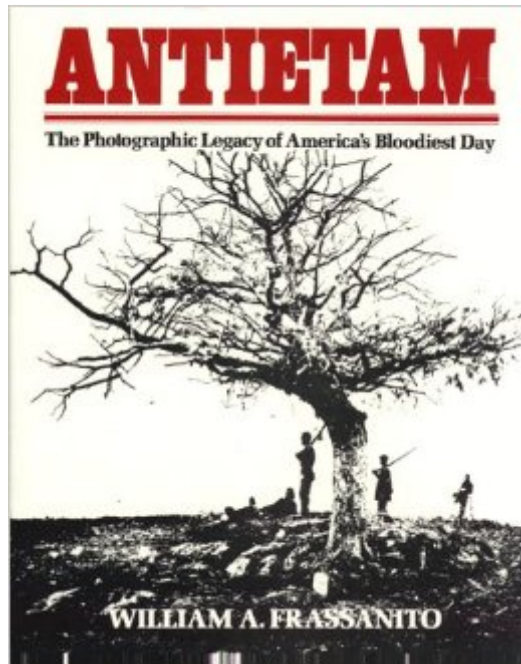


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# Antietam: The Photographic Legacy Of America's Bloodiest Day



## Synopsis

A reprint of the original 1978 classic, this book includes scenes of the Antietam battlefield both period and modern with directional maps. Makes some startling revelations using photographic evidence.

## Book Information

Paperback: 304 pages

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (21 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

If you have only one book on Antietam on your shelf, this might be the one to have. Frassanito explodes old myths, brings the farmers residing on the battlefield alive, and painstakingly dissects photos that seem routine. His greatest flair is bringing out the details, such as identifying the hardtack lid grave markers of the freshly dead, but unknown soldiers, and weaving a story around the single picture. Brilliant book, enjoyable for anyone with even a passing interest in the Civil War.

Heartbreaking in its starkness and immediacy, this is a collection of photographs that changed American conceptions of war by bringing death and destruction into their homes. Even after more than a century of war images, these photos retain their power.

As they say "A picture is worth a thousand words." This book goes even further than that - a photo is just a photo - an "interpreted" photo, however, is priceless. There are many books about America's bloodiest day - many are informative, many of those are somewhat dry reading. This book does a real good job of mixing photos with the facts and providing detailed descriptions and

interpretation of the events that occurred and the people involved on that infamous day. The author has true insight - both into photography and about history.

As part of my Civil War reading and in anticipation of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Antietam, I reread "Antietam: The Photographic Legacy of America's Bloodiest Day." Bill gives a much better overview of the conduct of the battle than any other book I have read on the subject. As one who served our country for 30 years as a field artilleryman with a combat tour in Vietnam, I deeply appreciated his vignettes that focused on the individual soldier. To me, these short stories humanized the battle by emphasizing who suffers the most in war. Bill also discussed an aspect of combat that few other authors touch and of which most Americans have no idea: that of diarrhea and the smell of decomposing human bodies. Just as "Mr. Brady has done something to bring home to us the terrible reality and earnestness of war" (page 18), Bill has brought alive the bloodiest single-day battle in our history to contemporary Americans.

Very well written and informative book about the pictures taken at Antietam after the battle. Extremely interesting to see where the original pictures were taken and then compared to pictures from the very same spot taken today. Anyone interested in photography during the civil war will find this book loaded with information on each of the civil war pictures shown, as well as information about the photographers, etc. I would purchase this book again and would strongly recommend it to anyone!

Having spent much time visiting and traversing the Antietam battlefield over the recent years, and having just recently completed the book "Civil Warscapes: Antietam, Images from the 17th of September" of my own, I am extremely thankful for Frassanito's book. Of all the battlefields I have been to, Antietam may just hold the top place for having the most significant personal connection with me. My great-great-grandfather arrived the day after the battle near the the Pry House with the 123rd Pennsylvania Infantry and spent the next six weeks camped outside of Sharpsburg. In this time, he would have witnessed this war-torn landscape and seen some of these sights that Alexander Gardner captured following the struggle. The THEN & NOW photograph comparison that is thought to be of Humphreys' Division's reserves is specifically striking to me for the fact that my ancestor may very well be in the far distant background, resting with the other soldiers. This book is quite literally the source for discovering these detailed locations at Antietam. It will forever hold a dear spot in my personal library.

The second of the Frassanito History series of Civil War Photography-it does for Antietam what the first volume did for Gettysburg--tell the real story...

This book is to be read each time you visit the battle site. There is much honor in the author's efforts.

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