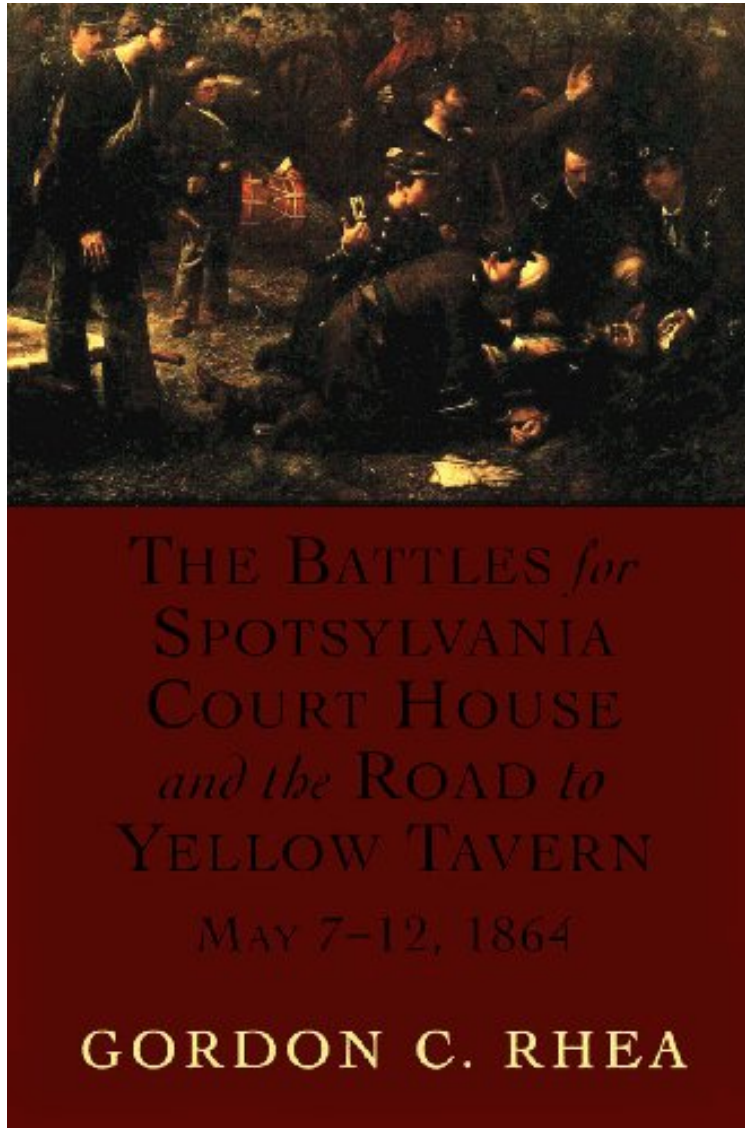


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The Battles for Spotsylvania Court House and the Road to Yellow Tavern, May 7--12, 1864

Von Gordon C. Rhea

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Von Gordon C. Rhea : The Battles for Spotsylvania Court House and the Road to Yellow Tavern, May 7--12, 1864 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Battles for Spotsylvania Court House and the Road to Yellow Tavern, May 7--12, 1864:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Grant the ButcherVon Ein KundeRhea's second installment on Grant's Overland Campaign of 1864 (Battle of the Wilderness

