning of the war until the fateful days in July at

Gettysburg and Vicksburg. There is no doubt that most written works surround themselves around those campaigns before the apex of the Union and the downfall of the Confederacy. The study of the war past those fateful campaigns are less looked at but no more. Ed Bearss and Bryce Suderow have brought to light something quite different in the study of the Petersburg Campaign, the longest running siege in the Civil War. Edwin Bearss is one of the most respected Civil War historians of our age and got his start at the Vicksburg National Military Park. From there, he has stretched himself all around the Civil War world as an authority on the campaigns and the people. A Marine who has served in World War II, he was severely wounded in the Pacific. From 1981 to 1994, he served as Chief Historian to the National Park Service and has authored many works and was pivotal to raising the USS Cairo. Bryce Suderow is a Civil War writer and researcher and has published many articles and is considered one of the finest archivists in the country. If it were not for Suderow, this work might never have come to light. Ed Bearss was approached to write essays about the battles during the Petersburg Campaign for use of the park service in Virginia. This work is the collection of essays he wrote concerning the battles of the eastern front during the campaign. Keeping in mind that these essays were written for the guides at Petersburg National Military Park, Bearss does not waste any time giving the introductions for the people involved in the battle. He jumps right into the story assuming that the reader knows something about them already. Suderow, however, gives some introduction as to what was going on and what had happened. One of the helpful things in the narrative is the breakaway which sometimes happens. During the narrative of Bearss and his essays, Suderow sometimes interrupts and fills the reader in as to what is going on. This is helpful for the readers who are not as well versed in the war after the summer of 1863. This lack of introduction makes it seem as though the book is not an easy read and that is wrong. Though Bearss spends no time telling you the background of the people and regiments who are fighting the battle, there is no need to have that information because of the narrative. Bearss writing style is such that he allows the narrative to bring you into the time of battle not focusing on the past of the people in play. The Petersburg Campaign, Volume I: Eastern Front Battles, is something which should be on the shelves of every Civil War Historian or enthusiast. Both the narratives of Bearss and the editorials of Suderow bring to light many engagements about the Petersburg Campaign which are generally ignored. The annals of Civil War history will be grateful for what has been done here in this book, and the coming volume. The combination of Bearss and Suderow should be praised for the work they have done. What was first as set of essays for use at the Petersburg National Military Park for park use is now printed for the public so that they may know the detail of the events not usually written about in the standard history book on the Civil War. Matthew Bartlett - Author, Gettysburg Chronicle2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book by the preeminent American Civil War Historian and ...By Henry W. Persons, Jr. Excellent book by the preeminent American Civil War Historian and with Bryce Suderow, an outstanding researcher, makes for an excellent edition to one's Civil War library. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One sided By Iggity7 I am surprised an historian of Bearss' stature would produce a work almost exclusive told from only side. I am sure the availability of records is involved, but nonetheless, it results in a biased account.

