



Gettysburg--Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill (Civil War America)

By Harry W. Pfanz



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In this companion to his celebrated earlier book, *Gettysburg--The Second Day*, Harry Pfanz provides the first definitive account of the fighting between the Army of the Potomac and Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia at Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill--two of the most critical engagements fought at Gettysburg on 2 and 3 July 1863. Pfanz provides detailed tactical accounts of each stage of the contest and explores the interactions between--and decisions made by--generals on both sides. In particular, he illuminates Confederate lieutenant general Richard S. Ewell's controversial decision not to attack Cemetery Hill after the initial southern victory on 1 July. Pfanz also explores other salient features of the fighting, including the Confederate occupation of the town of Gettysburg, the skirmishing in the south end of town and in front of the hills, the use of breastworks on Culp's Hill, and the small but decisive fight between Union cavalry and the Stonewall Brigade.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Pfanz follows Gettysburg--The Second Day with a definitive reconstruction of the fighting in a sector which has been neglected by historians. In early July 1863, the Union right wing was based on Cemetery Hill and Culp's Hill. Had the Confederates broken through these positions, Pickett's charge would have been unnecessary. The South nearly succeeded in a series of attacks between July 1 and 3. Pfanz describes Richard Ewell's failure to storm Cemetery Hill on July 1 as a reflection of command friction rather than of incompetence. It nevertheless gave Union troops the respite they needed. Pfanz, a master at describing the tactical details that shaped Civil War battles, is especially adept at evaluating the commanders. Union generals Alpheus Williams and Adolph von Stinwehr and Confederates like "Maryland" Steuart and "Extra Billy" Smith emerge in full dimension in a book that Civil War buffs and scholars will greet with enthusiasm.

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From [Booklist](#)

After visitors have recoiled in horror from the kitschy tourist trade, their first impression of present-day Gettysburg is the spaciousness of the battlefield that lies just south of the town. The opposing lines of regimental cenotaphs march for miles through the hilly countryside, conveying the distinct sense that in July 1863, the left wing of the line could have had but a hazy notion what the right wing was doing. In actuality, the battle was a series of disjointed improvisations, which, combined with the endless fascination with this turning point in the Civil War, constantly inspires titles on the minutest aspects of the fighting. And who better to supply the insatiable demand for such facts than Pfanz, once official historian at Gettysburg's national park. His previous declamations have perhaps been listened to by the likely reader of this exacting narrative chronology of the struggle for the northern end of the Union line. If a cannon, caisson, or colonel had a shred of importance, Pfanz will speculate about how differently the entire battle could have turned out. Best for the lifelong Gettysburg buff. *Gilbert Taylor*

Review

Civil War enthusiasts should clear a space on their bookshelf for "Gettysburg--Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill". "Blue and Gray"

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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Book is definitely written, printed, or descriptive for everything. You can understand everything you want by a reserve. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important thing to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading skill was fluently. A publication Gettysburg--Culp's Hill and Cemetery Hill (Civil War America) will make you to become smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about almost everything. But some of you think in which open or reading any book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they may be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or appropriate book with you?

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Kirk Banks:

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