



BIBLIO-PILOT SERIES

The Mariners' Museum Library

Subject Guide to CSS *Virginia*

March 2008

Key Terms	:	Virginia (Ironclad : 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. CSS <i>Virginia</i> was run aground on Craney Island, set fire and destroyed by her own crew on May 11, 1862. (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 Confederate States of America. Navy--History. Virginia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865 Armored vessels Warships
Related Term	:	Brooke, John M. (John Mercer), 1826-1906 Buchanan, Franklin, 1800-1874 Congress (Frigate : 1842) Cumberland (Frigate : 1842) Gosport Navy Yard Hampton Roads, Battle of, Va., 1862 Jones, Catesby Ap Roger, 1821-1877 Merrimack (Frigate : 1856-1860) Monitor (Ironclad : 1862) Porter, John L. (John Luke), 1813-1893 Tattnall, Josiah, 1795-1871 Tredegar Iron Works (Richmond, Va.) United States. Navy--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

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Various drawings (Sheet 1), Scale 1/4"; Arrangements (Sheet 2), Scale 1/4". **MP00002**

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Profile of engine (Sheet 1). **MP01366**

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Audio-Visual

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