

# Ironclads

## The Battle of the Ironclads

Battle of the Ironclads brings to life the dramatic events which occurred in Hampton Roads on March 8 and 9, 1862. This first battle between armored vessels, often called the Monitor-Merrimack engagement, is perhaps the most significant naval event of the entire Civil War. This thrilling history is the first volume to offer a comprehensive pictorial interpretation of the men and ships that forever changed naval warfare. Over 150 images, including photographs, engravings, paintings, and sketches, have been gathered from museums, archives, and private collections to chronicle the exciting story of the U.S.S. Monitor and the C.S.S. Virginia (Merrimack). While Battle of the Ironclads is a visual history of the first battle between armored ships, it is also a saga of uncommon valor and leadership epitomized by Franklin Buchanan, George U. Morris, Samuel Dana Greene, and John Taylor Wood. The brilliant innovations of John Mercer Brooke and the farsighted inventions of John Ericsson made this showdown in Hampton Roads a death for wooden sailing ships. Battle of the Ironclads is indeed an epic tale that tells how steam-powered iron vessels not only influenced the Civil War, but more importantly, how the two ironclads echoed the dawn of modern navies.

## Civil War Ironclads

Honorable Mention, Science and Technology category, John Lyman Book Awards, North American Society for Oceanic History Civil War Ironclads supplies the first comprehensive study of one of the most ambitious programs in the history of naval shipbuilding. In constructing its new fleet of ironclads, William H. Roberts explains, the U.S. Navy faced the enormous engineering challenges of a largely experimental technology. In addition, it had to manage a ship acquisition program of unprecedented size and complexity. To meet these challenges, the Navy established a "project office" that was virtually independent of the existing administrative system. The office spearheaded efforts to broaden the naval industrial base and develop a marine fleet of ironclads by granting shipbuilding contracts to inland firms. Under the intense pressure of a wartime economy, it learned to support its high-technology vessels while incorporating the lessons of combat. But neither the broadened industrial base nor the advanced management system survived the return of peace. Cost overruns, delays, and technical blunders discredited the embryonic project office, while capital starvation and never-ending design changes crippled or ruined almost every major builder of ironclads. When Navy contracts evaporated, so did the shipyards. Contrary to widespread belief, Roberts concludes, the ironclad program set Navy shipbuilding back a generation.

## Battle of the Ironclads

Read about the famous Civil War battle between two armored ships.

## A History of Ironclads

One of history's greatest naval engagements, the Battle of Hampton Roads, occurred on March 8 and 9, 1862. On the first morning, the Confederate ironclad the CSS Virginia, formerly known as the Merrimack, sank two Union wooden warships, proving the power of the armored vessels over the traditional sailing ships. The next morning, the Virginia engaged the Union ironclad USS Monitor to a draw in a battle that significantly altered naval warfare. It was the first engagement between ironclads and ushered in a new era of warship construction and ordnance. The 25, 000 sailors, soldiers and civilians who witnessed the battle knew then what history would soon confirm: wars waged on the waters would never be the same. The seemingly invincible Monitor and Virginia were experimental ships, revolutionary combinations of new and old

technology, and their clash on March 9, 1862, was the culmination of over 2,000 years of naval experience. The construction and combat service of ironclads during the Civil War were the first in a cascade of events that influenced the outcome of the war and prompted the development of improved ironclads as well as the creation of new weapons systems, such as torpedoes and submarines, needed to counter modern armored warships.

## **Ironclads and Paddlers**

This book is a collection of paintings of "ironclads," the ships protected from shot and shell by iron plating, and "paddlers," ships propelled by paddle wheels, steam and sail.

## **The Ironclads**

The battle between the Confederate ship Merrimac and the Union's Monitor at Hampton Roads, Virginia, on March 9, 1862, introduced the age of the ironclads and ended the dominance of wooden warships forever. This fascinating book shares the behind-the-scenes drama of both the battle and the development of the ships that transformed naval warfare and changed the course of the Civil War.

