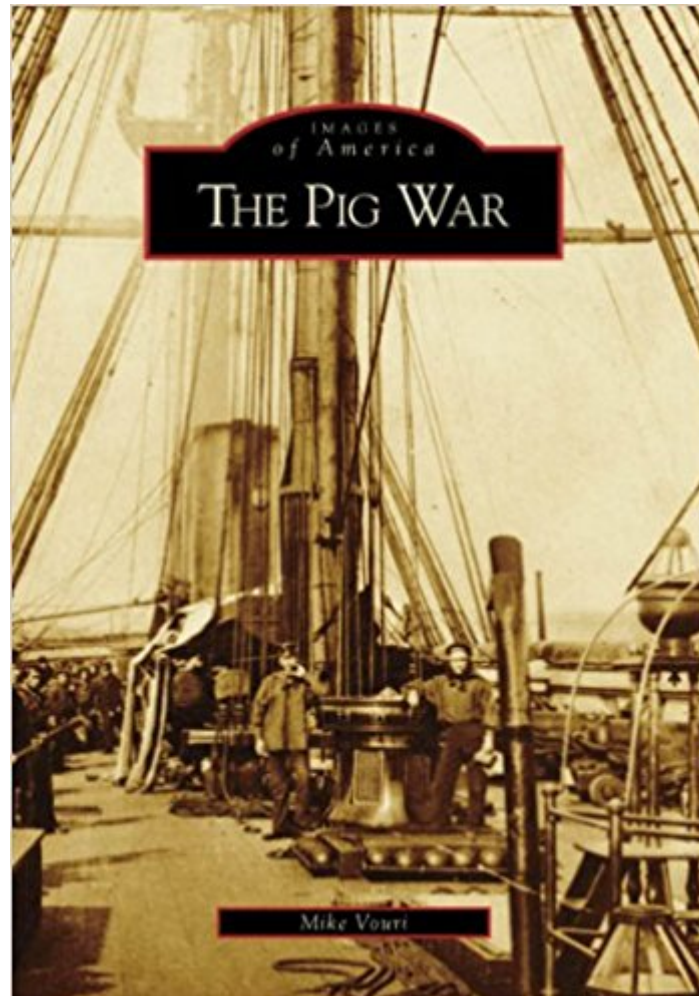




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The Pig War (WA) (Images Of America)



Synopsis

San Juan Island is well known for its splendid vistas, saltwater shore, quiet woodlands, and orca whales. But it was also here, in 1859, that the United States and Great Britain nearly went to war over a dead pig. On July 18 of that year, Capt. George E. Pickett (later to lead the famous charge climaxing the Battle of Gettysburg) landed his company of 63 soldiers on the southern end of San Juan Island to protect U.S. citizens from the British government after an American settler, Lyman Cutlar, had shot a pig belonging to the British-owned Hudson's Bay Company. What was really at stake was the possession of the entire San Juan archipelago, held in dispute between the two nations since 1846. By the time the crisis was settled, nearly 500 U.S. soldiers and three British warships would stand off on Griffin Bay. It would then require 12 more years of joint military occupation before the international boundary was settled and the San Juans became U.S. territory.

Book Information

Series: Images of America

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Arcadia Publishing (July 21, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0738558400

ISBN-13: 978-0738558400

Product Dimensions: 6.5 x 0.3 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

Historian Mike Vouri has selected nearly 200 historical images to illustrate this final boundary clash between two future allies. He has authored two previous works on the Pig War.

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