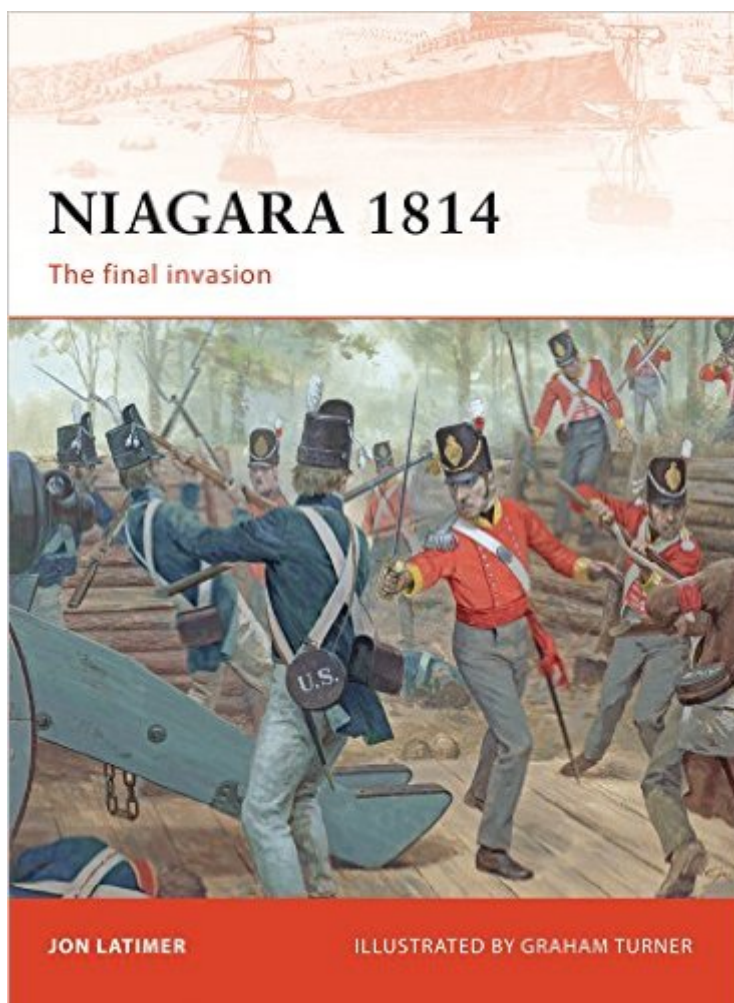


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Niagara 1814: The Final Invasion (Campaign)



Synopsis

The War of 1812 (1812-1814) has the strange distinction of being a war largely forgotten by both of its main participants. Despite being overshadowed by the Napoleonic Wars raging in Europe, the War of 1812 saw Americans, British, Canadians, and Native Americans wage an increasing brutal conflict all along the border. By 1814, with war coming to a close in Europe, the Americans decided to launch one last, major land offensive in an attempt to seize Canada. Although previous attempts had most often ended in disaster, the American army of 1814 contained several highly trained units under competent leadership including the legendary Winfield Scott. This final Niagara campaign saw a number of pitched battles including Chippawa, Lundy's Lane, and Cook's Mill, where the American Bluecoats matched the British shot for shot. However, due to poor planning at the highest levels of American office, the campaign was ultimately a failure and the result ensured the survival of Canada as an independent state. A critically-acclaimed researcher on the War of 1812, author John Latimer presents a new look at an oft-forgotten yet crucially important campaign in the history of North America.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jon Latimer's Niagara 1814 covers the see-saw fighting on the Niagara frontier in the waning days of the War of 1812. For both specialist and general readers, this volume in Osprey's campaign series offers a well-written introduction to one of the more interesting - although ultimately fruitless - campaigns of that long-forgotten conflict. Although based primarily on secondary sources, the

author was able to pull together a good amount of material from both sides to produce a campaign narrative that is both thorough and balanced. Overall, a very good volume and one well-suited to the Osprey format. Graphically, Niagara 1814 is quite attractive. In addition to about 60 B/W photos and illustrations, the volume has six 2-D Maps (the northern theater of war, 1814; the Niagara frontier; Brown's advance to Lundy's Lane; Battle of Plattsburgh; Porter's sortie from Fort Erie; McArthur's raid into Upper Canada) and three 3-D BEV maps (Battle of Chippawa; Battle of Lundy's Lane; Assault on Fort Erie). The small size of these battlefields are particularly well-suited for BEV maps, with some maps actually showing trees. All three battle scenes by Graham Turner (charge of Horton's dragoons; attack of Miller's 21st US Infantry at Lundy's Lane; melee around the British batteries) are quite nice and add to the campaign narrative. The volume also has a 1-page bibliography and an index. The introductory sections cover the usual material on the origins of the campaign and opposing commanders, forces and plans. These sections are a bit thinner than in other campaign series volumes and readers unfamiliar with the War of 1812 may find it difficult to get their footing.

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