Military Records at the South Dakota State Archives – U.S. Civil War

Collections

Ben Arnold Oral Interview Notebooks, 1920 (H75-017)

Arnold was a soldier, Indian trader, cowboy, scout, wood cutter, miner, and mail courier. This collection consists of fourteen notebooks that were compiled by Josephine Waggoner. The notebooks contain Arnold's reminiscences of his time as an army scout in Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, and the Dakotas from 1864 to 1877. (Box 06821 A)

Thomas A. Ball Correspondence, 1864-1866 (H93-073)

Ball was a private during the Civil War in Company K, 32nd Iowa Regiment Volunteers, 2nd Division, 16th Corps. The correspondence is between Thomas and his family, specifically his wife Serilda Ballard Ball, and concerns his war experiences and wounds. In 1894, Thomas and his wife moved to Fall River County. (Box 05557 B)

Willam A. Bare Papers, 1865-1914 (H70-005)

Bare was a private and corporal in the 92nd Ohio Infantry. This collection consists of his promotion and discharge papers, as well as pension papers. (Box 03343 B)

Lewis E. Bloodgood Letters and Manuscript, 1864 (H75-036)

Bloodgood served in the Union forces during the Civil War until he was wounded in Mobile, Alabama. His letters include descriptions of duty, hospitalization, and the reaction to President Lincoln's death. (Box 03538 A)

Clara Brinkley Collection, 1949-1950 (H50-001)

Contains a Daughters of Union Veterans War Roster and pamphlet. (Box 03300 A)

Civil War Centennial Papers, 1961-1964 (H74-027)

This collection consists of two cubic feet of brochures, newsletters, and pamphlets from Civil War Centennial Commissions in other states collected by the South Dakota State Civil War Centennial Commission. (Boxes 03447 A - 03448 B)

"Dakota Territory in the Civil War" Manuscript, undated (H82-018)

A typed manuscript entitled "Dakota in the Civil War." The manuscript is undated and the author unknown. (Box 03591 A)

Dakota Territory Civil War Veterans Census, 1885 (H84-018, H80-007)

This collection consists of census record sheets documenting Union and Confederate veterans living in Dakota Territory in 1885. (FB 220, Box 03584 A)

Robert Dollard Family Papers, 1861-1918 (H20-001)

Dollard was an army officer, attorney and politician. His papers contain records of his military career and his political career, including letters, military papers, and muster rolls. Dollard served with Company B of the 4th Massachusetts Volunteers during the Civil War. (Box 03649 A, FB 22, MD 63)

Abner M. English Diaries, 1864 (H85-078)

English served with Company A of the Dakota Cavalry Battalion. These two diaries describe the marches and movements of the Dakota Cavalry. The first diary also includes a list of the sick in Company A. (Box 03653 A)

Captain C. V. Gardner Diary, 1865 (H75-172)

Gardner was a Civil War veteran who settled in Lawrence County after the war. His diary contains 36 typescript pages containing succinct accounts of his service. (Box 03543 A)

John Garrison Civil War Letter, 1863 (H91-006)

Consists of a letter written by John Garrison to his wife Elizabeth. He references his duties at a hospital in Woodsonville, military engagements, slavery, and a visit to the Mammoth Cave. (Box 03998 B)

General Photo Collection - Patriotic Photographs (P100)

Includes an undated group photograph of Civil War veterans and the Women's Relief Corps of Lincoln County.

General Photo Collection - Military (P104)

Includes images of miscellaneous Civil War uniforms.

Grand Army of the Republic - Record Book, undated (H77-021)

This membership record book was kept by John A. Rawlins Post No. 27 of the Department of Dakota and includes each member's name, age, birthplace, residence, occupation, date of entry into service, and date of discharge. (MF 1949)

Grand Army of the Republic - John B. Wyman Post No. 115 Certificate, 1885 (H79-002)

A certificate for the John B. Wyman post in Wessington. (MD 66)

Grand Army of the Republic - National Encampment Books, 1914-1949 (H98-106)

Consists of the Journals of the National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic for the following years: 1914-1916, 1924-1931, 1933-1945, and 1949 (Box 06984 B-C)

