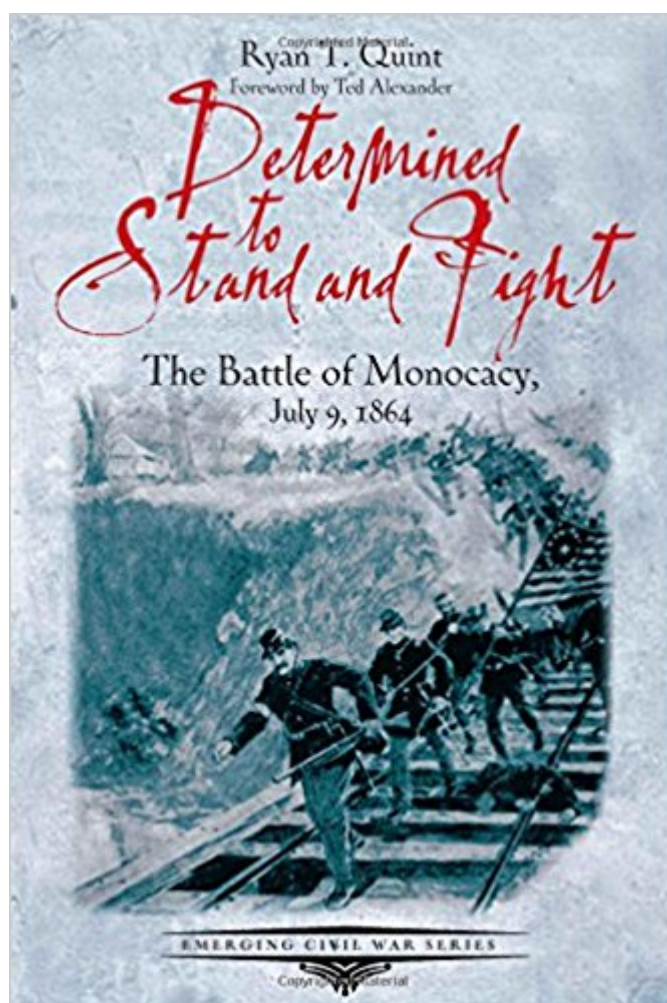


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# Determined To Stand And Fight: The Battle Of Monocacy, July 9, 1864 (Emerging Civil War Series)



## Synopsis

In early July 1864, a quickly patched together force of outnumbered Union soldiers under the command of Maj. Gen. Lew Wallace prepared for a last-ditch defense along the banks of the Monocacy River. Behind them, barely fifty miles away, lay the capital of the United States, open to attack. Facing Wallace's men were Lt. Gen. Jubal Early's Confederates. In just under a month, they had cleared the Shenandoah Valley of Union soldiers and crossed the Potomac River, invading the north for the third time in the war. The veterans in Early's force could almost imagine their flags flying above the White House. A Confederate victory near Washington could be all the pro-peace platforms in the north needed to defeat Abraham Lincoln in the upcoming election. Then came Monocacy. Over the course of the day, Union and Confederate soldiers attacked and counter-attacked, filling the fields just south of Frederick, Maryland, with the dead and wounded. By the end of the day, Wallace's men fell into retreat, but they had done their job: they had slowed Jubal Early. The fighting at Monocacy soon became known as the "Battle that Saved Washington." •Determined to Stand and Fight by Ryan T. Quint tells the story of that pivotal day and an even more pivotal campaign that went right to the gates of Washington, D.C. Readers can enjoy the narrative and then easily follow along on a nine-stop driving tour around the battlefield and into the streets of historic Frederick. Another fascinating title from the award-winning Emerging Civil War Series. About the Author: Ryan Quint graduated from the University of Mary Washington, and is a seasonal park historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Filled with maps and vintage black-and-white photographs on almost every page, *Determined to Stand and Fight* details this violent, pivotal battle in depth. *Determined to Stand and Fight* is highly recommended for historians, lay readers, and public and college library Civil War shelves.” (Midwest Book Review)

Ryan Quint graduated from the University of Mary Washington, and is a seasonal park historian at the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. His Civil War interests focus on the Union armies and Jubal Early's 1864 invasion of Maryland. <https://emergingcivilwar.com/>

The Battle of Monocacy is a small battle that helped save Washington, D.C. and arguably Abraham Lincoln's re-election but is often overlooked by scholars and students of the Civil War. Unlike many other preserved battle sites, Congress passed a bill in 1934 which established a battlefield with little funding and no land. However, by the 1980s the site was developed for scrutiny by enthusiasts including a visitor center, exhibits and a book store. Ryan Quint has written a solid introduction to the fighting and tells a story of why it made a difference in the Union winning the Civil War. While General Ulysses S. Grant and the Army of the Potomac were fighting Robert E. Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia in Petersburg, Virginia, Confederate general Jubal Early was sent off to clear the Shenandoah Valley of Union soldiers. After his success, his men crossed the Potomac and invaded the North for the third time in the war. In early July of 1864, under the command of future writer of *Ben Hur*; Union General Lew Wallace's outnumbered forces faced off with the invaders along the banks of the Monocacy River. Resulting in attacks and counter-attacks that resulted in a Confederate victory but a delay that allowed Union soldiers to arrive to protect the nation's capital from ruin. The author effectively shows that Early's invasion had mixed results. While more Union troops were ultimately transferred to Washington, nothing changed at Petersburg. Southern soldiers were pursued and ultimately defeated by General Sheridan and D.C. was never captured. 186 helpful visuals are located throughout this 192-page volume which add excellent information to the reading experience. 7 outstanding and detailed maps created by fabulous cartographer Hal Jespersen enhance the 2017 text that have become standard in the *Emerging Civil War Series* as well as other titles

