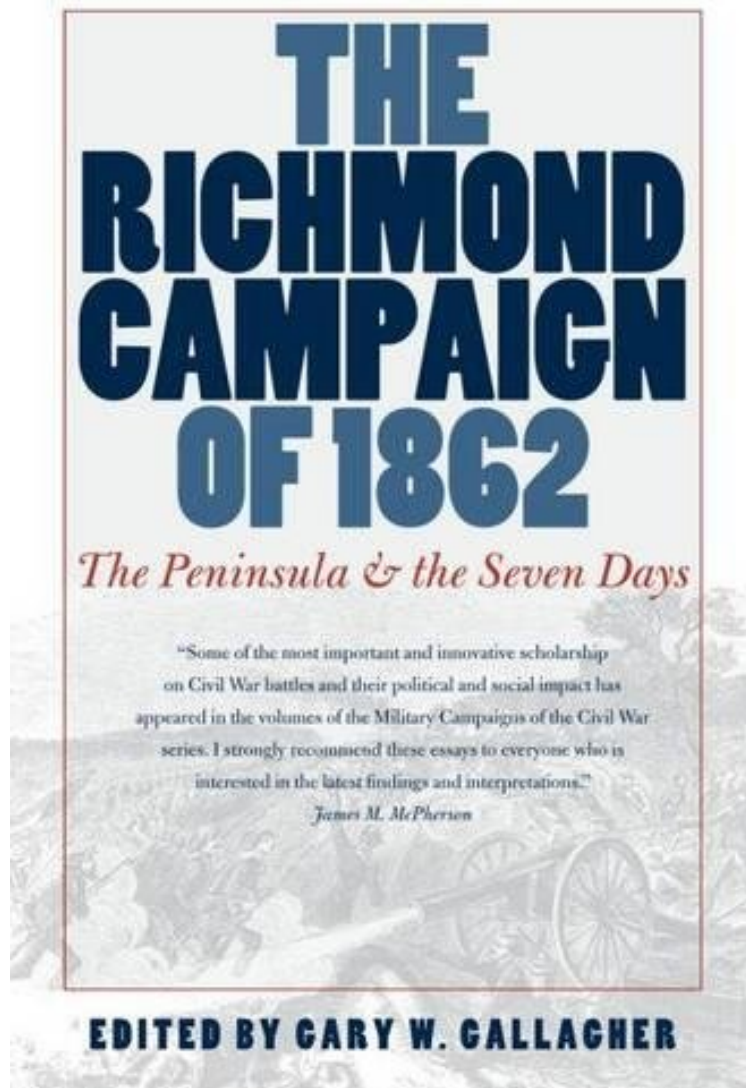


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The Richmond Campaign of 1862: The Peninsula and the Seven Days (Military Campaigns of the Civil War)

Gary W. (ed.) Gallagher
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Gary W. (ed.) Gallagher : The Richmond Campaign of 1862: The Peninsula and the Seven Days (Military Campaigns of the Civil War) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Richmond Campaign of 1862: The Peninsula and the Seven Days (Military Campaigns of the Civil War):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The book itself is great, well written and the topic is discussed and ...By NatalieThe book itself is great, well written and the topic is discussed and laid out in a very professional and clean manor, no drill and all important info. My only complaint, which has nothing to do with the books contents, is that it was supposed to be "almost new" yet there was writing in it. Other than that, I'm highly satisfied3 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Good background informationBy victor vignolaGary Gallagher has compiled a group of informative essays about the Richmond (Peninsula)campaign from some prominent Civil War authors. The essayists include Mr. Gallagher's 'Putting the Campaign in Perspective'; Robert K. Krick's summary of Stonewall Jackson's tardy performance issues during the campaign; Robert E.L. Krick's account of 'Whitings Division at Gaines Mill'; William Miller's very informative essay about military engineering during the Campaign and primarily about John Barnard, McClellan's Chief Engineer; John Hubbell's summary of the "Seven Days of George McClellan"; Keith Bohannon's description of the cannonade that was experienced by both sides at Malvern Hill, as well as other very informative short 30 page essays regarding the Campaign. Each essay is well sourced and footnoted.The book should be used as an adjunct source of information in a study of the Peninsula Campaign. The book is not intended to be a beginning to end study of the strategy tactics that were employed by Gens. McClellan, Johnston Lee throughout the campaign. Rather, the essays focus on some of the key aspects/key events that influenced the outcome of the Campaign.Should one desire a soup-to-nuts narrative of the entire Campaign,perhaps the best book to recommend is Stephen Sears "To the Gates of Richmond". However, that statement is not intended as a slight to Mr. Gallagher's book. As stated earlier in this review, "The Richmond Campaign of 1862" is very useful for a student of the Peninsula Campaign to use as an adjunct source for some additional and more in-depth information. The information in Gallagher's book compliments very well the information gained from Sear's book.5 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating Detail on Key Battles , Leaders and PoliticsBy Daniel HurleyGreat book to read after Stephen Sear's Penninsula Campaign (even noted by the editor). This great collection of CW historians take the leading characters and events of the 7 days campaign and provide insights to this fascinating series of battles that set the Union back three years. Fascinating writing of John Bankhead Magruder, the hero of the lower Peninsula, whose prewar reputation for drink and ladies combined with lack of sleep, stress, illness and improper medical treatment created a magnifyer for his failures particularly at Malvern Hill. Lee's desire to rid himself of Magruder who was a hero just weeks before is in stark contrast to his retaining of Stonewall who as R. K. Krick writes was virtually ineffective for a multitude of reasons, primarily due to sleep deprivation. Also, great essays on McClellan whose grandiose ego was not able to stand upright on the battlefield and his engineers who could build anything he needed but were used as scapegoats just like anyone else to excuse his own conduct. Additional essays are on the great importance of the seven days battles to lift southern morale and the enhancement of the radicals position contributed to by McClellan's failures during the campaign. Superb article on the artillery duel on Malvern Hill and confederate attack that collapsed under murderous and accurate union artillery fire. The Union's artillery devastated their southern counterparts in short order. R.E.L. Krick highlights Whiting's Division (with Hood) breaking the Union line decisively at Gaines Mill. No one knows the battlefield better than Krick. Longstreet may have wished he never picked up a pen after Krick writes of Longstreet's post war confusion of facts over his command of Whiting, "It appears an unusually early example of the gasconade for which Longstreet is now famous". That commentary would have made "Old Jube" proud.