## **The Monitor versus the Merrimac**

In graphic format, tells of the Civil War battle known as the Battle of Hampton Roads, the first-ever between ironclad warships.

## **Ironclads in Action**

Contrary to widespread belief, Roberts concludes, the ironclad program set Navy shipbuilding back a generation.--Kathy Crewdson and Ian Dew "The Northern Mariner"

## **Civil War Ironclads**

At the outbreak of the Civil War, North and South quickly saw the need to develop the latest technology in naval warfare, the ironclad ship. After a year-long scramble to finish first, in a race filled with intrigue and second guessing, blundering and genius, the two ships -- the Monitor and the Merrimack -- after a four-hour battle, ended the three-thousand-year tradition of wooden men-of-war and ushered in "the reign of iron." In the first major work on the subject in thirty-five years, novelist, historian, and tall-ship sailor James L. Nelson, acclaimed author of the Brethren of the Coast trilogy, brilliantly recounts the story of these magnificent ships, the men who built and fought them, and the extraordinary battle that made them legend.

## **Ironclads in Action**

In the annals of naval history, the era of ironclad warships stands as a testament to human ingenuity and the relentless pursuit of maritime dominance. These colossal vessels, encased in thick armor and armed with powerful guns, revolutionized naval combat, ushering in a new age of technological innovation and strategic thinking. This comprehensive exploration of the ironclad era takes readers on a riveting journey through the world of these iron behemoths, from their humble origins to their starring roles in epic naval clashes. Witness the legendary duel between the USS Monitor and CSS Virginia at the Battle of Hampton Roads, a pivotal moment that forever altered the course of naval warfare. Delve into the technological advancements that fueled the rapid evolution of ironclads, from steam propulsion and turret-mounted guns to innovative armor and weaponry. Beyond their battlefield exploits, ironclads also left an indelible mark on society and culture. Explore their representation in popular culture, from their portrayal in literature and film to their enduring presence in museums and historic sites. Examine their significance as symbols of national pride and identity,

and how these vessels became potent embodiments of maritime power and technological prowess. Unravel the intricate tapestry of the ironclad era, where technology, strategy, and human endeavor intertwined to shape a transformative period in naval history. Gain a deeper understanding of the immense power and influence wielded by these ironclad leviathans, and their lasting impact on the world stage. This book is an essential read for anyone fascinated by naval history, technological innovation, and the enduring legacy of these iconic warships. Prepare to be captivated by the stories of ironclad battles, technological marvels, and the men who sailed these mighty vessels into the annals of history. If you like this book, write a review on google books!

## **Reign of Iron**

In November 1859, the French warship *La Gloire* was launched. She was the world's first seagoing ironclad - a warship built from wood, but whose hull was clad in a protective layer of iron plate. Britain, not to be outdone, launched her own ironclad the following year - *HMS Warrior* - which, when she entered service, became the most powerful warship in the world. Just like the *Dreadnought* half a century later, this ship changed the nature of naval warfare forever, and sparked a frantic arms race. The elegant but powerful *Warrior* embodied the technological advances of the early Victorian era, and the spirit of this new age of steam, iron and firepower. Fully illustrated with detailed cutaway artwork, this book covers the British ironclad from its inception and emergence in 1860, to 1875, a watershed year, which saw the building of a new generation of recognisably modern turreted battleships.

## **The Duel of Ironclads**

From Spain to Russia, and from Ottoman Turkey to Bismarck's Prussia, this book explores 15 years that transformed European naval warfare. When the *Gloire* slid down the Toulon slipway in 1859, it changed sea power forever. With this ship, the world's first oceangoing ironclad, France had a warship that could sink any other, and which was proof against the guns of any wooden ship afloat. Instantly, an arms race began between the great navies of Europe – first to build their own ironclads, and then to surpass each other's technology and designs. As both armour and gun technology rapidly improved, naval architects found new ways to mount and protect guns. The ram briefly came back into fashion, and Italian and Austro-Hungarian fleets fought the ironclad era's great battle at Lissa. By the end of this revolutionary period, the modern battleship was becoming recognizable, and new naval powers were emerging to dominate Europe's waters.

