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# BOOK NEWS

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Contact: Erin Rolfs

[erolfs@lsu.edu](mailto:erolfs@lsu.edu)/225.578.8282

## **New Perspectives on a Civil War Turning Point**

*LSU Press to publish Gateway to the Confederacy in May 2014*

**Baton Rouge**—In *Gateway to the Confederacy: New Perspectives on the Chickamauga and Chattanooga Campaigns, 1862–1863*, **Evan C. Jones** and **Wiley Sword** present the first academic analysis that delineates all three Civil War campaigns fought from 1862 to 1863 for control of Chattanooga—the transportation hub of the Confederacy and gateway to the Deep South.

Through a collection of ten new essays from some of the finest Civil War historians working today, *Gateway to the Confederacy* offers a reexamination of these critical campaigns, dealing not only with military operations but also with the battles' origins and consequences. These essays explore the far-reaching social and political implications of the battles and bring into sharp focus their impact on postwar literature and commemoration. Several chapters revise the traditional portraits of famous and controversial figures like Ambrose Bierce and Nathan Bedford Forrest. Others investigate some of the more salient moments of these campaigns such as the circumstances that allowed for the Confederate breakthrough assault at Chickamauga. Each essay also addresses how Americans have misconstrued the legacy of these struggles and why scholars feel it necessary to reconsider one of the most critical turning points of the American Civil War.

*Gateway to the Confederacy* reassesses these pivotal battles, long in need of reappraisal, and breaks new ground as each scholar reshapes a particular aspect of this momentous part of the Civil War.

**Evan C. Jones** is a former National Park Service ranger who has worked at numerous Civil War battlefields, including the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

**Wiley Sword** is the author of several books about the Civil War, including *Mountains Touched with Fire: Chattanooga Besieged, 1863*.

May 2014

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