Overlook Park







As the news spread of the impending clash of the ironclads, Northerners and Southerners alike lined the shores of Hampton Roads to watch the day's battle. Confident from the previous day's victory, the CSS Virginia's crew began the day with two jiggers of whiskey and a hearty breakfast. Eager to return to the battlefield, the Virginia fired the opening salvo from a thousand yards out against the USS Minnesota, hitting the ship and causing an explosion. The USS Monitor moved to intercept the Virginia to protect the Minnesota. For the next four hours, the two ironclads circled one another, trading shot and shell at point-blank range but doing no significant damage. Through it all, the *Monitor* protected the *Minnesota*, and it remained afloat.

The battle that day left neither the *Monitor* nor the *Virginia* seriously damaged, and both sides claimed victory. Ultimately, historians have called the battle a draw. However, there was one clear winner: ironclad technology. The age of wooden warships was over.

DAY 2 March 9, 1862

Union

A Painting by J. O. Davidson of the battle between USS Monitor and CSS Virginia. From the Collection of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Courtesy The Mariners' Museum

12:40 pm

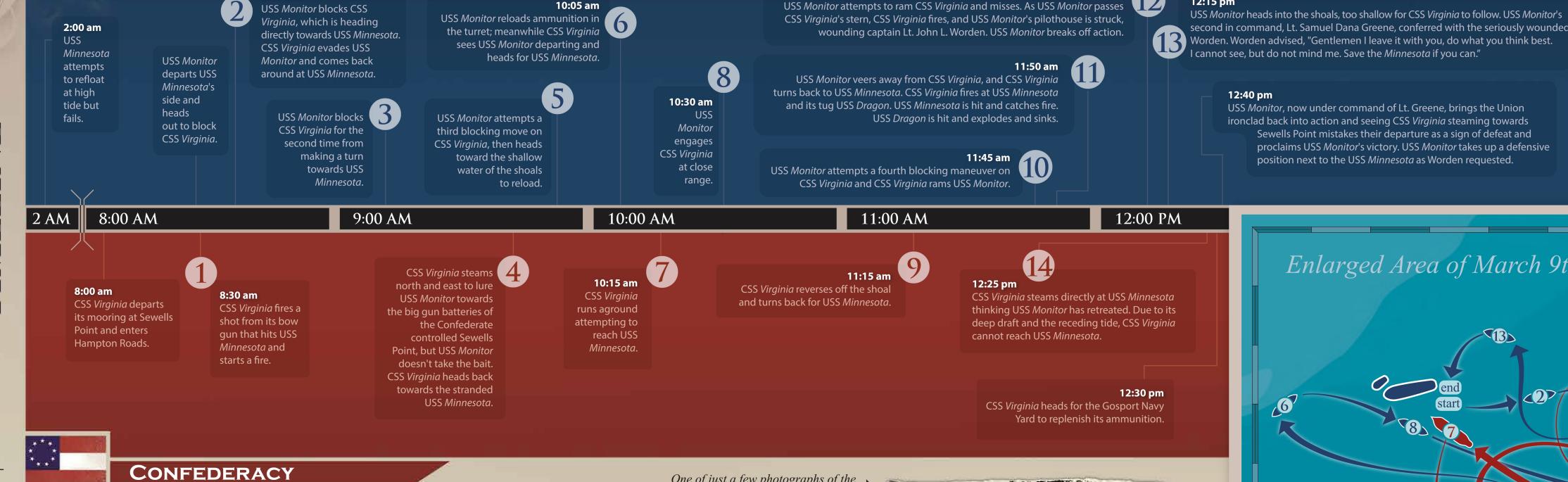
USS Monitor, now under command of Lt. Greene, brings the Union

ironclad back into action and seeing CSS Virginia steaming towards

Sewells Point mistakes their departure as a sign of defeat and

position next to the USS *Minnesota* as Worden requested.

