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

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
7th Vol. In Regt (Fremont Rifles)

**Indiana**
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY
11th 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

2nd Regt.


**Michigan**

1st Regt. Engineers and Mechanics


**Minnesota**

VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

2ND 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


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

**Wisconsin**

VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

9th Regt. (1st 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