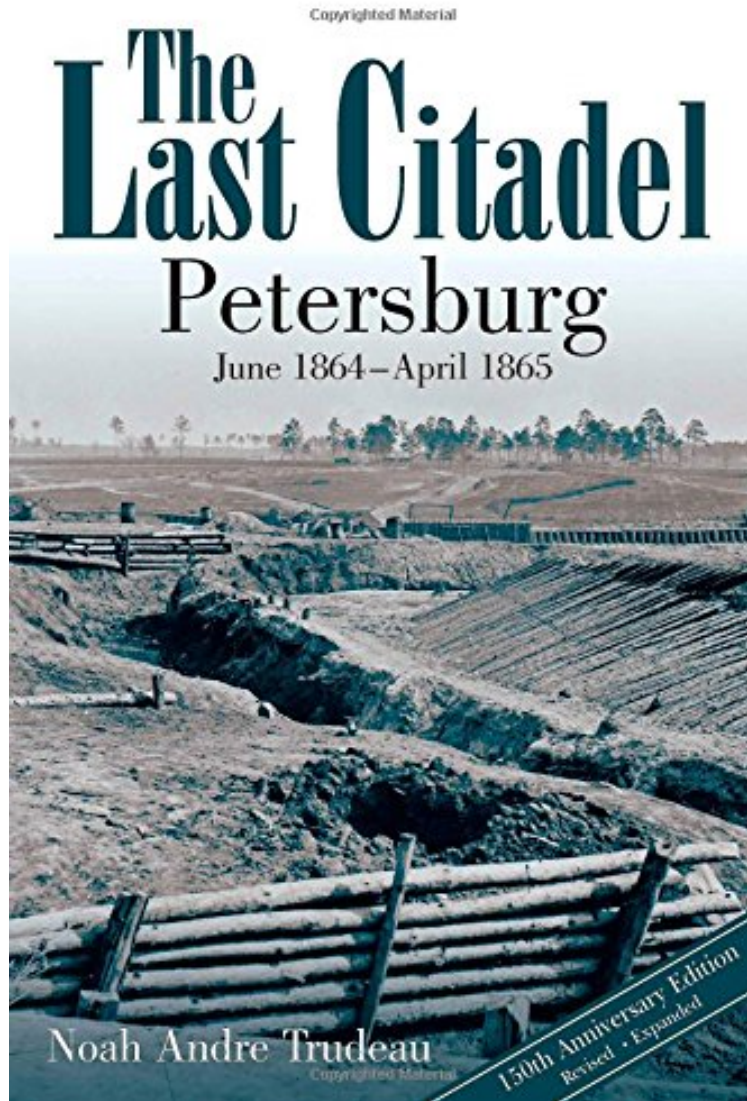


[Library ebook] The Last Citadel: Petersburg, June 1864 - April 1865

The Last Citadel: Petersburg, June 1864 - April 1865

Noah Andre Trudeau

DOC | *audiobook | ebooks | Download PDF | ePub



[Download](#)

[Read Online](#)

#1078399 in Books 2014-11-19 2014-12-03Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.00 x 1.50 x 6.10l, 2.00
#File Name: 161121212X552 pages | File size: 35.Mb

Noah Andre Trudeau : The Last Citadel: Petersburg, June 1864 - April 1865 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Last Citadel: Petersburg, June 1864 - April 1865:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A rich and varied account of the battles for PetersburgBy Michael A. KleenIn The Last Citadel: Petersburg, June 1864-April 1865, Noah Andre Trudeau charts Union General Ulysses S. Grant's Petersburg Campaign, from June 9, 1864, when General Benjamin Butler first attacked defenses around the city, to April 3, 1865, when Federal troops at last captured this vital Virginia railroad hub south of Richmond. The ten-

