

The monograph is clearly written and provides its readers with a thorough account of Winder's life, his own liabilities, and the limitations under which he operated, all of which may cause some to modify their evaluation of the controversial general. It remains to be seen if Blakey's book brings about any significant reevaluation of Winder.

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America's National Battlefield Parks: A Guide. By Joseph E. Stevens; maps by Beth Silverman. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1990. Pp. xiv, 337. Illustrations, maps, index. \$29.95.)

While it may be unwise to judge a book by its cover, in the case of Joseph E. Stevens's guide to American battlefield parks, happily the contents are equally as absorbing and gripping as the jacket front's striking artistic color recreation of a scene from the battle of Gettysburg. In thirty-eight chapters, one for each battlefield park administered by the National Park Service, Stevens surveys much of America's military heritage, beginning with the American Revolution and ending with the War in the Pacific Historical Park in Guam and the U.S.S. *Arizona* Memorial on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. His prose sparkles as he recreates not only battlefield troop movements but also the real-life experiences of the participants.

With the traveler in mind, the chapters are arranged geographically: North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, South, and West. By far the largest number—nineteen—are southern Civil War battlefield parks. Each chapter is also geared to the park visitor. A box insert gives directions to the park, availability of gas, food and lodging, and information on handicapped access and park activities. The guide offers detailed, self-guided walking and auto tours keyed to National Park Service numbered tour stops. Fifty-two clear and simple maps, prepared by Beth Silverman, indicate present-day roads, trails, and visitor facilities. Visuals also include eighty drawings, paintings, and modern and historic photographs.

Each battle is faithfully and skillfully recreated in an engaging narrative style. Stevens gives the background, strategy, tactics, and significance of the engagements. In nineteen pages the battle at Gettysburg comes alive, and the carnage—51,000 casualties in three days—is poignantly portrayed. The twelve pages on Vicksburg, another turning point of the war, include a wartime lithograph showing Union forces firing at the forts around Vicks-

burg and a wartime photograph of the Union ironclad *Cairo*, sent to the river bottom in 1862, salvaged a hundred years later and currently on display. The only Midwest entry is George Rogers Clark National Historical Park, which stands on the site of old Fort Sackville in Vincennes, Indiana. The park commemorates the seizure of the fort from the British on February 25, 1779, and the role of the Clark expedition in conquering the old Northwest Territory. Stevens graphically portrays the successful siege of the fort by Clark and his men after they had spent eighteen days slogging through freezing mud and wading chest deep in icy water.

The narrative is a mix of the heroic and the tragic. The human dimension is ever-present. A letter written by a dying son to his father during the twenty hours of nonstop savagery at Spotsylvania is reproduced. Some of the photographs are worth a thousand words: the dead among shattered trees on the slope of Little Round Top at Gettysburg; a solitary headstone, nearly overgrown with tall grass, which marked the spot where one of George Custer's men fell; Union infantrymen sitting in a trench, waiting for orders to advance.

The guide is a treasure for anyone who plans to visit battle-field parks. It will make tours more rewarding and more easily manageable. It is readable and comprehensive enough, however, to appeal to a wider audience. It makes great armchair reading for the sedentary who love dramatic and well-crafted historical writing.

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Building the Myth: Selected Speeches Memorializing Abraham Lincoln. Edited by Waldo W. Braden. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1990. Pp. v, 259. Notes, selected bibliography, index. \$34.95.)

In this insightful selection of Lincolniana editor Waldo Braden presents eulogies and ceremonial tributes that have contributed to a prevailing Lincoln mythology. For some seven generations politicians and preachers have been getting "right with Lincoln," as the late Senator Everett Dirksen once astutely noted. In this process of getting right, political and spiritual leaders have created an atmosphere that permits little if anything to despoil the Emancipator's sainted memory, thereby successfully securing the mythos of this epic hero in the American mind.

In a perceptive introductory essay Braden notes the change in public sentiment from a "maligned Old Abe" to his "personification" as "Father Abraham" and "Savior of the Republic" (p. 1). Ex-