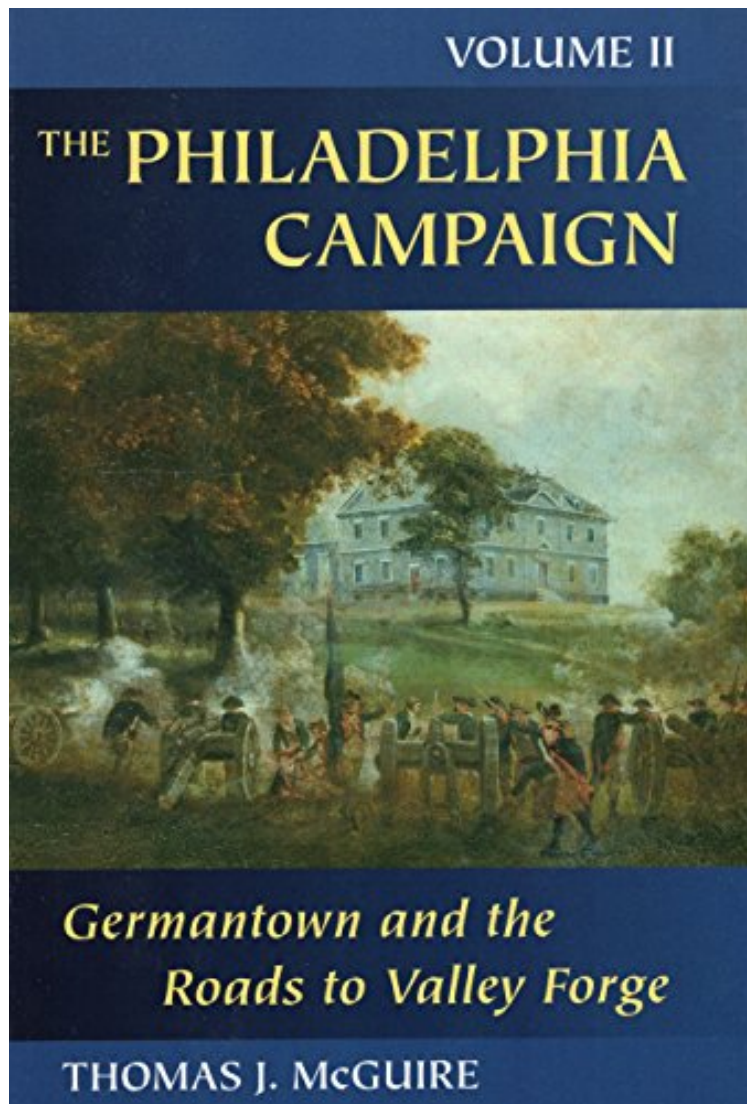


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(Philadelphia Campaign) (Volume 2)

The Philadelphia Campaign: Volume Two: Germantown and the Roads to Valley Forge (Philadelphia Campaign) (Volume 2)

Thomas J. McGuire

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Thomas J. McGuire : The Philadelphia Campaign: Volume Two: Germantown and the Roads to Valley Forge (Philadelphia Campaign) (Volume 2) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Philadelphia Campaign: Volume Two: Germantown and the Roads to Valley Forge (Philadelphia Campaign) (Volume 2):

8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great detail, not very readable
By Darrell A. Martin
The author's approach is primarily to string together contemporary quotations. His own contributions are mostly the selection of the material, and providing a narrative framework. This approach results in very hard reading. One of the reasons is the constant switching among the styles of the original authors, every one of whom seems to have a unique theory of spelling, grammar, and punctuation (as was common to the era). The modern framework and the quoted material are run together, which was probably the only workable choice, but in the end you have an aesthetic muddle. The result is not confusion, but tedium. On the other hand, the obvious breadth of the available materials that are included almost make this book a primary source compendium. I have found it very useful as a reference work, especially when I am focusing on a relatively small period of time, or a single event (such as one small part of a battle). In summary, I would strongly recommend this book to anyone with a specific and significant interest in the subject it covers. If that describes you, you will not regret buying this book. But its primary use as casual reading might be to help defeat insomnia.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. well written
By Lee Baer
Very well written and accurate. Reads well and the story flows well, be sure to buy both volumes or you'll be left hanging :-)

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book with amazing detail and information
By James L. Johnson
Great read for those interested in the full story of the action in the Philadelphia area. Thank you Thomas McGuire.

Based on soldiers' and civilians' vivid accounts--many uncovered for the first time from private collections--the story of the compelling fight for independence reaches its most desperate moments. This second in a two-volume set follows the saga from Cornwallis's triumphal march of his British and Hessian troops into Philadelphia in late September to Washington's movement of the weary Continental forces to camp at Valley Forge in December. Defeated at Brandywine, the Continental forces were worn out and ill equipped. Yet on October 4, Washington embarked on his first major offensive of the war--a surprise attack at dawn on Howe's main camp at Germantown. Only narrowly defeated, the Continentals gained valuable experience and new confidence in the possibility of victory. The siege of the Delaware River forts--one of the bloodiest and prolonged battles of the war--ended with British success in mid-November, but still Howe failed to end the war. He tried unsuccessfully to draw Washington from the fortified hills of Whitemarsh. As the Continental forces moved to Valley Forge for the winter, they would have to face their greatest challenge--survival.

The Philadelphia Campaign is first-rate, an absorbing work of tenacious research and close scholarship. Thomas J. McGuire knows the time of the American Revolution and has been over the ground in and about Philadelphia in a way few writers ever have. But it is his empathy for the human reality of war and the great variety of people caught up in it, whether in the service of the king or the Glorious Cause of America, that makes this book especially alive and memorable. --David McCullough, author of *John Adams* and *1776*
About the Author
Thomas McGuire teaches American history at Malvern Preparatory School near Paoli, Pennsylvania, and is the author of *Battle of Paoli* and *Stop The Revolution*.