The Richmond campaign of April-July 1862 ranks as one of the most important military operations of the first years of the American Civil War. Key political, diplomatic, social, and military issues were at stake as Robert E. Lee and George B. McClellan faced off on the peninsula between the York and James Rivers. The climactic clash came on June 26-July 1 in what became known as the Seven Days battles, when Lee, newly appointed as commander of the Confederate forces, aggressively attacked the Union army. Casualties for the entire campaign exceeded 50,000, more than 35,000 of whom fell during the Seven Days. This book offers nine essays in which well-known Civil War historians explore questions regarding high command, strategy and tactics, the effects of the fighting upon politics and society both North and South, and the ways in which emancipation figured in the campaign. The authors have consulted previously untapped manuscript sources and reinterpreted more familiar evidence, sometimes focusing closely on the fighting around Richmond and sometimes looking more broadly at the background and consequences of the campaign.Contributors:William A. BlairKeith S. BohannonPeter S. CarmichaelGary W. GallagherJohn T. HubbellR. E. L. KrickRobert K. KrickJames MartenWilliam J. Miller

Splendid."Virginia Quarterly " Another fine addition to the University of North Carolina Press's 'Military Campaigns of the Civil War' series.--American Historical No where else is so deep a consideration of these and other ponderable aspects of this campaign so conveniently or compellingly condensed as in this splendid volume.--Virginia Quarterly It is refreshing to find that even on a campaign that has been so frequently researched one can find new and insightful material in The Richmond Campaign of 1862. Well conceptualized and well written, Gallagher's editorial efforts have once again added significantly to the literature of the Civil War.--Journal of American HistoryAll these essays enhance

understanding of the Peninsular campaign. Whether read separately or collectively, they form a volume that will find a welcome home in individual and institutional libraries on the Civil War.--Civil War HistoryOffers a series of solidly researched and easily readable essays written by well-known professional and amateur historians.--Richmond Times DispatchNo academic library should be without this volume, and no American military historian should overlook the insights offered by Gallagher and these authors into one of the most important campaigns of the conflict.--Journal of Southern HistoryOffers some refreshing new perspectives on [this] extremely important campaign. . . . [Provides] a deeper understanding of the campaign's importance and its place in the larger framework of the war.--America's Civil WarThese essays probe longstanding questions and flesh out credible answers relative to the first major offensive of Lee and his Army of Northern Virginia. This is a necessary reference for any study of the 1862 Peninsula Campaign.--James I. Robertson Jr., author of Stonewall Jackson: The Man, the Soldier, the Legend The Richmond Campaign of 1862 adds valuable new information and insights into some old subjects and presents useful information and interpretations about subjects that never have been adequately dealt with before. It is, therefore, a book from which all serious students of the Civil War can benefit. Highly recommended.--Albert Castel, author of Decision in the West: The Atlanta Campaign of 1864The essays are well written and offer interesting insights.--North SouthFrom the Inside FlapThe Richmond campaign of April-July 1862 ranks as one of the most important military operations of the first years of the American Civil War. These nine original essays, by well-known Civil War historians, explore questions regarding high command, strategy and tactics, the effects of the fighting upon politics and society both North and South, and the ways in which emancipation figured in the campaign.