## **British Ironclads 1860–75**

Hampered by lack of materials, shipyards and experienced shipbuilders, even so the South managed to construct 34 iron-armored warships during the Civil War, of which the Confederate Navy put 25 into service. The stories of these vessels illustrate the hardships under which the Navy operated--and also its resourcefulness. Except for the *Albemarle*, no Confederate ironclad was sunk or destroyed by enemy action. Overtaken by events on the ground, most were destroyed by their own crews to prevent them from falling into Union hands. This account covers the design and construction and the engagements of the Confederate ironclads and describes the ingenuity and courage, as well as the challenges and frustrations of their \"too little, too late\" service.

## **European Ironclads 1860–75**

A description of the construction, battles, and historical impact of the Civil War battleships, the *Monitor* and the *Virginia*, known to Union forces as the *Monitor* and the *Merrimack*, focuses on the Battle of Hampton Roads, where it was evident that the age of wooden warships was gone forever. Reprint.

## **Confederate Ironclads at War**

In the annals of naval history, the Age of Steam Warships stands as a transformative era that revolutionized maritime warfare and reshaped global power dynamics. This meticulously researched book delves into the captivating history of steam warships, exploring their profound impact on naval strategy, tactics, and global politics. From the mid-19th century to the early 20th century, steam-powered vessels, ironclad armor, and explosive shells ushered in an era of unprecedented naval dominance and technological advancement. Witness the birth of steam-powered warships, the rise of ironclads, and the dramatic shift in naval tactics brought about by rifled guns and explosive shells. Experience the pivotal role of naval power in shaping the course of history, from colonial expansion to global diplomacy. Through detailed analysis and captivating narratives, this book transports readers to the heart of this transformative era. Discover the technological innovations that fueled the rise of steam warships, from the development of steam engines to the adoption of ironclad armor. Explore the strategic implications of these advancements, as navies sought to maximize firepower while minimizing exposure to enemy fire. Immerse yourself in the stories of prominent naval figures, such as Admiral Horatio Nelson, whose exploits left an enduring legacy in naval warfare. Delve into the global reach of naval power, as empires expanded their influence through trade and diplomacy, and witness the emergence of the United States as a major naval power, challenging the traditional dominance of European navies. This comprehensive overview of the Age of Steam Warships is a must-read for anyone interested in naval history, technological advancements, and the shaping of global power dynamics. Its engaging narrative and in-depth analysis provide a deeper understanding of the factors that transformed naval warfare and left a lasting impact on the world's navies and the course of maritime history. If you like this book, write a review on google books!

## **Duel of the Ironclads**

A Scottish immigrant to Illinois, Joseph Brown made his pre-Civil War fortune as a miller and steamboat captain who dabbled in riverboat design and the politics of small towns. When war erupted, he used his connections (including a friendship with Abraham Lincoln) to obtain contracts to build three ironclad gunboats for the U.S. War Department--the Chillicothe, Indianola and Tuscumbia. Often described as failures, these vessels were active in some of the most ferocious river fighting of the 1863 Vicksburg campaign. After the war, "Captain Joe" became a railroad executive and was elected mayor of St. Louis. This book covers his life and career, as well as the construction and operational histories of his controversial trio of warships.

## **Elegant Ironclads and Thundering Engines**

Civil War expert Robert MacBride charts the history of the ironclads of the Civil War, heavily illustrated with plans and diagrams. The battle between the USS Monitor and the CSS Virginia (nee Merrimack), at Hampton Roads was neither the beginning nor the end of the story of the ironclad warships in the Civil War. Both the Union and the Confederate navies not only had other ironclad ships in commission at the time of the battle, they already had used them in combat. The months following saw the appearance of squadrons of monitors and casemate ironclads of the general design of the Virginia. It is with the sequels to the Battle of Hampton Roads that this book is primarily concerned.