Grand Army of the Republic - Department of South Dakota Records, 1882-1941 (H74-014)

This collection contains national and state records which include journals, encampment books, individual post records, quartermaster record books and reports, adjutant reports, orders and circulars, department rosters, correspondence, muster rolls, membership information, clippings, programs, photographs, and post applications. Post information is included in this collection for the following towns: Alexandria, Bangor, Belle Fourche, Beresford, Cavour, Chamberlain, Dell Rapids, Esmond, Fort Randall, Geddes, Harrold, Hot Springs, Iroquois, Lennox, Madison, Miller, Oelrichs, Pierre, Plankinton, Salem, Selby, Sioux Falls, Springfield, Volga, Watertown, Wessington Springs, White Lake, and Yankton. (Boxes 03378 B - 03389, 03391; MD 66; FB 59-61 and 104)

Indexes of Deaths Listed in South Dakota G.A.R. Annual Journals

Javan Bradley Irvine Letters, 1859-1902 (H72-003, H75-016, H90-087, H90-088)

Irvine, an army officer, served with the 1st Minnesota Volunteers in the Civil War and at Fort Rice, Fort Thompson, and Fort Sully. This collection contains letters and clippings concerning the role of this unit. (Boxes 03346 A - 033347 B)

Arthur C. Mellette Papers, 1889-1892 (H74-188)

Arthur Calvin Mellette was the last governor of Dakota Territory and the first governor of the state of South Dakota. During the Civil War, he served with Company H of the Ninth Indiana Volunteers from October 12, 1864 to September 28, 1865. This collection contains a typed copy of the diary he kept during this military service. (Box 03525 B)

Military History of the 11th Kansas Volunteer Cavalry (H82-016)

Consists of a photocopy of the "Official Military History of the 11th Kansas Cavalry, 1861-1865." Originally organized as the 11th Kansas Infantry, it was converted to Cavalry in 1863. The regiment saw duty in Arkansas, Kansas, and Missouri. In 1865, the regiment was sent to Fort Riley, Fort Kearney, and Fort Laramie for service on the Plains. They were relieved by the 1st Michigan Cavalry later in 1865. (Box 03587 A)

Miscellaneous Civil War Items (H75-221, H80-013)

This is an open collection consisting of an edition of Harper's Pictorial History of the Civil War, 1894; Photographic History of the Civil War, 1910; a sketch showing the action of the Reserve commanded by Major General W. H. T. Walker at the Battle of Chickamauga, 1863; post of President Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg; and loan bond certificates from the Confederate States for $100.00, 1864. (MD 63 and 75)

Stanley J. Morrow Photograph Collection (P194-198)

Includes many photographs from the Civil War including images of the Point Lookout Prison Camp; Stanley J. Morrow of Company F of the 7th Wisconsin Iron Brigade; General Grant at Lookout Mountain, 1863-1864; General Hooker and staff at Lookout Valley, 1863-1864; Confederate President Jefferson Davis; Brigadier General James Barnes; Major A. G. Brady; General Beauregard; Lt. John M. Foote; General U. S. Grant; the effects of Union shot and shell on Culp's Hill; Col. Chapman at his headquarters at Yorktown, VA; construction corps quarters; headquarters of Gen. Patrick's scouts; and U.S. barracks at St. Augustine, FL.

Major John A. Pickler Family Papers, 1888-1907 (H91-074)

Major Pickler served in the Civil War with the 3rd Iowa Cavalry and commanded the 138th Regiment of the United States Colored Infantry after the war. This collection includes Civil War pension correspondence and petitions. (Box 06673 A-B)

Jennie Bean Sanders Piner Papers, 1856-1913 (H74-101)

Jennie Bean Sanders Piner's father, John Stewart Bean, was with the 16th Wisconsin Infantry and the 47th U.S. Colored Infantry. Most of the papers are from his time in the Civil War, although there are some papers from his later life in Dakota. (Box 03471 B, MD 63)

Potter County Civil War Veterans Record, 1992 (H92-038)

Consists of a record of Potter County Civil War veterans compiled by the Potter County Historical Association in 1992. (Box 04564)

Henry Marion Reed, Jr. Papers, 1862-1954 (H74-107)

