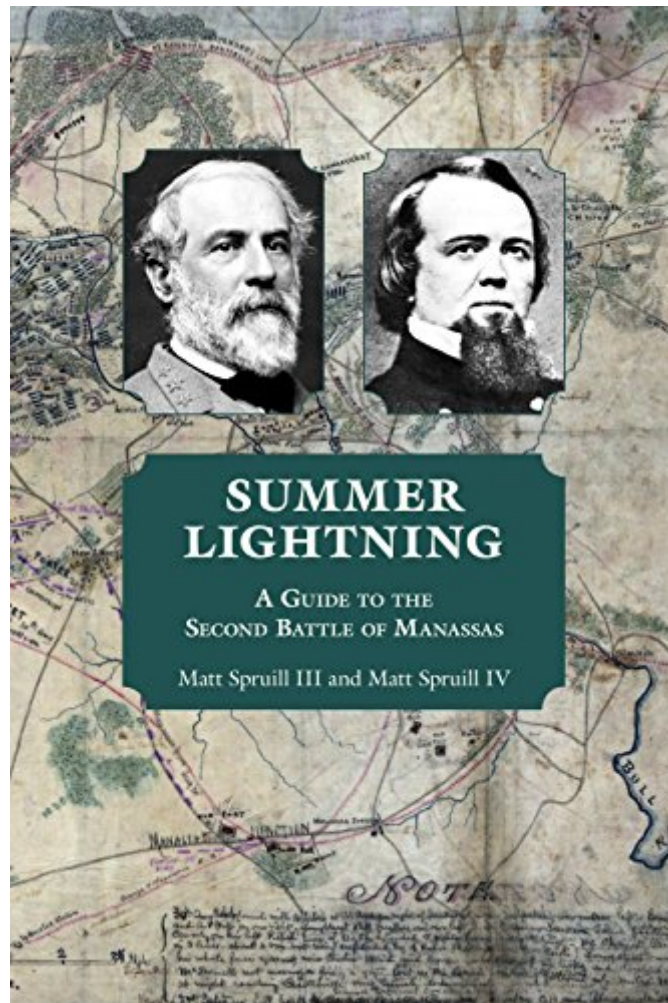


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Summer Lightning: A Guide To The Second Battle Of Manassas



Synopsis

From August 28 to August 30, 1862, Union and Confederate armies fought for the second time on the Manassas, Virginia, battlefield. The Battle of Second Manassas, or Second Bull Run, was the culmination of General Robert E. Lee's campaign after the Seven Days to shift the fighting from the vicinity of Richmond to northern Virginia. Lee's victory placed him in a position to carry the war north of the Potomac River and set the stage for the Maryland Campaign of 1862. Summer Lightning is a battlefield guide that sequentially follows the fighting from Brawner's Farm on August 28 to the final Confederate attacks against Union positions at Henry Hill on August 30. Summer Lightning uses a series of twenty stops with multiple positions to guide the reader through the battlefield and to positions and routes used by both armies, thus providing a "you are there" view of the engagement. With easy-to-follow directions, detailed tactical maps, extensive eyewitness accounts, and editorial analysis, the reader is transported to the center of the action. A detailed order of battle for both armies is provided, as well as information on important sites away from the main battlefield.

Book Information

File Size: 9476 KB

Print Length: 224 pages

Publisher: Univ Tennessee Press; 1 edition (October 1, 2013)

Publication Date: October 1, 2013

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00XR3IE1E

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #762,695 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #29

in Books > History > Americas > United States > Civil War > Campaigns & Battlefields > Bull

Run #130 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > History > Americas > United States > Civil War >

Customer Reviews

Great, all the way around. Low price, condition of book was as promised, and shipped fast. Thank you.

Matt Spruill is the author of many Civil War books including four previous battlefield guides. Previous guidebooks include the battles of the Seven Days (with his son Matt Spruill IV), Stones River (with his son Lee Spruill), Chickamauga, and Chattanooga. Spruill, a retired U. S. Army colonel and former Gettysburg licensed battlefield guide, along with his sons, has, to me, demonstrated a knack for putting together an excellent onsite view of a battle, and Summer Lightning continues that trend. For anyone interested in the Second Battle of Manassas, this guidebook presents a precise outline of events as they unfolded; quite suitable for anyone with an interest in this battle. The Spruill's begin with the war situation at that time and then explain both Pope's and Lee's plans of attack. They continue to explain how things began to fall apart for Pope, as Lee, Longstreet, and Jackson set a trap. An armchair reader will quickly grasp the flow of the battle. For those who plan, or may plan to actually walk the battlefield, this book is a "must have." As anyone who has walked a battlefield knows, nothing beats being where the action occurred. The Spruill's thoroughly plan your tour so that it makes complete sense to you as you progress during the battle at the various stops and sites. They make a point of properly orientating you as to what you are observing. The positioning of the many stops allows you to see what the generals and soldiers actually saw, and the complications they faced. Each stop is augmented with comments made by participants at that exact location which lends an air of "you are there" to the battle. My experience with these guides makes them indispensable to myself and, in fact, anyone planning to walk these battlefields. Summer Lightning is certainly no exception!

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