## **Joseph Brown and His Civil War Ironclads**

In November 1859, the French warship La Gloire was launched. She was the world's first seagoing ironclad - a warship built from wood, but whose hull was clad in a protective layer of iron plate. Britain, not to be outdone, launched her own ironclad the following year - HMS Warrior - which, when she entered service, became the most powerful warship in the world. Just like the Dreadnought half a century later, this ship changed the nature of naval warfare forever, and sparked a frantic arms race. The elegant but powerful

Warrior embodied the technological advances of the early Victorian era, and the spirit of this new age of steam, iron and firepower. Fully illustrated with detailed cutaway artwork, this book covers the British ironclad from its inception and emergence in 1860, to 1875, a watershed year, which saw the building of a new generation of recognisably modern turreted battleships.

## **Our Ironclads and Merchant Ships**

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## **Our ironclads and merchant ships**

There was more fighting along the coast of North Carolina than in all other parts of the state combined. The reason for this was simple: there were important strategic objectives to be won along the coast, and they were within easy striking distance of the main federal naval base at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay. North Carolina's well protected coastline offered a perfect refuge for privateers who sailed for and captured so many union merchant vessels in the early days of the war that maritime insurance companies in the North went into a panic, forcing the government to mount an expedition against Cape Hatteras, North Carolina's coastal counties, and the state's coastal railroad systems, were vital to the feeding and resupply of Robert E. Lee's Army. And even after the tightening blockade and powerful federal assaults closed off the ports of Charleston, New Orleans, and Mobile, the city of Wilmington continued to provide a haven for the blockade runners. The city eventually became the most strategically important location in the entire Confederacy, more so even than Richmond itself. The campaign's that resulted from this strategic situation are exceptionally interesting since they foreshadow the amphibious campaigns of WW II. There was so much fighting along the sounds and rivers of North Carolina that the U. S. Navy ordered crash courses in those Civil War campaigns when it became involved in riverine warfare during the Vietnam conflict. In these pages, the reader will encounter such men as William Cushing, often referred to as "Lincoln's commando," who led raid after raid deep into Confederate territory and whose bravery was matched by his good luck; and handsome, gallant young William Lamb, a journalist by trade who designed and commanded Fort Fisher, the largest earthwork fortress in the world, and defended it heroically against the mightiest armada the U.S. Navy had ever launched to that point in its history. The story of the coastal war is one of frustration, missed opportunities for both sides, lopsided victories and heartbreaking defeats, illuminated at every turn by flashes of extraordinary bravery and tactical brilliance. This book tells the story in more detail than it has ever been told before.

## **Ironclads in action, a sketch of naval warfare from 1855 to 1895**

This book explores various perspectives surrounding the Battle of Hampton Roads and the Battle of the Ironclads in the Civil War. Readers are immersed in the action as their choices guide the narrative.

## **Civil War Ironclads: The Dawn Of Naval Armor**

One was called "a tin can on a shingle"; the other, "a half-submerged crocodile." Yet, on a March day in 1862 in Hampton Roads, Virginia, after a five-hour duel, the U.S.S. Monitor and the C.S.S. Virginia (formerly the U.S.S. Merrimack) were to change the course of not only the Civil War but also naval warfare forever. Using letters, diaries, and memoirs of men who lived through the epic battle of the Monitor and the

Merrimack and of those who witnessed it from afar, William C. Davis documents and analyzes this famous confrontation of the first two modern warships. The result is a full-scale history that is as exciting as a novel. Besides a thorough discussion of the designs of each ship, Davis portrays some of the men involved in the building and operation of America's first ironclads—John Ericsson, supreme egoist and engineering genius who designed the Monitor; John Brooke, designer of the Virginia; John Worden, the well-loved captain of the Monitor; Captain Franklin Buchanan of the Virginia; and a host of other men on both Union and Confederate sides whose contributions make this history as much a story of men as of ships and war.

