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## Appomattox: Victory, Defeat, and Freedom at the End of the Civil War

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[James E. Sefton](#)

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Oxford University Press

**Abstract**

### Placing an Important Event in the Proper Perspective

Professor Elizabeth Varon, who teaches at the University of Virginia, has previously written *Disunion! The Coming of the American Civil War, 1789-1859; We Mean to be Counted: White Women and Politics in Antebellum Virginia*,....

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The surrender at Appomattox usually concludes Civil War histories with a theme of reconciliation. The popular story showcases a formal Robert E. Lee offering his sword to a casual Ulysses S. Grant, who returns the blade and shares military honor. Union soldiers affirm the sentiment by giving rations to prisoners and even saluting Confederates while they stack arms and furl flags. In the end, paroled southerners go home under the Federal promise not to be disturbed as long as they maintain peace and honor the Union. Elizabeth R. Varon's important book shows how this simple story obscures a Download Appomattox : Victory, Defeat, and Freedom at the End of the Civil War (0199751714).pdf online, download Appomattox : Victory, Defeat, and Freedom at the End of the Civil War (0199751714).pdf for free - Free Download ebooks. Whereas April 1865 has been commonly viewed as a clear breaking point, Elizabeth Varon's Appomattox promises to connect the war to the immediate postwar in ways that have the potential to tell us far more than we currently know about how the creative potential generated by the destruction of war went unfulfilled in the decades that followed. Historian Elizabeth R. Varon considers the months-long series of events that concluded in Confederate General Robert E. Lee's reluctant surrender to Union commander Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, bringing the scourge of America's vicious Civil War to an end. 2nd September 1864. Atlanta, Georgia. General William T. Sherman advances against Confederate forces to capture and occupy Atlanta, Georgia, a Southern stronghold, beginning a crushing string of reverses that would cause the Confederacy's collapse. View on timeline. 8th November 1864.