



BIBLIO-PILOT SERIES

The Mariners' Museum Library

Subject Guide to the Battle of Hampton Roads

March 2008

Key Terms	:	Hampton Roads, Battle of, Va., 1862
Scope Note	:	The Battle of Hampton Roads refers to the naval engagement on March 8-9, 1862 in Hampton Roads, Virginia. The battle began with a sortie of the ironclad CSS <i>Virginia</i> , newly converted from the remains of the steam frigate USS <i>Merrimack</i> , during which it attacked and sank the sloop of war <i>Cumberland</i> and the frigate <i>Congress</i> . The following day, Roger ap Catesby Jones at the helm of <i>Virginia</i> intended to renew combat by attacking the grounded frigate USS <i>Minnesota</i> , and instead was confronted by the ironclad USS <i>Monitor</i> , which had arrived the night before from New York. The ensuing four-hour combat between the two armor-plated antagonists was furious but inconclusive. Although neither vessel inflicted serious damage on the other, the remainder of the Federal fleet in Hampton Roads was saved and the blockade of Confederate ports preserved. (Source: “ <i>Virginia</i> ” in <i>Encyclopedia of the Confederacy</i> , New York: Simon & Schuster, 1993)
Broader Term	:	United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865—Campaigns Virginia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
Related Term	:	Buchanan, Franklin, 1800-1874 Confederate States of America--History, Naval Confederate States of America. Navy--History Congress (Frigate : 1842) Cumberland (Frigate : 1842) Geer, George S., 1837-1892 Gosport Navy Yard Jones, Catesby Ap Roger, 1821-1877 Keeler, William Frederick, 1821-1886 Merrimack (Frigate : 1856-1860) Minnesota (Frigate : 1857) Monitor (Ironclad : 1862) Peninsular Campaign, 1862 United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Naval operations United States. Navy--History--Civil War, 1861-1865 Virginia (Ironclad : 1862) Welles, Gideon, 1802-1878 Worden, John Lorimer, 1818-1897

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