month Siege of Petersburg was the longest and most costly to ever take place on North American soil. Within this non-traditional history, Trudeau brings to life these dramatic events through the words of men and women who were there, including officers, common soldiers, and the residents of Petersburg. What emerges is an epic account rich in human incident and adventure, told through various chapters covering all aspects of the campaign. This revised Sesquicentennial edition includes updated text, redrawn maps, and new material. The Last Citadel is divided into six parts, including a prologue and epilogue. The chapters are arranged into a rough chronology, but this is not strictly a chronological account of the siege. Each chapter uses a different subject to frame the narrative, from the effect of artillery bombardment on soldiers and civilians, the role of newspapers and the press, and even fraternization between opposing armies. This is a unique and interesting way to look at the battle, drawing from a multitude of primary sources including military orders and dispatches, regimental histories, civilian diaries and letters, newspapers, and more. Trudeau organizes his book well, so that various perspectives never become jumbled or distracting. This keeps each chapter fresh and interesting, like reading a collection of articles rather than a weighty historical text. Two incidents stand out: the Beefsteak Raid and Confederate sabotage at City Point. Grant was never able to completely seal off Petersburg or Richmond, and the Confederates looked for ways to exploit that failure. Supplying an army of over 100,000 men required a huge supply of food, including beef. Confederate cavalrymen led by Maj. Gen. Wade Hampton pulled off a daring raid Sept. 14-17, 1864 in which they rode behind Grant's lines and rustled 2,486 head of cattle, bringing it back over 50 miles to supply their own army. Grant's headquarters was at City Point, Virginia on the James River. On August 9, 1864, a large explosion ripped apart an ammunition barge, sending wood, cannonballs, bullets, and shell fragments flying. 43 Union soldiers were killed instantly and another 126 wounded. At the time, it was ruled an accident, but after the war it became known as an act of sabotage by Confederate Secret Service agent John Maxwell using a timed explosive (he called it a Horological Torpedo) smuggled aboard the barge. Incidents such as these make the Siege of Petersburg a truly unique event in the annals of the American Civil War. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Yankee Beef By Les If you would like a thorough and detailed look at what happened at Petersburg - this is your opportunity. Most know about the crater but few know the intensity of the combat that lasted for nearly a year. Most don't know who ate the best beef at one point during the siege nor how it was acquired - Trudeau unfolds the events with a thrilling conclusion. Don't miss this one. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A good read on the battles fought By H Interesting accounts of the siege of Petersburg. A good read on the battles fought.

This revised Sesquicentennial edition of Noah Andre Trudeau's 'The Last Citadel', which includes updated text, redrawn maps, and new material, is a groundbreaking study of the most extensive military operation of the Civil War—the investment of Petersburg, Virginia. The Petersburg campaign began on June 9, 1864, and ended on April 3, 1865, when Federal troops at last entered the city. It was the longest and most costly siege ever to take place on North American soil, yet it has been overshadowed by other actions that occurred at the same time period, most notably Sherman's famous "March to the Sea," and Sheridan's celebrated Shenandoah Valley campaign. The ten-month Petersburg affair witnessed many more combat actions than the other two combined, and involved an average of 170,000 soldiers, not to mention thousands of civilians who were also caught up in the maelstrom. By its bloody end, the Petersburg campaign would add more than 70,000 casualties to the war's total. Petersburg was the key to the war in the East. It lay astride five major railroad lines that in turn supplied the Confederate capital, Richmond. Were Petersburg to fall, these vital arteries would be severed, and Richmond doomed. With the same dogged determination that had seen him through the terrible Overland Campaign, Lieutenant General Ulysses S. Grant fixed his sights on the capture of Petersburg. Grant's opponent, General Robert E. Lee, was equally determined that the "Cockade City" would not fall. Trudeau crafts his dramatic and moving story largely through the words of the men and women who were there, including officers, common soldiers, and the residents of Petersburg. What emerges is an epic account rich in human incident and adventure. Based on exhaustive research into official records and unpublished memoirs, letters, and diaries, as well as published recollections and regimental histories, The Last Citadel also includes 23 maps and a choice selection of drawings by on-the-spot combat artists. With The Last Citadel, the Petersburg campaign at last emerges from the shadows to take its rightful place among the unforgettable sagas of the Civil War. Praise for the original edition of The Last Citadel "The Last Citadel is most impressive, almost like an account of a newly discovered war. How Trudeau amassed so much fresh material is a wonder. I found the narrative powerful and compelling and the air of authenticity complete. This is the first real Civil War narrative I have read in years." -- Burke Davis (1913-2006), author of The Long Surrender and To Appomattox: Nine April Days "The Last Citadel succeeds marvelously at presenting the first full portrait of an immensely important operation, the siege of Petersburg. This is popular history at its finest – grounded in very impressive research, written with literary flair, and filled with new testimony from myriad witnesses whose voices help bring into focus one of the war's most important episodes. The Last Citadel merits the attention of anyone seeking to understand the final phase of the war in Virginia." -- Gary W. Gallagher, John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War, University of Virginia, author of Becoming Confederates: Paths to a New National Loyalty. "In the same style as his previous work, Bloody Roads South, Trudeau provides the reader

