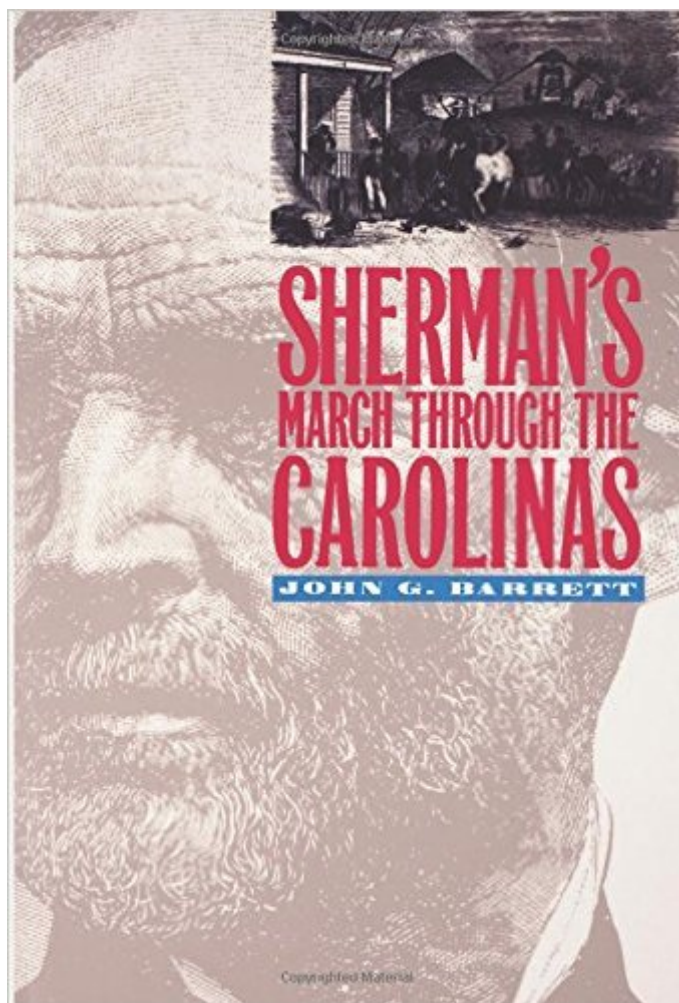


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# Sherman's March Through The Carolinas



## Synopsis

In retrospect, General William Tecumseh Sherman considered his march through the Carolinas the greatest of his military feats, greater even than the Georgia campaign. When he set out northward from Savannah with 60,000 veteran soldiers in January 1865, he was more convinced than ever that the bold application of his ideas of total war could speedily end the conflict. John Barrett's story of what happened in the three months that followed is based on printed memoirs and documentary records of those who fought and of the civilians who lived in the path of Sherman's onslaught. The burning of Columbia, the battle of Bentonville, and Joseph E. Johnston's surrender nine days after Appomattox are at the center of the story, but Barrett also focuses on other aspects of the campaign, such as the undisciplined pillaging of the 'bummers' and on its effects on local populations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

**SYNOPSIS** This book chronicles the destructive march of General William Tecumseh Sherman's Army from Savannah, GA through the Carolinas beginning in Feb 1864 and ending in April 1865. Sherman left Savannah with the intention of joining Gen Grant in Virginia to defeat Robert E. Lee's Army boxed in around Richmond and Petersburg. Sherman set out with his 60,000-plus Army divided into two infantry wings commanded by Generals Howard and Slocum, along with a cavalry division commanded by Gen Kilpatrick. His initial objective was to reach the railway junction of Goldsboro, NC (by way of Columbia, the SC capitol) where a supply line and additional forces

under command of Genâ™s Schofield and Terry were to join him prior to pushing on to Richmond. Sherman, responsible for the campaign and its outcome, is the central figure and the book starts out by providing insights of his personal and early military life (much of it in the South), including his evolving views that shaped his âœHard Warâ• strategy to facilitate the end of the war. The book also covers the politics and stakes of both sides associated with this campaign, along with the personalities, strategies and tactics involved, the armiesâ™ movements, engagements and battles, and the impacts on civilians and resources supporting the Southern war effort. The book follows Shermanâ™s path as piecemeal forces under General Beauregardâ™ Confederate, state, and localâ™ establish defensive positions in and around Augusta and Charleston, but Sherman simply bypasses them after feints and demonstrations toward them.

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