Reed was a Pierre jeweler and optometrist. One folder of the collection pertains to his father's service in the Civil War. Included are appointments, discharge papers, and two articles written by Reed, Sr.: "What I Remember of Chickamauga" and "History of Co. K Fourth Kentucky Infantry." (Box 03650 A)

A. H. Redfield Letters, 1856-1861 (H75-341)

Redfield was an Indian Agent at the Yankton Indian Agency. In letters to his cousin, John D. Caton, Redfield notes the disruption at the Agency by the upcoming Civil War. (Box 03550 A)

Rhoads Family Papers - Civil War Letter, 1862 (H91-016)

This collection includes a letter written by Frank B. Hunt in 1862. Hunt was stationed four miles north of Nashville, TN, when he wrote this letter to his family. Hunt was the Chief of the Ordnance Division at the Headquarters of the 6th Division of the 14th U.S. Army Corps. (Box 05201 A)

Doane Robinson Papers, 1880-1946 (H74-009)

Robinson was the State Historian for many years. This collection contains his correspondence, manuscripts, and family genealogical notes. Folder 23 includes a letter written by Robinson on November 17, 1922 with biographical sketches of three Civil War brigadier generals: Beadle, Campbell, and McCook. (Box 03359 B)

Siegmund Rothhammer Papers, 1863-1865 (H92-034, H92-039)

Includes letters written to his wife, Rosanah Permilia Rothhammer, from 1863-1864, and a journal from 1864-1865. Rothhammer served as hospital steward and naturalist with the 6th Iowa Volunteer Cavalry and accompanied General Alfred Sully on the Northwestern Indian Expedition. He was left at Fort Rice because of illness, so much of the entries in his journal and reports contain descriptions of specimens found near that area in present-day North Dakota. (Boxes 03390 B and 05204 B)

Joseph Seacat Letter, 1865 (H51-002)

Joseph Seacat was a 1st Lt. Commanding with Company D of the 81st Indiana Volunteers. This letter to Brig. Gen. William D. Whipple was written on May 13, 1865 to request furlough for Sgt. Hough. (Box 03300 A)

Joseph Howard Smith Papers, 1864-1916 (H75-523)

Smith, a physician, served as a private in the Civil War. His papers include letters of recommendation, military orders, and pension records for his service with the 9th Michigan Infantry. (Box 03650 A)

Soldiers' Letters, 1861-1867 (H75-206)

A collection of eight letters written by various soldiers serving in Dakota during the Civil War. Although the letters are mostly personal, some mention the conditions on the frontier. (Box 03543 B)

Sons of Veterans - Pierre Camp Minutes, 1912-1916 (H88-046)

The Pierre Camp was organized in 1912 and was connected to the Grand Army of the Republic and composed of the sons of Union veterans. The Pierre Camp was eventually named Sully Camp. (Box 03752 A)

Sons of Veterans - South Dakota Division Records, 1890-1902 (H51-001)

This collection consists of an account book (1890-1902) and a register of charger members (1898-1902). (Box 03300 A)

James H. Stewart Civil War Letters, 1864 (H78-017)

Consists of four letters written by Stewart to his father and brother while serving with Company A of the 61st Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers. (Box 03571 A)

John Blair Smith Todd Papers, 1848-1918 (H75-015)

Todd first came to Dakota Territory under General Harney in 1855. In 1856 he returned and became a post trader at Fort Randall. President Lincoln commissioned him a brigadier general during the Civil War. This collection contains clippings, manuscripts, and correspondence, as well as an untitled map of the area around Corinth, MS that shows the placement of troops. (Box 03536 B)

Maps

U.S. Chief of Engineers - Civil War Maps, 1876-1877 - shows battlefields and military reconnaissance (MD 75)

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"The Civil War Diary of Arthur Mellette," ed. Gerald W. Wolff: Vol. 37, page 346-407

Civil War Veterans: Vol. 12, page 265

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Chancellorsville: Vol. 17, No. 3

Chickamauga: Vol. 17, No. 7

Civil War Series

Booklet: Vol. 15, No. 10

Box Score, Series Starts: Vol. 15, No. 6

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Vertical Files

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