## **On Circular Ironclads ... Read at the Seventeenth Session of the Institution of Naval Architects, 6th April, 1876**

Every U.S. Navy ironclad—oceangoing and riverine—from monitors to casemate riverboats, with descriptions of their Civil War combat and operational roles, failures as well as successes is included.

## **Ironclads in Action**

More than 175 archive and museum photographs, illustrations and diagrams bring to life the history, construction, appearance and function of these amazing fighting vessels. An illustrated history of the origins and evolution of early battleships.

## **British Ironclads 1860–75**

Details the era of the ironclad from its official beginnings at Hampton Roads through its use during the Civil War.

## **Confederate Ironclads at War**

Built in Birkenhead, England, from 1862 to 1865, the "Laird rams" were two innovative armored warships intended for service with the Confederate Navy during the Civil War. The vessels represented a substantial threat to Union naval power, and offered the Confederacy a potential means to break the Union blockade of the Southern coastline. During 1863, the critical year of the Confederacy's last hope of recognition by the British and French, President Lincoln threatened war with Britain if the ships ever sailed under Confederate colors. Built in some secrecy, then launched on the River Mersey under intense international scrutiny, the ships were first seized, and then purchased by Britain to avoid a war with the United States. These armored warships were largely forgotten after the Admiralty acquired them. Historians rarely mention these sister warships—if referred at all, they are given short shrift. This book provides the first complete history of these once famous ironclads that never fired a shot in anger yet served at distant stations as defenders of the British Empire.

## **Ironclads and Columbiads**

This Osprey title examines the first naval conflict of the American Civil War (1861-1865). On 9 March 1862 the world's first battle between two ironclad warships took place in the confined waters of Hampton Roads, Virginia. The previous day the Confederate ironclad CSS Virginia, impervious to her enemy's guns, had sunk two Union warships. When she re-emerged from Norfolk to complete the destruction of the Union blockading squadron the USS Monitor steamed out to meet her. The four-hour duel that ensued was a stalemate, but crucially the Virginia had failed to break the Northern blockade of the Southern ports. Nevertheless, in a single battle these two vessels rendered wooden warships obsolete and transformed the face of naval warfare forever.

## At the Battle of the Ironclads

This eBook edition of "THE LAND IRONCLADS" has been formatted to the highest digital standards and adjusted for readability on all devices. Herbert George "H. G." Wells (1866 – 1946) was an English writer, now best known for his work in the science fiction genre. He was also a prolific writer in many other genres, including contemporary novels, history, politics and social commentary, even writing textbooks and rules for war games. Wells is one person sometimes called "The Father of Science Fiction"

## Duel Between the First Ironclads

Previously published in three separate volumes as Campaign 103: Hampton Roads 1862, New Vanguard 41: Confederate Ironclad 1861-65 and New Vanguard 45: Union Monitor 1861-65. When the ironclad USS Monitor steamed out to meet the CSS Virginia on 9 March 1862, the face of naval warfare was changed forever. A four-hour duel left neither ship victorious, but in the wake of the battle wooden warships were rendered obsolete. This book details the clash at Hampton Roads, as well as tracing the development of ironclads within the Union and Confederate fleets. Union ironclads evolved quickly from the time of the production of the Monitor, so that by the end of the war the US Navy possessed the most powerful artillery afloat. The Confederate fleet, meanwhile, was born out of the hulks of existing vessels in naval yards and backwaters within sight of the enemy - its very existence was a tribute to the ingenuity of Southern shipbuilders.

## The Old Steam Navy: The ironclads, 1842-1885

The book covers the story of the entire Confederate ironclad fleet. Melton starts with the James River squadron and the historic battle between the Virginia and Monitor in Hampton Roads. Then in succession, he describes the loss of the New Orleans, the Louisiana, and the Mississippi; the actions of the Arkansas on Western rivers; the Charleston and Mobile squadrons; the operation in North Carolina waters; the destruction of the Albemarle; and the European ironclads.

## Ironclads

The Navy League Annual ...

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