
Guide to the Civil War Centennial Publications Collection MSS.2012.03.01

SJSU Special Collections & Archives

© 2012

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library

San José State University

One Washington Square

San José, CA 95192-0028

special.collections@sjsu.edu

URL: <http://library.sjsu.edu/sjsu-special-collections/sjsu-special-collections-and-archives>

URL:<http://library.sjsu.edu/sjsu-special-collections/sjsu-special-collections-and-archives>

Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: SJSU Special Collections & Archives

Title: Civil War Centennial Publications Collection

Identifier/Call Number: MSS.2012.03.01

Physical Description: 1.25 Linear Feet1 Hollinger Box

Date (inclusive): 1914-1987

Date (inclusive): 1961-1964

Abstract: The Civil War Centennial Publications Collection (1914-1987, bulk 1961-1964) consists of maps, pamphlets and publications related to the American Civil War Centennial. In 1957, an act of Congress created the United States Civil War Centennial Commission and a national public commemoration of the Civil War. The Commission was asked to work with each of the forty-eight U.S. states to create state-level commissions to commemorate the war, and to coordinate Centennial activities. Commemoration activities began in 1957, four years prior to the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Sumter, and ended in 1965 with the 100th anniversary of the surrender at Appomattox. This collection documents the state commissions for Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. This collection is arranged into a single series and organized by format and by state: Series I: Civil War Centennial Publications, 1914-1987 (Bulk 1961-1964).

Access

The collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

Copyright has not been assigned to the San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Director of Special Collections. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the SJSU Special Collections & Archives as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the reader. Copyright restrictions also apply to digital reproductions of the original materials. Use of digital files is restricted to research and educational purposes.

Preferred Citation

Civil War Centennial Publications Collection MSS-2012-03-01, San José State University Library Special Collections & Archives.

Processing Information

Processed by Madison Burgess. Finding aid created in the Archivist Toolkit. Reviewed by Danelle Moon.

Historical Note

The causes for the American Civil War were due to a variety of issues including the election of Republican President Abraham Lincoln, the political tension surrounding slavery, and state versus federal rights. The Republican Party was determined to prevent any spread of slavery and many Southern leaders had threatened secession if the Republican candidate, Lincoln won the election in 1860. After Lincoln's victory, many Southern whites felt that secession had become their only option. The Southerners saw themselves as fighting to preserve slavery. The Northerners, in contrast, saw themselves as preserving the Union and not abolishing slavery. The American Civil War was fought between the Union (the Northern States) and the Confederate (the Southern States), from 1861-1864.

Scope and Content of Collection

The Civil War Centennial Publications Collection (1914-1987, bulk 1961-1964) consists of maps, pamphlets and publications related to the American Civil War Centennial Commission authorized by Congress in 1957. The Commission was asked to work with each of the forty-eight U.S. states to create state-level commissions to commemorate the war, and to coordinate Centennial activities. Commemoration activities began in 1957, four years prior to the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Fort Sumter, and ended in 1965 with the 100th anniversary of the surrender at Appomattox. This collection documents the state commissions for Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into a single series and organized by format and by state: Series I: Civil War Centennial Publications, 1914-1987 (Bulk 1961-1964).

Subjects and Indexing Terms

Civil War Centennial Commission (U.S.)

**Series I: Civil War Centennial Publications,
1914-1987 1961-1964**

Scope and Content of Collection

This series consists of maps, pamphlets and other publications commemorating the American Civil War (1861-1864). Of note are maps of the fields of Shiloh, Fredericksburg, Chickamauga, and Harrisonburg. Publications and pamphlets include historical accounts of battles from both Southern and Northern perspectives, as well as reports published by the Civil War Centennial Commission for Texas, Mississippi, Missouri, and Illinois. They give a comprehensive view of daily life, political and military campaigns during the war. Also included is information on several persons of interest, such as Confederate State Generals Robert E. Lee and Stonewall Jackson and Union State Generals Benjamin Butler, Ulysses S. Grant, and William Sooy Smith.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged into a single series and organized by format and by state: Series I: Civil War Centennial Publications, 1914-1987 (1961-1964).

Physical description

1 box

Box 1:

Folder 1: Maps of Civil War battles by state

Folder 2: Northern States Publications (Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania) 1961-1987

Folder 3: Southern States Publications (Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and South Carolina) 1940-1968

Folder 4: Southern States Publications (Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia) 1914-1964