



Fall 2002 Staff Ride  
**Battle of Fredericksburg**  
 20 October 2002

**Battle of Fredericksburg:  
 An Annotated Select Bibliography**

Adams, Michael C. C. Fighting for Defeat: Union Military Failure in the East, 1861-1865. Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1978, 1992.

*First published under the title Our Masters the Rebels, Adams argues that the Army of the Potomac developed an inferiority complex that crippled it in action.*

Buell, Clarence. Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. Vol. 3. NY: Yoseloff, 1956.  
*See pp. 70-151 for a series of pertinent articles.*

Brooks, Victor. The Fredericksburg Campaign, October 1862- January 1863. Conshohocan, PA: Combined Publishing, 2000.

*Well-written summary account that includes short sidebars on important character, units, tactics, etc. Also includes a short bibliographic essay for further reading and an order of battle that lists casualties at Fredericksburg.*

Catton, Bruce. The Army of the Potomac: Glory Road. New York: Doubleday and Co., 1952. (through p. 110)

*Catton, among other topics, discusses: 1) Morale of the Army of the Potomac; 2) Politics amongst Union generals; 3) The question of the lost pontoons; 4) The sacking of Fredericksburg; 5) The Mud March and its impact on the morale of the Union Army.*

Connelly, Thomas L. The Marble Man: Robert E. Lee and His Image in American Society. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1977.

*The first of two arresting, iconoclastic works about Lee, to be contrasted with the adoring and powerful biography by Douglas Southall Freeman.*

Coyle, Harold. Look Away. Location???: Publisher???, Date???

*Fictional account of the battle from the perspective of two brothers serving on opposing sides.*

Cullen, Joseph P. The Battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness, and Spotsylvania Court House, Where a Hundred Thousand Fell. Washington, DC: GPO, 1966.

Franklin, William B. Reply of...to the Joint Committee of Congress on the Conduct of the War, on the First Battle of Fredericksburg; Second Edition with Notes and Correspondence. NY: Van Nostrand, 1867.

Gallagher, Gary W. The Fredericksburg Campaign: Decision on the Rappahannock. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995.

*A multi-faceted collection of very fine scholarship from the best historians of the Civil War. Good materials on: Burnside and Union high command at Fredericksburg, Confederate leadership, Confederate evaluation of the battle, the impact of the Union Army on civilians, the "Mud March."*

Glicksberg, Charles I., ed. Walt Whitman and the Civil War. Philadelphia: Publisher???, 1933.

Goolrick, William K. Rebels Resurgent: Fredericksburg to Chancellorsville. Alexandria, VA: Time-Life, 1985.

Harrison, Noel G. Fredericksburg Civil War Sites: April 1861 - November 1862 (sic). Lynchburg VA: HE Howard, Inc., 1995.

*Harrison describes numerous locations on the Fredericksburg battlefield, providing pre-Civil War background, the role of the site during the battle, and then the status of the site today. Also includes detailed bibliographies of primary sources for each site. Worth looking into.*

Hattaway, Herman. Shades of Blue and Gray: An Introductory Military History of the Civil War. Columbia, MO: Univ. of Missouri Press, 1997.

*Good basic background material on the Civil War. Pages 106-112 give a short summary of the Fredericksburg campaign.*

Luvaas, Jay and Harold W. Nelson, eds., The U.S. Army War College Guide to the Battles of Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg. Carlisle: South Mountain Press, 1988.

*A detailed guide to the battlefield, using excerpts from the Official Records (see below). Useful appendix on "Intelligence in the Chancellorsville Campaign."*

Marvel, William. The Battle of Fredericksburg. National Park Civil War Series. Washington, DC: Eastern National Park and Monument Association, 1993.

Nolan, Alan T. Lee Considered: General Robert E. Lee & Civil War History. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1991.