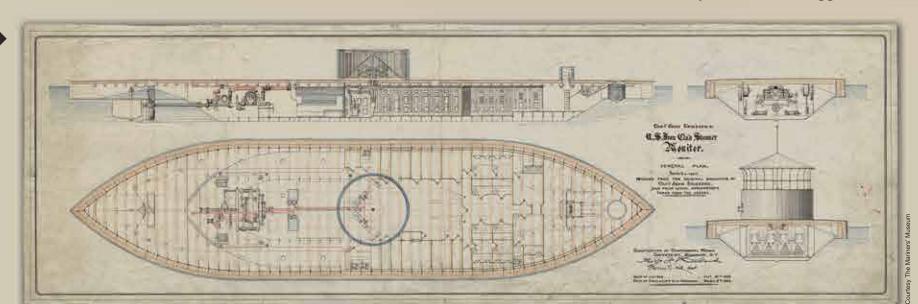
proclaims USS *Monitor*'s victory. USS *Monitor* takes up a defensive



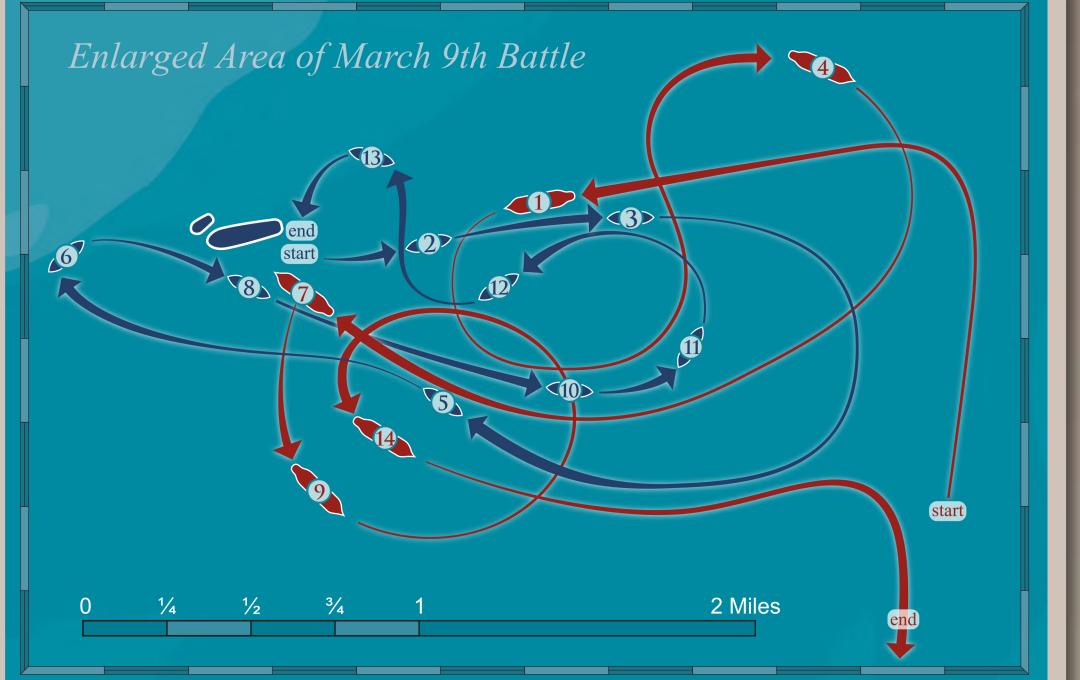
One of just a few photographs of the USS Monitor, providing the only actual

evidence of the ironclad's appearance and crew.

General plan and profile views of Monitor, *showing interior features* and details, published in February 1862, just after her launch.







Several of

Monitor's

standing on

deck; dents

on the rotating

turret from the

clearly visible.

March 9 battle

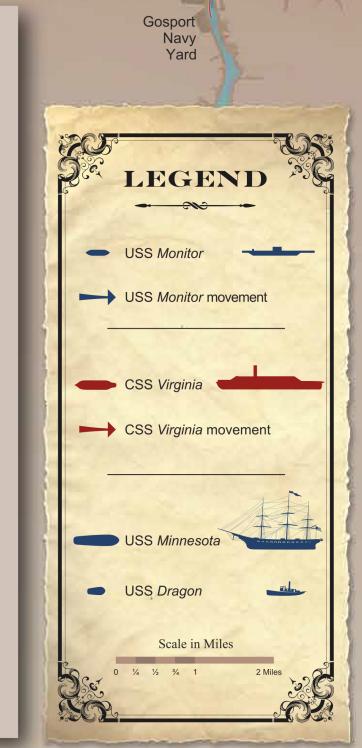
officers

Mariners⁵

Museum

and Park

Learn more about the ironclads and the battle at the USS Monitor Center



Confederate Batteries

Confederate Camps

31 Guns

Lambert's Point

Fort Norfolk

Confederate

Confederate

Batteries ==

Confederate Hospital