with an easy-to-understand, month-by-month, topic-by-topic description of one of the lesser-known campaigns of the war. With its easy-to-understand maps, period-artist illustrations, and thought-provoking analysis of the entire military operation, this book will be a must for enthusiasts on all levels of interest.”-- Chris Calkins, Manager of Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park“Trudeau has, with the publication of *The Last Citadel*, enhanced his reputation as a worthy successor to Bruce Catton. Blending his journalistic talents with those of a historian, Trudeau has given us an outstanding overview of the campaign, one that underscores that good history is more exciting and relevant than the best novel.”-- Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus, National Park Service

“*The Last Citadel* is most impressive, almost like an account of a newly discovered war. How Trudeau amassed so much fresh material is a wonder. I found the narrative powerful and compelling and the air of authenticity complete. This is the first real Civil War narrative I have read in years.” (Burke Davis (1913-2006), author of *The Long Surrender* and *To Appomattox: Nine April Days*)“*The Last Citadel* succeeds marvelously at presenting the first full portrait of an immensely important operation, the siege of Petersburg. This is popular history at its finest – grounded in very impressive research, written with literary flair, and filled with new testimony from myriad witnesses whose voices help bring into focus one of the war’s most important episodes. *The Last Citadel* merits the attention of anyone seeking to understand the final phase of the war in Virginia.” (Gary W. Gallagher, John L. Nau III Professor in the History of the American Civil War, University of Virginia, author of *Becoming Confederates: Paths to a New National Loyalty*.)“In the same style as his previous work, *Bloody Roads South*, Trudeau provides the reader with an easy-to-understand, month-by-month, topic-by-topic description of one of the lesser-known campaigns of the war. With its easy-to-understand maps, period-artist illustrations, and thought-provoking analysis of the entire military operation, this book will be a must for enthusiasts on all levels of interest.” (Chris Calkins, Manager of Sailor's Creek Battlefield Historical State Park)“Trudeau has, with the publication of *The Last Citadel*, enhanced his reputation as a worthy successor to Bruce Catton. Blending his journalistic talents with those of a historian, Trudeau has given us an outstanding overview of the campaign, one that underscores that good history is more exciting and relevant than the best novel.” (Edwin C. Bearss, Chief Historian Emeritus, National Park Service)About the AuthorNoah Andre Trudeau is a history graduate of the State University of New York at Albany. His first book, *Bloody Roads South*, won the Civil War Round Table of New York's prestigious Fletcher Pratt Award, and enjoyed a cameo appearance in the hit web television series *House of Cards*. His fourth book, *Like Men of War*, a combat history of black troops in the Civil War, was honored with the Grady McWhiney Research Foundation's Jerry Coffey Memorial Book Prize. His other books include a best-selling history of the Battle of Gettysburg, Sherman's "March to the Sea," and a compact biography of Robert E. Lee.