*The second of two arresting, iconoclastic works about Lee, to be contrasted with the adoring and powerful biography by Douglas Southall Freeman.*

O'Reilly, Frank A. "Stonewall" Jackson at Fredericksburg: The Battle of Prospect Hill, December 13, 1862. 2nd ed. Lynchburg, VA: HE Howard, Inc., 1993.

Palfrey, Francis. Antietam and Fredericksburg. New York: Jack Brussel, Publisher, nd. (Reprint of the 1882 edition)

*Early account of the campaign. Majority of emphasis is on the battle of Antietam.*

Rable, George C. Fredericksburg! Fredericksburg! Raleigh, NC: Univ. of NC Press, 2002.

*The absolute latest on the battle of Fredericksburg. Highly readable account that successfully contextualizes the battle of Fredericksburg within the entire Civil War. Draws on a wealth of research in manuscript sources, with extensive Notes section.*

Robertson, Don. The River and the Wilderness. Garden City, NY: Doubleday and Co., 1962.

*Tolstoyesque fictional account of the action at Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. Somewhat racy and at 750 pages, not for the faint of heart.*

Savas, Theodore P. and David A. Woodbury. Blood on the Rappahannock: The Battle of Fredericksburg, Essays on Union and Confederate Leadership. Baton Rouge, LA: Regimental Studies, Inc., Louisiana State University Press, 1995.

*Source material on: 1) Street Fighting; 2) Pennsylvania Reserves; 3) Stonewall Jackson's Defense; 4) Fighting at the Stone Wall by the Irish Brigade; 5) Confederate Horse Artillery.*

Scott, Robert N. Bvt. Lt. Col., USA (ed.). War of the Rebellion: Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, Series I, Vols. 21, 25, Parts I-II. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1889.

*Nothing beats the originals: it takes a while to figure out the organization, but the raw*

*material - reports, correspondence, dispatches - is all here. A majority of these official records are also available at various locations on the internet.*

Shaara, Jeff. Gods and Generals. Location???: Publisher???, Date???

*A fictional depiction of the battle from the son of the author of Killer Angels.*

Smith, Carl. Fredericksburg 1862. Oxford: Osprey Publishing, 1999.

*Best basic summary of the Fredericksburg campaign. Plentiful pictures, maps, and diagrams of the battle. If you only have time for one, this is it.*

Stackpole, Edward J. The Battle of Fredericksburg. Harrisburg, PA: Historical Times, 1965.

*Short paperback volume published as a special edition for the Civil War Times. Illustrated with contemporary lithographs.*

Stackpole, James. The Fredericksburg Campaign. 2nd ed. Harrisburg, PA: Stackpole Books: 1991.

*Drawing upon his background in WWI and WWII, Stackpole gives a classic, although not unbiased, chronological account of the battle. Both editions are copiously illustrated with contemporary pictures. The second edition also contains a rejoinder that attempts to balance Stackpole's interpretation of events.*

Sutherland, Daniel. Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville: The Dare Mark Campaign.

Location???: Publisher???, 1998.

*Contemporary scholarship on the period from the fall of 1862 through the early summer of 1863. Majority of emphasis is on Chancellorsville.*

U.S. Congress. Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War. Army of the Potomac: History of Its Campaigns, the Peninsula, Maryland, Fredericksburg. New York: NY Tribune Association, 1863.

Voices of the Civil War: Fredericksburg. Alexandria, VA: Time-Life Books, 1997.

*Quotes from military and civilian participants. Well-illustrated with original photographs and drawings. Includes narrative of the campaign and battle.*

Whan, Vorin W., Jr. Fiasco at Fredericksburg. Gaithersburg, MD: Butternut Pr, 1986.

*Reprint of 1961 edition.*

Wheeler, Richard. Lee's Terrible Swift Sword: From Antietam to Chancellorsville; An Eyewitness History. NY: Harper Collins, 1992.

Wiley, Bell I. The Life of Billy Yank and The Life of Johnny Reb. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, various editions, 1948-1977.

*Classic Civil War studies of the life of the average soldier, available in paperback.*

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