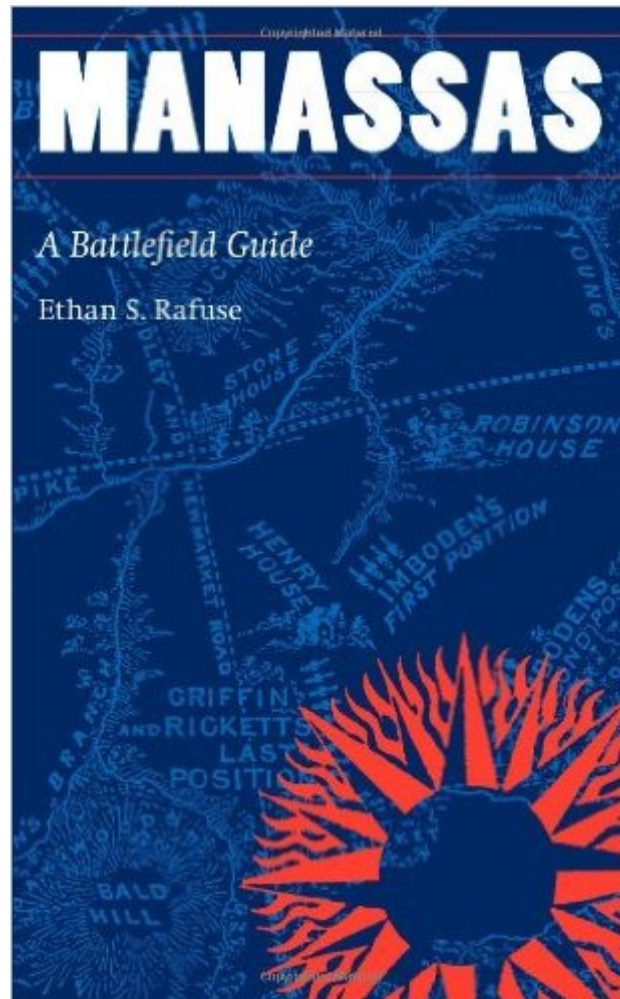


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Manassas: A Battlefield Guide (This Hallowed Ground: Guides To Civil War Battlefields)



Synopsis

This volume is the essential guide to the Manassas battlefields, site of two of the Civil War's critical campaigns. Ethan S. Rafuse, a distinguished scholar of the Civil War, provides a clearly organized, thorough, and uniquely insightful account of both campaigns, along with expert analysis and precise directions for armchair traveler and battlefield visitor alike. The July 1861 Battle of First Manassas and the August 1862 Battle of Second Manassas unequivocally influenced the course and outcome of the Civil War. The first battle dealt a decisive blow to hopes that the inexperienced armies of the North and the South could bring about a quick military resolution of the secession crisis. The second battle was the climactic engagement of a spectacular campaign that carried the war to the outskirts of Washington DC and marked the coming of age of Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. *Manassas: A Battlefield Guide* presents readers with a clear, convenient guide to the sites in northern and central Virginia that shaped the course and outcome of these campaigns. Lucid, concise narratives give readers a better understanding of the events that took place on these battlefields and of the terrain, personalities, and decisions that shaped them.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This recently published book by the University of Nebraska Press is part of the wonderful series; "This Hallowed Ground: Guides to Civil War Battlefields", edited by Brooks D. Simpson, Mark Grimsley and Steven Woodworth. Ethan S. Rafuse has written a well-organized, user friendly,

balanced and comprehensive account of First and Second Manassas. It provides understandable directions to all important locations, detailed descriptions of the battle and excellent analysis for readers, newcomers to the battlefield, scholars and advanced students on a staff ride. This volume lends itself to any serious treatment of research on these two campaigns. Unlike most guides, this new work covers two entire campaigns that took place in 1861 and 1862. A concise narrative that provides armchair travelers with a better understanding of the events that took place in these battlefields as well as personalities and decisions that shaped them. This title contains eighteen main stops that cover the two battles as well as optional campaign excursions including Stone Bridge, Jackson's Arrival, Cedar Mountain and Chantilly. The recommended time suggested to the tramper is eight hours to two days. Refuse's text provides a campaign overview that places Manassas in the context of the Civil War and brief informative summaries of the action each day of the fighting. The book point out landmarks and terrain features necessary to understand the key moments. The author does a superb job in explaining the course of the battles, provides a sufficient amount of substance to satisfy battlefield visitors and readers. There is also an interesting vignette section featuring personal accounts and anecdotes from soldiers of both sides.

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