The Geology of the Civil War

Alexandria, VA – Historians have spent decades analyzing the military actions of the Civil War. Now geologists are having their say.

Geologists are investigating how geological forces millions of years ago sculpted the terrain of Civil War battlefields — bringing a new perspective to the war’s events. Read November’s EARTH magazine and learn how igneous rock foiled the Confederates at Gettysburg, how powdery glacial sediments sealed Vicksburg’s fate and why limestone was the soldiers’ real enemy at Antietam.


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