The wide-ranging and largely misunderstood series of operations around Petersburg, Virginia, were the longest and most extensive of the entire Civil War. The fighting that began in early June 1864 when advance elements from the Union Army of the Potomac crossed the James River and botched a series of attacks against a thinly defended city would not end for nine long months. This important—many would say decisive—fighting is presented by legendary Civil War author Edwin C. Bearss in *The Petersburg Campaign: The Eastern Front Battles, June–August 1864*, the first in a ground-breaking two-volume compendium. Although commonly referred to as the “Siege of Petersburg,” that city (as well as the Confederate capital at Richmond) was never fully isolated and the combat involved much more than static trench warfare. In fact, much of the wide-ranging fighting involved large-scale Union offensives designed to cut important roads and the five rail lines feeding Petersburg and Richmond. This volume of Bearss’ study of these major battles includes: *The Attack on Petersburg (June 9, 1864)* *The Second Assault on Petersburg (June 15 - 18, 1864)* *The Battle of the Jerusalem Plank Road (June 21 - 24, 1864)* *The Crater (July 30, 1864)* *The Battle of the Weldon Railroad (August 18 - 21, 1864)* *The Second Battle of Ream’s Station (August 25, 1864)* Accompanying these salient chapters are original maps by Civil War cartographer George Skoch, together with photos and illustrations. The result is a richer and deeper understanding of the major military episodes comprising the Petersburg Campaign. About the Authors: Edwin C. Bearss is a world-renowned military historian, author, and tour guide known for his work on the American Civil War and World War II. Ed, a former WWII Marine wounded in the Pacific Theater, served as Chief Historian of the National Park Service from 1981 to 1994 and is the author of dozens of books and articles. He discovered and helped raise the Union warship USS Cairo, which is on display at Vicksburg National Military Park. Bryce A. Suderow is a Civil War writer and researcher living in Washington, D.C. He received his B.A. at Knox College and earned a Masters in American History at Sonoma State University. His Masters' Thesis, *Thunder in Arcadia Valley*, was published in 1985 (Univ. of Missouri). Bryce has also published many articles in a number of Civil War periodicals and is recognized as one of the finest archival researchers working today.

“Reading this book gives the same thrill as taking a tour with the ‘King of Civil War Battlefields.’ The elder statesman’s voice resonates through every page of this detailed study of the climactic campaign in Virginia. Here is pure military history. Here is Ed Bearss at his best.” (James Robertson, author of *The Untold Civil War*)“Ed Bearss’s impeccable research and lucid prose provide a vivid tactical account of the early actions of the Petersburg Campaign. Everyone interested in untangling the complex operations between Lee and Grant in the summer of 1864 will benefit from a careful reading of this excellent collection of essays.” (A. Wilson Greene, author of *The Final Battles of the Petersburg Campaign*)“As a long time Park Historian (Ret.) at Petersburg National Battlefield, I would constantly refer to the numerous studies now comprising Ed Bearss’ new *The Petersburg Campaign*. Indeed, these monographs are still being used for battlefield preservation purposes by the park. As the sesquicentennial approaches in 2014-15 for the Petersburg Campaign, these volumes will be a must for anyone who wishes to understand that complex period of the war, which could be more commonly referred to as the ‘wearing down of Lee’s army.’” (Chris Calkins, author of *The Appomattox Campaign, March 29-April 9, 1865*)“Edwin C. Bearss, former chief historian for the National Park Service and a World War II hero himself, is perhaps the greatest Civil War historian of the modern era. In the mid-1960s working as a research historian, Ed put together a series of Petersburg battle narratives and highly detailed troop movement maps that continue to withstand the test of time for their insightfulness and accuracy.” (James H. Blankenship, Jr., Historian)“Here is good news for students of the Petersburg Campaign. Edwin C. Bearss, former Chief Historian for the National Park Service, is publishing his studies on the Petersburg Campaign in a multivolume effort. Many of us who have written on the campaign have used these studies as starting points. The maps are outstanding and I have had difficulty tearing myself away from riveting accounts of the combat.” (John Horn, author of *The Destruction of the Weldon Railroad and The Petersburg Campaign*, co-editor of *Civil War Talks: Further Reminiscences of George S. Bernard and his Fellow Veterans*)About the AuthorEdwin C. Bearss is a world-renowned military historian, author, and tour guide known for his work on the American Civil War and World War II. Ed, a former WWII Marine wounded in the Pacific Theater, served as Chief Historian of the National Park Service from 1981 to 1994 and is the author of dozens of books and articles. He discovered and helped raise the Union warship USS Cairo, which is on display at Vicksburg National Military Park. Bryce A. Suderow is a Civil War writer and researcher living in Washington, D.C. He received his B.A. at Knox College and earned a Masters in American History at Sonoma State University. His Masters' Thesis, *Thunder in Arcadia Valley*, was published in 1985 (Univ. of Missouri). Bryce has also published many articles in a number of Civil War periodicals and is recognized as one of the finest archival researchers working today.