

# Guide to the American Civil War Military Equipage Archival Collection

## **Descriptive Summary**

### **Repository**

Kenosha Civil War Museum Archives

### **Language of Material**

Material in English

### **Extent**

### **Abstract**

The collection consists of color plates from the Journal of Military Collector and Historian and an additional reference binder located in the Museum's Resource Center. Originally prepared as a guide for painting military miniatures, the materials provide detailed information on uniforms, flags, weapons and accouterments used by Civil War soldiers North and South.

## **Administrative Information**

### **Access Restrictions**

- Requests to research the Archives collections must be made 24 hours **in advance** to the curator
- Collection is open for research on-site at the Kenosha Civil War Museum during business hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- Patrons must adhere to Museum rules while utilizing the collection.
- The Civil War Museum reserves the right to accept or deny any research request.

### **Use Restrictions**

Photocopies available upon request. Fee required.

### **Preferred Citation**

(Identification of item) American Civil War Military Equipage Archival Collection. The Civil War Museum, Kenosha Wisconsin.

## **Provenance**

The Civil War Military Equipage Archival Collection was donated to the Civil War Museum by the family of Mr. Thomas Miekina.

## **Processing Information**

Processed by Richard Zimmermann

## **Collection Overview**

One binder contains fifty-eight copies of the original color plates owned by the Civil War Museum. The second binder originated from a Military Collector and Historian publication: *American Military Equipage, 1851-1872* by Frederick Todd. It includes reference materials (uniforms, weapons, accouterments and flags) for each state and territory involved in the Civil War. Originally published as three separate volumes in 1974, by 1980, a single volume reprint containing portions of the original publication was an amalgamation of all three but omitted the reference materials included in the binder.

## **Detailed Collection List**

The two binders containing detailed information about individual states include descriptions of uniforms, weapons and accouterments and are housed in the Museum's Resource Center. As the Kenosha Civil War Museum emphasizes information available concerning the seven Upper Midwest states, a few examples from the binders are included below.

### **Illinois:**

#### **VOLUNTEER INFANTRY**

##### **7<sup>th</sup> Vol. In Regt (Fremont Rifles)**

Initially issued state fatigue clothing of a "striped" material, probably ticking; US conversions. *Feb 1862*: received blue state fatigue uniform; later US reg. clothing. *June 1863*: 5 comps mounted on mules, and regt. given US M1861 rifle musket. Entire regt. mounted in April 1865. Color guard carried Henry rifle. *1862*: Enfield rifle. *1863-1865*: Springfield rifled muskets.

### **Indiana**

#### **VOLUNTEER INFANTRY**

##### **11<sup>th</sup> Regt (Indiana Zouaves)**

Initially issued zouave suit of gray cloth, the jacket narrowly edged with red and sky blue tape: cap with red crown and gray band; light blue or gray flannel shirts, brown canvas gaiters, gray wool and rubberized cloth blankets. Officers wore same zouave suit with wider red lace on jacket and red Hungarian knots on trousers; French style cap with red crown and gold lace. Havelock sometimes worn. *Dec. 1861*: issued new partial zouave suit: black jacket trimmed with light

blue; dark blue false vest; sky blue reg. pants; blue forage cap. Officers wore US reg. clothing. Worn throughout remaining service. *1862*: Springfield rifled muskets; Enfield rifle; US M18431 and M1845 rifles. *1863*: light French or Belgian rifles, cal. .577, with saber bayonets; Enfield rifles, some with saber bayonet. *1864-1865*: Springfield rifled muskets.

## **Iowa**

### **VOLUNTEER INFANTRY**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> Regt.**

Initially issued state gray uniforms; conversions. *c. Oct. 1861*: US reg. inf. clothing. *1862*: M1842 rifled musket. *1863-1864*: Springfield rifled muskets.

## **Michigan**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Regt. Engineers and Mechanics**

State fatigue uniform; M1842 rifled musket. *1863-1864*: Enfield rifle. Men usually wore black felt campaign hat bearing a castle in front. *1863*: US reg. Engineer Corps dress.

## **Minnesota**

### **VOLUNTEER CAVALRY**

#### **2<sup>ND</sup> Regt.**

Issued US reg. cav. clothing. *1863*: Smith carbine; Colt army revolver; M1840 and M1860 sabers. *1864*: Smith and Burnside carbines; Colt army and Whitney navy revolvers.

## **Ohio**

### **U. S. COLORED TROOPS RAISED IN OHIO, 1864-1865**

#### **27<sup>TH</sup> Regt. Inf. U.S.C.T.**

Issued US reg. inf. clothing. *1864*: Springfield rifled muskets; Enfield rifles.

## **Wisconsin**

### **VOLUNTEER INFANTRY**

#### **9<sup>th</sup> Regt. (1<sup>st</sup> German Regt.)**

Issued state blue clothing which generally corresponded to US reg. inf. dress, except coats were 5-button sacks with standing collar, edged sky-blue. Initially: 6 comps. Belgian rifled musket, cal. .58; 4 comps. Dresden rifles. *1863-1864*: Enfield rifle.

## **LIST OF STATES AND TERRITORIES INCLUDED**

- Alabama

- Arkansas
- California
- Colorado Territory
- Connecticut
- Delaware
- D. C.
- Florida
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New Jersey
- New Mexico/Arizona Territory
- New York
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Utah Territory
- Vermont
- Virginia
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin