



BATTLE OF HAMPTON ROADS

March 9, 1862

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On March 9, 1862, the USS *Monitor* and the CSS *Virginia* battled at point-blank range in a four-hour battle in Hampton Roads, Va. Even though both sides would claim victory, the battle ended in a draw. The clear winner was the success of armor cladding to protect the warships and the invention of the rotating gun turret. These two historic ships changed the way warships were built and how future naval battles would be fought.



Painting by J.O. Davidson, courtesy of The Mariners' Museum

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