Civil War Bibliography


Baker spent time in Oregon and was one of Lincoln’s political confidants. This biography provides information and insight about the relationships between personal loyalty, partisan politics, and the Civil War era controversies.


Lincoln’s connection with Oregon is detailed on several levels in this book, from personal political alliances that stretched across the nation to Oregon to specific events and individuals in Oregon who connected to partisan politics and events from 1940s to 1860s.


Faust’s fascinating study describes the human suffering during the Civil War and the role of bereavement in establishing a post-Civil War culture in America, which includes an explanation for the continuing enmity between North and South after the war.


Foner’s thorough description and analysis of Abraham Lincoln’s long and difficult personal and political wrestling with the issue of slavery corrects many misperceptions about Lincoln’s view of slavery and provides lesser known details about his actions, including the Emancipation Proclamation.


The Battle of Gettysburg is the most important episode in the Civil War. Guzelo’s book reveals details about the battle events and soldier’s experiences better than any book in print, and it makes clear how much politics affected the battle and its outcome.

Joe Lane was Governor of Oregon for a short time, but his political activities before, during, and after he resided in Oregon illuminate the importance of Civil War Era politics in Oregon.


Johannsen’s book is the best short and focused discussion of Civil War Era politics in Oregon and Washington, from territorial days through the war years.


Lang’s biography centers on perhaps the most important Democratic politician in Oregon and Washington Territory during the Civil War period, including the relationships between the Indian wars and treaties in Oregon and Washington and the national crisis.


McPherson’s history of the 1850-1880 period is the standard and authoritative history of the Civil War and Reconstruction.


Richards’ biography of Isaac Stevens, first Territorial Governor of Washington and Superintendent of Indians Affairs for Washington Territory, includes the most in-depth discussion of he Indian wars and treaties and their connection to Civil War politics in the region.