

Illinois Artifacts

The Illinois State Military Museum was established in 1878 to preserve the heritage and exhibit artifacts associated with the citizen-Soldiers of Illinois. The Museum features many Civil War artifacts. In remembrance of the 150th anniversary of the war, the museum has an additional temporary exhibit in place with seldom viewed items. From a Civil War cannon to a Medal of Honor, the collection educates patrons about Illinois Soldiers during this volatile time in our nation's history.



Open Tuesday - Saturday

1:00 - 4:30 p.m. or by appointment

FREE admission - donations accepted

Illinois State Military Museum
Illinois Department of Military Affairs
Camp Lincoln
1301 N. MacArthur Boulevard
Springfield, IL 62702
Phone: 217-761-3910
<http://www.il.ngb.army.mil>

Find us on Facebook under
Illinois National Guard and
Illinois State Military Museum



**SACRIFICE AND LEADERSHIP
ILLINOIS GAVE BOTH**

The flag depicted here...

Is from the 13th Illinois Volunteer Regiment who fought at the battle of Ringgold Gap in Georgia on Nov. 27, 1863. Located at the front line, the unit sustained significant casualties. Sgt. Patrick Riley, color bearer, received a shot to the chest and fell in such a manner to be rolled up in the flag. The flag will forever be stained with Riley's blood.

13th REG^t ILL^s
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
MISSION RIDGE
RINGGOLD, GA.

Illinois Facts

- April 15, 1861 Gov. Richard Yates calls for 6,000 troops in support of Lincoln's requests.
- Enthusiasm for the war spawned an extraordinary amount of volunteers, more than the state could handle or was authorized. Many Illinois Soldiers fought under the banner of other states. Illinois Soldiers in Missouri units alone numbered 5,610.
 - Roughly 259,100 men from Illinois served.
 - Nearly 35,000 perished from battle, disease, wounds or in prison camps.
 - Jennie Hodgess, AKA Albert DJ Cashier, served undiscovered in the 95th Illinois for three years. How many women actually served remains unknown.
 - Illinois General John A. Logan is one of the original founders of Memorial Day.
- Illinois had POW camps at Alton, Camp Butler, Camp Douglas and Rock Island.
- The Illinois National Guard has lineage back to the the 7th through 12th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiments:
 - 130th IN BN can claim lineage from the 7th, 8th, 9th and 10th.
 - 1544th Transportation Company E - 12th.
 - 444th Chemical Company - 11th and 12th.

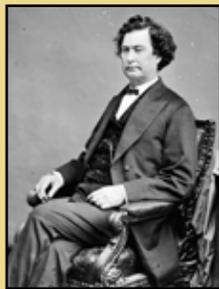


In their own words



"God gave us Lincoln and Liberty, let us fight for both."

- Ulysses S. Grant, Union Commander - A toast at dinner during Vicksburg Campaign Feb. 22, 1863.



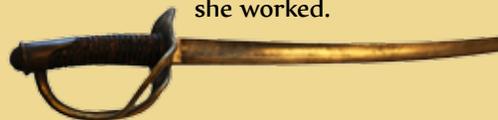
"I felt that I had fathered those boys."

- Richard Yates, Illinois Governor 1861-1865 - In response to casualty reports.



"I am present on the authority of Lord God Almighty, have you anything that outranks that?"

- Mother Bickerdyke, Union Nurse to a doctor's aide who demanded to know under whose authority she worked.



Medal of Honor

President Abraham Lincoln signed a bill issuing the highest U.S. Army decoration on July 12, 1862. Called the Army Medal of Honor, it stands as a symbol of bravery and selflessness in combat. Preparation of 2,000 Medals of Honor were authorized to "be presented, in the name of the Congress, to such noncommissioned officers and privates as shall most distinguish themselves by their gallantry in action, and other Soldier-like qualities." The act of March 3, 1863 extended the medals to officers. Ninety-seven medals are attributed to Illinois Civil War Soldiers and Sailors.

Youngest MoH Recipient

Orion P. Howe enlisted as a 12-year-old drummer boy for the 55th Illinois Infantry. In the Siege of Vicksburg, 1863, Howe volunteered to retrieve ammunition from across enemy lines. Although seriously wounded in the process, he completed his mission. For his actions at the battle, Howe earned the Medal of Honor upon a written request from Major General Sherman to the Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. Howe remains the youngest recipient of the Medal of Honor.



"During the next four years of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, we will reflect upon the bravery, courage and sacrifice of the Illinois Militia that suffered and fought to keep our nation whole. This proud legacy carries on in the Soldiers of today's Illinois National Guard."

-Maj. Gen. William L. Enyart, The Illinois National Guard Adjutant General