

ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

Presidents Who Were Civil War Veterans

By **W. Dennis Keating**, Cleveland State University

Resources

If you can read only one book

Author	<i>Title. City: Publisher, Year.</i>
Perry, James M.	<i>Touched With Fire: Five Presidents and the Civil War Battles That Made Them.</i> New York: Public Affairs, 2003.

Books and Articles General

Author	<i>Title. City: Publisher, Year.</i>
Bissland, James	<i>Blood, Tears, and Glory: How Ohioans Won the Civil War.</i> Wilmington, OH: Orange Frazer Press, 2007.
Robertson, James I.	<i>After the Civil War: The Heroes, Villains, Soldiers, and Civilians Who Changed America.</i> Washington, DC: National Geographic, 2015.
Weeks, Philip, ed.	<i>Buckeye Presidents: Ohioans in the White House.</i> Kent: Kent State University Press, 2003.

Books Rutherford B. Hayes

Bellesiles, Michael A.	<i>1877: America's Year of Living Violently.</i> New York: New Press, 2010.
Hoogenboom, Ari	<i>Rutherford B. Hayes: Warrior and President.</i> Lawrence: University Press of Kansas 1995.

Morris, Jr., Roy	<i>Fraud of the Century: Rutherford B. Hayes, Samuel Tilden, and the Stolen Election of 1876.</i> New York: Simon & Schuster, 2004.
Williams, T. Harry	<i>Hayes of the Twenty-Third: The Civil War Volunteer Officer.</i> Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1965.

Books James A. Garfield

Ackerman, Kenneth D.	<i>Political Dark Horse: The Surprise Election and Murder of President James A. Garfield.</i> New York: Carroll & Graf Publishers, 2003.
Millard, Candace	<i>Destiny of the Republic: A Tale of Madness, Medicine, and the Murder of a President.</i> New York: Doubleday, 2012.
Peskin, Allan	<i>Garfield: A Biography.</i> Kent: Kent State University Press, 1978.

Books Benjamin Harrison

Castel, Albert	<i>Decision in the West: The Atlanta Campaign of 1864.</i> Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1992.
Moore, Anne Chieko	<i>Benjamin Harrison: Centennial President.</i> New York: Nova Science Publishers, 2009.

Books William McKinley

Armstrong, William	<i>Major McKinley: William McKinley & the Civil War.</i> Kent: Kent State University Press. 2000.
Morgan, H. Wayne	<i>William McKinley and His America.</i> Syracuse, NY: Syracuse University Press, 1963.
O'Toole, G.J.A.	<i>The Spanish War: An American Epic – 1898.</i> New York and London: W.W. Norton, 1984.

Organizations

Organization Name	Description, Contact information including address, email
Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center	The Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center is located at 1337 Hayes Avenue Fremont Ohio 43420-2796. Their website is: http://www.rbhayes.org/hayes/index.asp
James A. Garfield National Historic Site	The James A. Garfield National Historic Site is located at 8095 Mentor Avenue Mentor, OH 44060. Their website is: http://www.nps.gov/jaga/index.htm
Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site	The Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site is located at 1230 North Delaware Street Indianapolis, IN 46202. Their website is: http://www.bhpsite.org/
William McKinley Presidential Library & Museum	The William McKinley Presidential Library & Museum is located at 800 McKinley Monument Drive NW Canton, OH 44708. Their website is: http://mckinleymuseum.org/

Web Resources

Other Sources

Scholars

Name	Email
W. Dennis Keating	w.keating@csuohio.edu

Topic Précis

From 1869 to 1901, five U.S. Presidents were Civil War veterans: U.S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, and William McKinley. All were born in Ohio. Three (Hays, Harrison, and McKinley) were lawyers. All were Republicans and four (all except Grant) served in Congress. Four were generals (McKinley was a major). Grant was the only West Point graduate. Only one (Hayes) was wounded in combat. Two (Garfield and McKinley) were assassinated in office. Two (Grant and McKinley) were re-elected but Harrison was defeated for re-election. Two are more associated militarily and politically with other states: Grant-Illinois and Harrison-Indiana.
