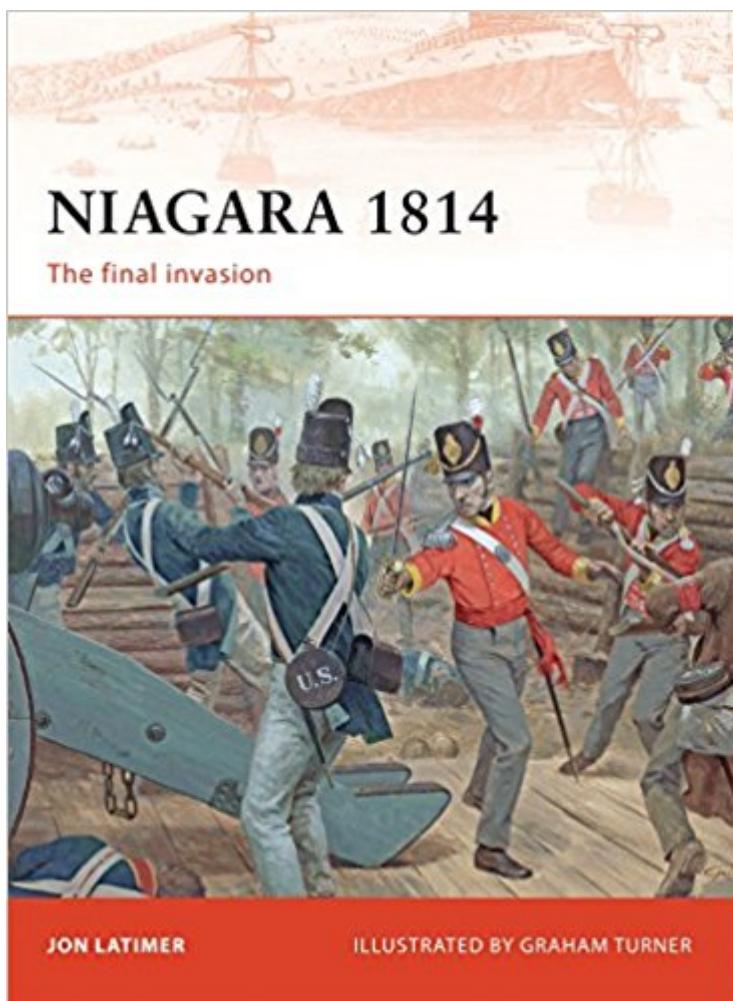


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Niagara 1814: The Final Invasion (Campaign)



Synopsis

The War of 1812 (1812-1814) has the strange distinction of being a war largely forgotten by both of its main participants. Despite being overshadowed by the Napoleonic Wars raging in Europe, the War of 1812 saw Americans, British, Canadians, and Native Americans wage an increasing brutal conflict all along the border. By 1814, with war coming to a close in Europe, the Americans decided to launch one last, major land offensive in an attempt to seize Canada. Although previous attempts had most often ended in disaster, the American army of 1814 contained several highly trained units under competent leadership including the legendary Winfield Scott. This final Niagara campaign saw a number of pitched battles including Chippawa, Lundy's Lane, and Cook's Mill, where the American Bluecoats matched the British shot for shot. However, due to poor planning at the highest levels of American office, the campaign was ultimately a failure and the result ensured the survival of Canada as an independent state. A critically-acclaimed researcher on the War of 1812, author John Latimer presents a new look at an oft-forgotten yet crucially important campaign in the history of North America.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Overall, this is a well written volume, which would be a useful addition to any collection on that period, providing the reader with a large breadth of information in a very digestible format. The colour maps and illustrations are very clear and enhance the text." -www.napoleon-series.org (July 2009)

Jon Latimer lives in Swansea where he studied Oceanography, and after a varied career in environmental science now writes full-time. Jon also served for 17 years in the Territorial Army, including an attachment to the Australian Army Reserve. He has already written Campaign 73: Operation Compass 1940 for Osprey. He is also the author of The Art of Deception in War.

My great etc...grandfather fought in this battle so I was excited to this this book, and I'm not disappointed. Once again Osprey had published a simple, but effective guide to what some claim as the bloodiest battle of The War of 1815. I think the British might say New Orleans, but I'm not a professional historian. My only beef is the time it took to get here. Not the publishers fault, they sent it out quickly, but the turtle got tired.

"Niagara 1814" is a first rate Osprey Campaign Series entry focused on the last land battles along the Canadian border as the War of 1812 drew to a close. Well-trained American troops ("Those are regulars, by God") for the first time stood up as equals to their British and Canadian opponents, but in an inconclusive campaign that did little more than set up peace talks in 1815. The introduction brings the reader up to date on the status of the War of 1814 and what was at stake in 1814. A chronology of the Niagara campaign is followed by descriptions of the opposing commanders, their armies, and their plans. The narrative of the Niagara campaign itself follows the fighting from Chippawa to Lundy's Lane to Fort Erie, with a worthwhile side trip to Plattsburgh, New York. The text is supplemented by a very nice collection of maps, diagrams, illustrations, and photographs. The perspective of British author Jon Latimer is both honest and a refreshingly change from U.S.-centric histories of the campaign and the war. At the same time, Latimer manages to bring both sides to account for their successes and their failures. "Niagara 1814" is a really fascinating read and well-recommended.

The author, Jon Latimer did a great job of breaking down the Niagara campaign into its various component battles. The book is well written and the sequence of events is easy to follow. The book effectively covers the primary battles of Chippawa, Lundy's Lane, Plattsburgh, and the siege of Fort Erie. These engagements are covered in enough detail to allow the reader to easily follow the action. The book also covers the lesser engagements at Conjecta Creek, Cook's Mills & Malcolm's Mills, and the American sortie out of Fort Erie. Although the detail is not as extensive as the major battles, the author still does a great job of describing these engagements. The campaign maps are

clear, uncluttered, and easy to read. Each map indicates the major military unit involved, the route of advance, and the relevant geographic reference points. The battles of Chippawa, Lundy's Lane, and Fort Erie are also supplemented with 3D bird's eye view maps. All these maps provide just the right amount of information. The book contains a wide assortment of black & white and color drawings. The author also included three 2-page color illustrations. These drawings give the reader an excellent feel for the events described in the adjoining text. Early on, the author describes the various commanding officers. These descriptions are insightful when their decisions and conduct are described later in the book. Another helpful part is the Orders of Battle. This concise list is an extremely helpful reference tool for the reader. Bottom line: This is a well written and easy to read narrative. The author did an excellent job describing the various battles to paint the overall campaign picture. This narrative is then supported with a wide assortment of illustrations. The reader will certainly walk away with a clear understanding of this campaign.

great buy

As Advertised   Good Condition

Book was used.

Many insights and pictures for my research. The battle statistics were helpful and pictures were especially good. I recommend this book for someone who doesn't want to wade through details.

Good treatment, great maps, wonderful history for an upstate New Yorker.

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