published by Savas-Beatie. 6 helpful appendices dealing with medical care at the battle, the fighting, its effect on the non-combatants, the ransom of Frederick, the Johnson-Gilmore raid on Baltimore, the burning of Chambersburg and the writing exploits of Northern Major General Lew Wallace have been provided for enthusiasts of this important battle plus an order of battle, suggested reading and an outstanding nine-stop driving tour of the battlefield and into the streets of historic Frederick for interested trappers. Additionally, National Park Service historian, Ted Alexander has written an outstanding foreword that introduces this topic and author. Quint has brought his expertise as a seasonal interpretive park ranger at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park to this well written narrative. He addresses this subject in the necessary depth and breadth that will likely appeal to the both the casual and dedicated history buffs of the battle. Furthermore, the author clearly and succinctly weaves together the material and imagery of the entire fighting battlefield. Interesting anecdotes are mentioned throughout this tapestry such as Maryland's U.S. Senator Charles Mathias crusade to win approval for Frederick to obtain the money returned that they paid Confederate forces during Early's raid. Moreover, Wallace's literary masterpiece provided many readers such as United States President James A. Garfield and the former president of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis, with a great deal of enjoyment. This successful effort to inform armchair travelers depicts the Southern raid as only a brief morale boost and success as negligible. Quint provides an abundance of first-hand accounts from officers and civilian soldiers who experienced the struggle from the opposing forces that make this recently published treatment well worth \$14.95. This reviewer recommends this work to Civil War novices.

Determined to Stand and Fight is another entry into the Emerging Civil War Series which has been bringing introductory material to the eyes of American Civil War Neophytes. Its handling of narrative from unknown battles to the more popular has been one of the more helpful resources to Civil War students. Now, in Determined to Stand and Fight, the Battle of Monocacy is given the treatment; to be fair, even some readers well beyond the level of student are not too informed on this battle. Thankfully, with Ryan T. Quint to thank, we have a volume in this series devoted to this conflict so close to the nation's capital. Ryan T. Quint graduated from the University of Maryland Washington and is a seasonal National Park Ranger for the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park. He is also a guide at the Historic Kenmore which is the home of George Washington's sister, Betty Lewis. Living in Fredericksburg, Virginia, he is one of the many writers for the Emerging Civil War blog. For those who are not aware, The Emerging Civil

War Series is a series of books written by well-versed authors on the subject; they are introductory books to students and even readers, on the engagement or subject. During the Civil War Sesquicentennial, the subject of the Battle of Monocacy came up in newly written works. While this was a welcome addition, there was always something which was missing in those texts. Overall, it seemed to be that the engagement was still just a chapters length of information. When I enjoyed about this book is that it is an entire length work devoted to the engagement. As is usual with the Emerging Civil War works, the battle is separated into easy to follow segments ranging from the battle itself to introducing key people which would help morph the action. One of the most fascinating chapters in the book was about Lew Wallace who was an officer in the Union army. Many readers may recognize that name for something else as Wallace was the author of Ben-Hur. Accompanied by fine maps and photographs, both historical and modern, the narrative within the text is very well written and presented excellently. And towards the back of the book, we have six appendices giving more information to the lesser known battle. Overall, this work will be seen as one of the Emerging Civil War's more valuable books due to the lack of information usually presented on the subject. I highly recommend this book not only to Civil War students, but to readers who still do not know entirely what happened at the Battle of Monocacy. This book presents the material in a fine way with a flowing narrative and excellent presentation. In conclusion, Ryan T. Quint should be thanked for the material presented and the information given to the many readers of this series.

Part of the award-winning "Emerging Civil War" series, "Determined to Stand and Fight: The Battle of Monocacy, July 9, 1864" analyzes a critical engagement of the American Civil War. Major General Lew Wallace of the Union prepared a desperate, last-ditch defense on the banks of the Monocacy River to protect the capital of Washington, D.C. Although Wallace ultimately had to retreat, he successfully delayed Lieutenant General Jubal Early for a day, buying precious time for Union reinforcements to arrive. Filled with maps and vintage black-and-white photographs on almost every page, *Determined to Stand and Fight* details this violent, pivotal battle in depth. *Determined to Stand and Fight* is highly recommended for historians, lay readers, and public and college library Civil War shelves.- Midwest Book Review (Note: This review was written by Midwest Book Review and posted on at their request)

Ryan does a fantastic job recounting the Battle of Monocacy. Highly recommended for anyone interested in the Civil War and the campaigns of 1864 in particular.

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