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Stricken Field: The Little Bighorn since 1876. By Jerome A. Greene. Foreword by Paul L. Hedren. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2008. xxix + 352 pp. Maps, photographs, appendices, notes, bibliography, index. $34.95.

Interest in the Battle of the Little Bighorn, commonly known as Custer's Last Stand, has not abated over the last century. It is said that the only other battle in American history with more written about it is Gettysburg. True to form with other historic sites, the history of the Little Bighorn battlefield after the battle ended forms a compelling part of its total story.

Any site that holds such a prominent place in the American (and international) psyche warrants both an informative and accurate history. In *Stricken Field*, Jerome A. Greene, retired National Parks Service research historian, rises to the task. A familiar Sioux War authority and military historian, Greene spent several summers as a seasonal ranger at the Little Bighorn and knows the tale well. Originally conceived as a basic administrative history, his story treats the reader to insights into the site's postbattle history from the moment of the hasty, crude soldier burials to its designation as a national monument, and then as a center of controversy and changes in our national cultural awareness.

A fact probably unknown to the general public is that the battlefield was initially designated as a National Cemetery in 1879 and fell under the jurisdiction of the War Department. As time passed and the popularity of General George A. Custer and the Seventh Cavalry grew to epic proportions, commemorative events at the site blossomed, with thousands attending. Improved interpretation came when the battlefield was transferred to the National Parks Service in 1940. With this move a visitor center and enhanced visitor services were added. Visitation dramatically increased.

In more recent years, controversies over interpretation, public use, landscape preservation, monumentation, and other issues have challenged park management. For example, interpretation that once centered on Custer and his regiment became more inclusive, now also commemorating the various Native tribesmen who participated in the battle. Greene brings such issues and others to light for the reader. As is typical of his writings, the book is well documented with effective notes and bibliography. Maps and a fine selection of historic photos add support to a well-written narrative.

Stricken Field will make a welcomed addition to any library or collection on the Little Bighorn, Western history, or historic American sites. It will answer a number of questions for those specifically interested in this site. Greene and the University of Oklahoma Press are to be congratulated for an important volume that enhances our view of the evolving interpretations of a tumultuous event in Great Plains history.

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