

1. Record Nr.	UNISALENT0991004311433707536
Autore	Cento, Alberto
Titolo	De Madame GeneviÃ“ve BollÃ“me : ou de certaines mÃ©thodes philologiques / Alberto Cento
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Napoli : Tip. Liguori, 1966
Descrizione fisica	13 p. ; 23 cm
Lingua di pubblicazione	Francese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
2. Record Nr.	UNINA9910163211903321
Autore	Deogracias II Alan J
Titolo	Battle of Hampton Roads
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Bielefeld : , : Pickle Partners Publishing, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	9781782896050 1782896058
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (72 p.)
Disciplina	359.009
Soggetti	Naval battles Naval history
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di contenuto	Title page -- TABLE OF CONTENTS -- ABSTRACT -- ACKNOWLEDGMENTS -- CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION -- CHAPTER 2 - THE BATTLE OF HAMPTON ROADS -- CHAPTER 3 - IMPACT ON THE UNITED STATES NAVY, 1862-1871 -- CHAPTER 4 - IMPACT ON THE ROYAL NAVY, 1862-1871 -- CHAPTER 5 - CONCLUSION -- SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY -- Books -- Periodicals -- Electronic Documents

## Sommario/riassunto

This thesis examines the Battle of Hampton Roads, 8 and 9 March 1862, the first battle of ironclads, to determine if it was a Revolution in Military Affairs. This study is an analysis of naval developments prior to March 1862, the battle, and the impact the battle had on the U.S. Navy and the Royal Navy from 1862 to 1871. The battle signaled the end of the wooden warship era when the CSS Virginia destroyed two wooden warships on 8 March 1862. The USS Monitor influenced a change in naval design, which led the U.S. Navy and the Royal Navy to build turreted warships, which culminated in the launching of the first modern battleship in 1871. The transformation from sailing and steam ships with broadside armament to steam-powered turret ships led to a reduction in the size of the crews and the acceptance of engineers into the naval community. The battle led both navies to assign ironclads to their squadrons to counter ironclads of hostile nations. The battle influenced the development of tactics for fighting ironclads including ramming and coastal warfare. The Battle of Hampton Roads was a Revolution in Military Affairs and the onset of modern naval warfare.

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