

ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

Jubal Early's 1864 Washington Raid

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Resources

If you can read only one book

| Author | <i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year. |
|----------------------------|---|
| Cooling, Benjamín Franklin | <i>Jubal Early's Raid on Washington 1864</i> . Baltimore, MD: Nautical & Aviation Publishing, 1989. |

Books and Articles

| Author | <i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year. "Title," in <i>Journal</i> ##, no. # (Date): #. |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Cooling, Benjamin Franklin | <i>Jubal Early: Robert E. Lee's Bad Old Man</i> . Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2014), 51-92. |
| Donald, David Herbert et al | <i>With My Face to the Enemy: Perspectives on the Civil War</i> . New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2001, 553-8. |
| Leepson, Marc | "The Great Rebel Raid," in <i>Civil War Times</i> 46, no. 6 (August 2007): 24-29. |
| Osborne, Charles C. | <i>Jubal: The Life and Times of General Jubal A. Early, CSA, Defender of the Lost Cause</i> . Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin Books, 1992. |
| McPherson, James | <i>Battle Cry of Freedom: The Civil War Era</i> . New York: Oxford University Press, 1988, 756-8. |
| Woodworth, Steven E. | <i>This Great Struggle: America's Civil War</i> . Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield, 2011, 264-70. |

Organizations

Web Resources

| URL | Name and description |
|---|---|
| http://www.civilwar.org/education/history/biographies/jubal-early.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/ | This is the Civil War Trust page on Early and his raid. |
| https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/style/for-gen-jubal-early-a-raid-north-nearly-led-to-the-capture-of-washington/2014/04/23/bb5b8fe4-c961-11e3-95f7-7ecdde72d2ea_story.html | Steven Vogel, "For Gen. Jubal Early. a raid north nearly led to the capture of Washington," in <i>Washington Post</i> , April 26, 2014. |
| http://www.civilwar.org/battlefields/fortstevens/fort-stevens-history-articles/washingtons-civil-war.html | This is the Civil War Trust page on Washington D.C.'s Civil War defenses, critical in Early's raid. |

Other Sources

Scholars

| Name | Email |
|-----------------------|--|
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Topic Précis

While often recognized as a leading advocate for the Lost Cause during Reconstruction and having a storied Civil War career fighting for the Confederacy, Jubal Early is best known for his 1864 Valley Campaign and his raid on Washington, D.C. Pinned down at Petersburg by Union General Ulysses S. Grant, Lee decided to send Early's corps into the Shenandoah Valley, hoping that Grant would give chase, relieving some of the pressure on Lee's army. Neither Lee nor Early had any idea how close the Confederates would come to the Northern capital or how much fear and panic they could unleash in Washington City. Additional objectives included the liberation of a number of Confederate prisoners of war held in various camps in and around Washington, disrupting Union rail traffic, clearing the Valley of destructive Federals, as well as changing the perception of the war's direction by attacking the White House. Leaving the Richmond area on June 13, 1864, Early moved west and on June 18 defeated Union General David Hunter at Lynchburg. From there Early moved swiftly to the outskirts of Washington sending citizens there and in other communities into a panic. On the way to Washington Early demanded ransoms from towns like Hagerstown and Frederick. On July 9, Early defeated Union General Lew Wallace at

Monocacy but the battle delayed his advance and sapped his strength. As Early approached Washington Grant sent two divisions from the Richmond area to reinforce the forts guarding the city. On July 11-12 Early's troops attacked Fort Stevens, a major fort in the chain protecting Washington. The fighting was mainly skirmishing with about 300 casualties on both sides. During the sporadic fighting at Fort Stevens, President Lincoln decided that he would come to Fort Stevens to see the fighting for himself. Famously, the president stood on the fort's parapet to watch the action when a Union soldier next to him was shot by a rebel sharpshooter. As historian Marc Leepson has noted about the incident, "That marked the first—and only – time in American history that a sitting U.S. president came under hostile fire in a military engagement." Following the battle at Fort Stevens, Early continued his Valley Campaign with little success. Withdrawing to the lower Shenandoah Valley, Early continued to harass Union operations, but he never again posed the threat like the one in the summer of 1864. Defeated at Strasbourg in the fall, Early was forced to retreat from the Valley, allowing Sheridan and his men to ensure that this region would not feed Confederate troops for the rest of the war. The campaign and raid bought time for the Confederacy and the Shenandoah Valley, the breadbasket of the Confederacy, in time for the 1864 fall harvest allowing needed supplies to reach Lee in Richmond. The raid also had an international impact in that it demonstrated to European nations and England that the Confederate army was still a formidable fighting force. This late in the war, however, any hope for international recognition for the Confederacy was gone as was any hope of winning the war. After the war, through a number of lectures, articles, and books, Early became a leading Lost Cause warrior. It was in this post-war crusade that Early was especially tough on General James Longstreet, stressed the Confederate army's lack of manpower—called Grant a "butcher", accused a number of Union veterans of not telling the real story of the war, and depicted Robert E. Lee as a Confederate hero—major elements of the Lost Cause narrative.
