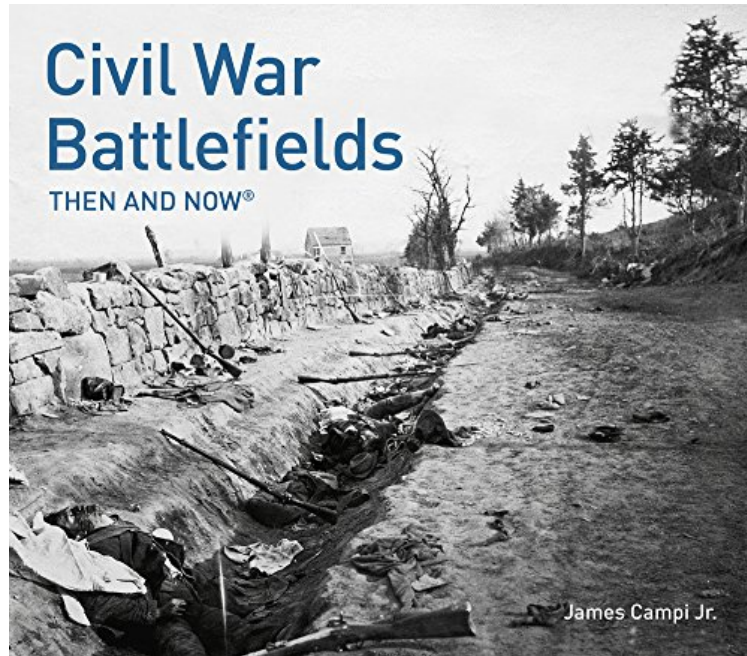


(Download) Civil War Battlefields Then and Now

## Civil War Battlefields Then and Now

*James Campi Jr.*

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**James Campi Jr. : Civil War Battlefields Then and Now** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Civil War Battlefields Then and Now:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Good but not GreatBy John ByhofferThis book is interesting from a historical perspective and contains many good pictures. However, I was disappointed that many of the pictures have no captions accompanying them which describe what the reader is actually seeing. Some do but many don't. Instead, there is text adjacent to lots of the pictures discussing general aspects of the war, but not the pictures themselves. And, even though the book's title references battlefields, most of the pictures in the book are NOT of battlefields - but rather, show buildings, streets, forts and other "non-battlefield" scenes. Especially disappointing is the modern picture of the block wall along the sunken road at Fredericksburg. It was taken at the wrong time of day and is entirely in the shade, thus rendering identification of individual blocks impossible when comparing it to the wartime picture of Confederate dead and their rifles laying along it. In any "then and now" book, most readers buy them to compare wartime pictures with modern pictures of the same scene to see how they've changed and whether the subjects of the pictures even still exist. But this book often shows a "now" picture that differs greatly from the "then" wartime view. One thing I do like about the book is the way it presents the war in a chronological format that leads the reader from beginning to end of the conflict. In that way, readers can grasp a good sense of the timeline and the order of events that led to the eventual fall of the Confederacy. But the book also tries to present itself too much as a historical summary of the whole conflict, rather than sticking to its original concept of a "then and now" war pictorial. I would have rated the book higher than 3 if more attention had been given to the importance of the 'before and after' aspects of the photographs, which is why most Civil War enthusiasts would buy a book like this in the first place. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. An Informative Little Book full of Wonderful Then and Now PhotosBy Gregory

E. Foster Do I feel like being super-critical here?.....NO! A long-time Civil War buff, I have walked many of the places shown in this little book. It is a nice, compact little "remembrance" of those "field-trips" spent in deep reflection by me over the years. I see no reason to overly-criticize the "now" photos (as others have done). The drastic changes that have taken place in the interim since the original ones were taken are what one needs to consider (this is the point of this book, after all), and "great photography" is NOT the focus of this volume. All photos are relevant enough, and depict what the author was wanting to point out/up to us...do not forget that many of these places have been desecrated by our encroachment into/onto those hallowed fields (shamefully) since the carnage of the Civil War took place. A Great little book, certainly inexpensive enough for ANY Civil War buff or American historian to consider adding to his/her collection. ~G3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Civil War Battlefields Then and Now By John R. Moore This is actually a very good book. I didn't give it a full 5 stars simply because not all the modern pictures were taken from the same perspective as the 19th century camera positions, which is what the book attempts to do, and there is no reason given for the difference. I have personally visited many of the sites depicted and can see no reason why some of the camera positions could not have been replicated a bit more accurately. This is not to say the book is disappointing. The pictures are poignant and many serve to show how often we simply drive past much of our history as it stands quietly beside our modern roads, anonymous testimony to far reaching events which may have taken place in a few hours, but which resonate in the national consciousness (especially in the South) to this day. This book can serve as a useful guide to anyone who wishes to make history come alive by simply going to the exact spots where much of the action actually happened. History was excruciatingly boringly taught when I was in school, and a book like this would have made a big difference in my interest as a student. Since so much of the war between the states took place in the state of Virginia, I recommend it to any curious Virginians who will find many of the locations more convenient geographically than people who have to travel farther to find the scenes.

Documenting the rise and fall of the Confederacy between 1861 and 1865 was a new figure on the battlefield: the war photographer. The Civil War was the first major conflict to be recorded by cameras and men such as Mathew Brady, George Barnard and Timothy O'Sullivan made their names by capturing unforgettable images of death and destruction. This book uses many of these photographers' classic images and revisits the sites to show how they look today. Arranged chronologically, the book begins with the attack on Fort Sumter in 1861, journeys through the major battle sites in Virginia, and ends at Appomattox Court House in 1865, with the epitaph of the Lincoln assassination.

About the Author James Campi, Jr. is a political communications veteran who is currently responsible for government and public relations at the Civil War Trust, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving Civil War battlegrounds. He has successfully lobbied for \$100 million in government grants for historic preservation.