

## Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove: A Battlefield Guide, with a Section on the Wire Road

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*Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove: A Battlefield Guide, with a Section on the Wire Road*, by Earl J. Hess, Richard W. Hatcher III, William Garrett Piston, and William L. Shea. This Hallowed Ground: Guides to Civil War Battlefields series. Lincoln: Bison Books, University of Nebraska Press, 2006. xviii, 284 pp. Illustrations, maps, appendix, notes, bibliography. \$19.95 paper.

Reviewer Terry Beckenbaugh is assistant professor of history in the Department of Military History at the U.S. Army Command & General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. His dissertation (University of Arkansas, 2001) was on Samuel Ryan Curtis, who commanded the Federal Army of the Southwest at the Battle of Pea Ridge.

This guide to the battles at Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, and Prairie Grove is part of the University of Nebraska Press's Hallowed Ground: Guides to Civil War Battlefields series. The series, as a whole, is excellent and has focused on larger battles in both the eastern and western theaters. The guides are for a wide range of readers, from the tourist who wishes to grasp the major events leading up to and taking place at the battle to the scholar seeking a more thorough understanding of a particular fight by visiting the site. This is the first guide to battlefields in the trans-Mississippi West, and it is done by the authors of the best recent histories of the respective battles.

This superb volume compares favorably with the previous guides in the series. Those interested in following the actions of Iowa's regiments at Wilson's Creek, Pea Ridge, and Prairie Grove can do so by using this guide. As evidenced by the title, the guide also contains a section on the Wire Road, along with stops, that is crucial to understanding why the fighting took place at those sites. Furthermore, conflicts leading up to the battles, such as the fight at Cane Hill, Arkansas (November 28, 1862), prior to the Battle of Prairie Grove, are also detailed. Visitors to any of the above-mentioned battlefields would be well advised to secure a copy of this guidebook prior to visiting those hallowed sites.

*Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska Civil War Veterans: Compilation of the Death Rolls of the Departments of Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, Grand Army of the Republic, 1883-1948*, by Dennis Northcott. St. Louis: NG Publications, 2007. xi, 658 pp. Appendixes. \$30.00 paper.

Reviewer Kenneth L. Lyftogt is a lecturer in history at the University of Northern Iowa. He is the author of several books on Iowa and the Civil War, including *Iowa's Forgotten General: Matthew Mark Trumbull and the Civil War*.

*Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska Civil War Veterans* is Dennis Northcott's third compilation of death rolls from the Grand Army of the Republic; the