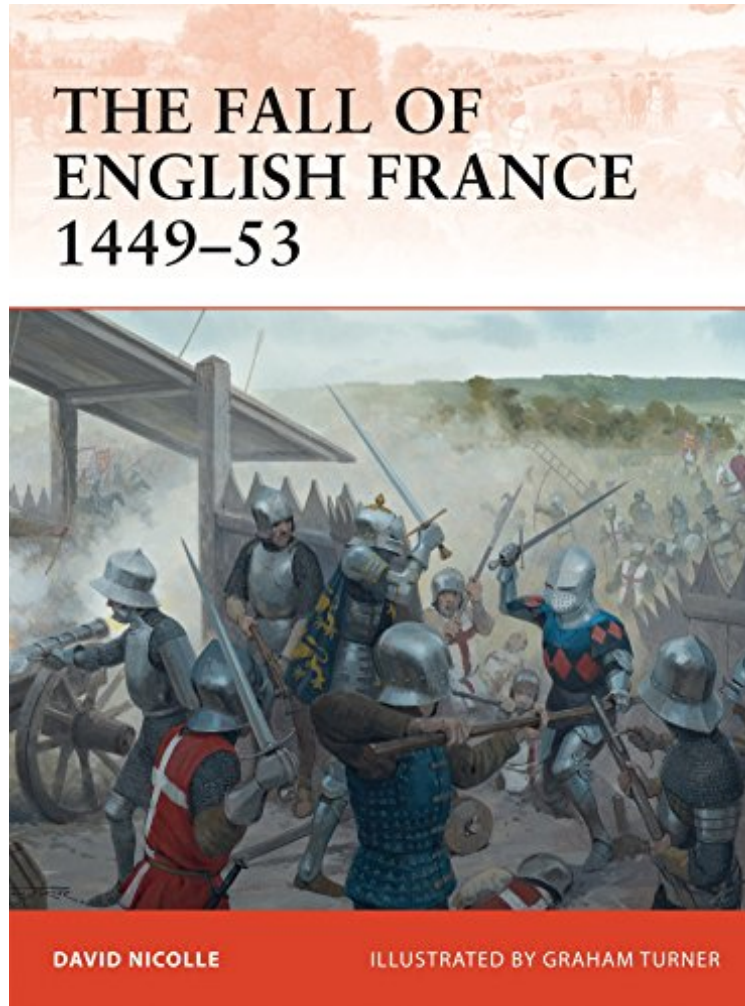


(Download) The Fall of English France 1449–53 (Campaign)

The Fall of English France 1449–53 (Campaign)

David Nicolle

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David Nicolle : The Fall of English France 1449–53 (Campaign) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Fall of English France 1449–53 (Campaign):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Ending the myth of the English longbow By Customer I like a book that ends a myth, and some English military history myths enjoy far too much widespread belief even to this day. In this easy to read, well-illustrated history, the weaknesses of the longbow are finally laid out with clarity and tactical specificity. Too many amateur history lovers seem to think the longbow was an invincible war winner. Well, if that was so, why did the English lose the war? The author points out that during these last campaigns, not only did the French not outnumber the English during the two pivotal battles, but superior tactical use of cannon and cavalry completely overturned and overwhelmed the English lines. The longbow shows up in Nicolle's writing as an effective weapon, but one whose archers heavily depend on mass formations and field fortifications, two features which both

would fail under the nagging long-range fire of cannon at Formigny in 1450 and Castillon in 1453, resulting in wild pell mell melee combat where the advantage flowed to the French men-at-arms and their effective cavalry charges

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good coverage of end of war

By Te Bada

Could have used more maps

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent Review of The End of English Hegemony in France

By Mostofizadeh

This is an excellent review of the circumstances which led to the loss of English hegemony in Normandy and Guienne. Of note is an analysis of the ineffectiveness of the English military system (archers and dismounted men-at-arms) against the more modern French system that maximized the effect of the "new" gunpowder weaponry.

For the overwhelming majority of people outside the French-speaking world the Hundred Years War consisted of a sequence of major English victories, above all Crécy, Poitiers and Agincourt. The only significant victor or 'hero' on the French side was Joan of Arc, and she ended up being burned at the stake. Yet somehow the war ended in a French victory and with England's martial energies being turned against itself in the Wars of the Roses. This book is intended to provide some balance. It will describe the campaign that brought the Hundred Years War to a close, with English possessions being confined to Calais and the Channel Islands. It will also explain how the somewhat unprepossessing and unmartial King Charles VII of France succeeded where his predecessors had failed. The campaign consisted of more than battles, of course, but it was marked by two major victories - at Formigny in 1450 and at Castillon in 1453. Formigny is of special interest because it saw French cavalry defeat English archers, in effect a reversal of Crécy, Poitiers and Agincourt, and could be interpreted as one of the last 'medieval' battles. Castillon is of interest because it was a victory of gunpowder artillery in fixed positions over a traditional medieval assault by mixed infantry and cavalry, and thus could be interpreted as one of the first 'modern' battles.

“...provides a fine narrowed focus on the battles of Formigny and Castillon which represented a change in how warfare was perceived and fought, and is a pick for any collection strong in medieval European history.”

?James A. Cox, *The Midwest Book* (August 2012)

About the Author

Born in 1944, David Nicolle worked in the BBC's Arabic service for a number of years before gaining an MA from the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, and a doctorate from Edinburgh University. He has written numerous books and articles on medieval and Islamic warfare, and has been a prolific author of Osprey titles for many years.