was the first) is an improvement on its predecessor in many ways. The primary source research and grasp of complex and confusing troop movements and tactics is consistently well done. Unlike Rhea's previous effort, *The Battles for Spotsylvania ...* makes excellent use of reference material with appropriate timing and quantity to enhance the story telling and support the analysis of events and conclusions drawn. Rhea's attempt to portray the incredible horror and human devastation resulting from the twenty hours of continuous battle at the Bloody Angle is commendable in its intensity and conviction, even though we realize that attempts to convey or describe, however accurately, can never approach the reality. Even the direct participants of this conflict were loathe to return to the subject and unable to conjure in words what had been forever burned into their nightmares. Overall, ! this book is an excellent account of this important battle. Rhea identifies the strengths and weaknesses of Grant's campaign. The unconscionable attack at Cold Harbor, made worse by Grant's refusal to ask for truce to tend to his suffering wounded out of concern for his personal reputation, is explained here in advance. Grant continued his tendency to push to the attack in all circumstances without ever taking the time to survey the field dispositions of his own and Lee's troops. Unlike Sherman in the West, who chose maneuver over pointless head-on attacks in order to gain ground against a badly outnumbered opponent, Grant preferred the meat-grinder approach, fighting Lincoln's war of statistical attrition. "Grant the Butcher" indeed.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Grant vs. Lee....Part 2.Von Steve BasicGordon C. Rhea has done it again. Mr. Rhea wrote a compelling battle narrative on the desperate fighting in the Wilderness that appeared on the book shelves in 1994. After I read that history, I wondered to myself, how in the heck would he follow up on his excellent treatment on the Battle of the Wilderness. With his latest volume on the Battle of Spotsylvania, he has certainly done that. Rhea, with this latest book has established himself as one of the finest historians writing about the war today. He has brought all of the elements together...Bravery, tragedy, incompetence, and yes, humor in a narrative that truly describes the horrors Americans went through during those awful days in early May, 1864. Mr. Rhea's description of the events on May 12, 1864 are harrowing, unbelievable, and heartbreaking. The struggle for the Bloody Angle becomes all too real for the reader. The unbelievable, heroic combat for those earthworks on the hallowed ground of the Spotsylvania Battlefield makes me proud of both sides as they fought during that rainy day. Each side gave their all....and they showed what Americans are all about. Special thanks for the maps of George Skoch. Mr. Skoch's work really helps the reader understand the campaign. A must for all students of the Civil War....Rhea has written a classic!

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. The Best Civil War Book of 1997Von Ein KundeWith the year only four-and-a-half months young, it would still be a safe bet to put your money on Gordon C. Rhea's "The Battles for Spotsylvania Court House and the Road to Yellow Tavern-May 7-12, 1864" for "Best Civil War Book of 1997". Rhea, who gave us his "Battle of the Wilderness" in 1994, has only improved upon that award-winning volume with his latest effort. "The Battles for Spotsylvania" covers the vicious and nearly-disastrous engagement between Grant and Lee during the middle weeks of May, 1864. Here, near this sleepy little village southwest of Fredericksburg, Grant's bluecoats met Lee's butternuts in a mortal maelstrom of some of the most bloody fighting the Old Dominion had yet seen. Long neglected by Civil War writers, this pivotal and oft-confusing series of continuous combats was brought to the modern Civil War buff's attention by William Matter's fine "If It Takes All Summer" in 1988. Rhea, however, takes the torch from here and weaves a masterful narrative, both highly-detailed and smooth flowing at once, to give us, perhaps, the best coverage of this engagement we shall ever have. How so, one might ask? First, Rhea adds to the records and histories, a plethora of unpublished accounts from diaries, letters, memoirs, newspapers, and the like to give this book the comprehensive personal side of battle. Yet, the strategic and tactical concerns of the fighting do not suffer at all. To be sure, the author, once again, has found that special touch in blending the larger and smaller "pictures" into one without detracting from either. Nearly every imaginable aspect of the battle is covered in deft fashion, always maintaining the easy-reading flow in the text. Especially inviting to buffs and important to historians is Rhea's coverage of the concurrent cavalry operations between Phil Sheridan and JEB Stuart, including a riveting account of "Little Phil's" Richmond Raid and Stuart's subsequent death at Yellow Tavern. From the initial fighting at Laurel Hill, through Upton's heroic charge and the battering assaults against the "Bloody Angle", the reader will find and feel that they are seemingly in the midst of the battle itself. I just got my copy and read it in two days--you will find this one very hard to put down! Theodore C. Mahr Dayton, Ohio ----- Former Seasonal Historian Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania Natl. Military Park Author: "The Battle of Cedar Creek: Showdown in the Shenandoah, October 1-30, 1864"[1992]

KurzbeschreibungThe second volume in Gordon C. Rhea's peerless five-book series on the Civil War's 1864 Overland Campaign abounds with Rhea's signature detail, innovative analysis, and riveting prose. Here Rhea examines the maneuvers and battles from May 7, 1864, when Grant left the Wilderness, through May 12, when his attempt to break Lee's line by frontal assault reached a chilling climax at what is now called the Bloody Angle. Drawing exhaustively upon previously untapped materials, Rhea challenges conventional wisdom about this violent clash of titans to construct the ultimate account of Grant and Lee at Spotsylvania.Pressestimmen"The most cogent analysis ever written

on this confused and often misunderstood campaign." -- Blue and Gray "No one will ever write about the 1864 Virginia campaign with the same clarity, drama, and perceptiveness of Rhea." -- Civil War History Kurzbeschreibung

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