

CENTRAL ILLINOIS TEACHING WITH PRIMARY SOURCES NEWSLETTER

April 2008

Civil War Photography

Welcome to the 14th issue of the **Central Illinois Teaching with Primary Sources Newsletter**, a collaborative project of the Teaching with Primary Sources Programs at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Eastern Illinois University.

With this issue and continuing through February 2009 the theme each month will reflect primary sources from our **Abraham Lincoln Calendar**. You can download and print a copy of the calendar at <http://www.eiu.edu/~eiutps>.

Photography was relatively new during Lincoln's presidency. Joseph Nicephore Niepce started the quest to create a photograph in 1816. He later partnered with Louis Mande Daguerre to try and make the process of photography faster, photos could take hours of exposure to create and over the course of a few days the photo would fade. Sadly Niepce died before his dream was realized. In 1839 Daguerre revealed his process for taking pictures. These photos are known as Daguerreotype. American Memory features a collection of daguerreotype photographs called America's First Look into the Camera <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/daghtml/daghome.html>.

Photographs were an important part of the documentation of the Civil War. Some of the images are very graphic and some were staged by the photographers. Moving bodies of soldiers or adding props such as weapons for a greater effect was not uncommon. In the feature presentation "Does the Camera Ever Lie?" we examine photos that were manipulated to sway the public. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cspcam>

President Lincoln had visited General George McClellan after the Battle of Antietam one of the bloodiest one-day battles in the civil war. These photos are digitized and available to view in the Selected Civil War Photograph Collection <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cwphome.html>.



Lincoln was also sought after for his presidential photographs. Photographer Matthew Brady wrote to Lincoln requesting that President Lincoln sit for a photograph [http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/cwar:@field\(NUMBER+@band\(cwp+4a40920\)\)](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/cwar:@field(NUMBER+@band(cwp+4a40920))). Lincoln

granted Brady's request and he also allowed Brady to photograph a more personal portrait of the President with his son Tad [http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/resp:@field\(NUMBER+@band\(cph+3a14279\)\)](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/resp:@field(NUMBER+@band(cph+3a14279))).



When John Wilkes Booth fired the fatal shot at President Lincoln he became the most sought after fugitive with a reward of \$50,000 offered for his capture. Although Booth pulled the trigger that ended the president's life he did not act alone. Photographs of some of the conspirators after their arrest are available in the Selected Civil War Photographs Collection <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cwphome.html>.



Beyond President Lincoln

Today photography has never been easier. With digital cameras you see your photo immediately, download it to your computer, edit it and you have a print suitable for framing. Even our cell phones

have the ability to take pictures; just in case you don't have your digital camera handy. Before the age of digital technology in photography we were able to take our holiday pictures with Polaroid Instant



Galbraith Map Illinois

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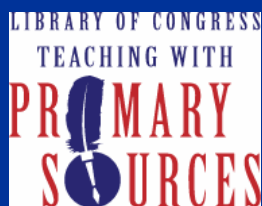
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Beyond President Lincoln (cont)

Cameras where the picture would develop in front of your eyes. Unfortunately, Polaroid announced in February that they will no longer be making their once iconic instant camera or film.

Some of the best known photographers have collections in the Library of Congress American Memory website. Ansel Adams, Matthew Brady and Carl Van Vechten all have digitized photograph collections. These photographers captured the struggles of life in a war relocation camp, the personal side of our 16th president along with the devastation of the Civil War and portraits of celebrities.



Topic Connections

Civil War Treasures from the New York Historical Society <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/nhihtml/cwnyhshome.html>

This collection contains the War of the Rebellion Album No. 20 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/nhihtml/cwnyhсарр.html#p> This digitized album reveals the life of Civil War soldiers both in battle and as prisoners of war. A special presentation; Before, During and After the Civil War serves as a chronological overview of the war <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpcoop/nhihtml/cwnyhsspec.html>. Some of the hidden treasures of this collection are the McLean house where General Lee signed surrender papers, the ruins of Richmond and Aiken's Landing where prisoners were exchanged. Library of Congress American Memory as accessed March 7, 2008.



Selected Civil War Photographs <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cwphome.html>

Taking photographs is so easy today that it is hard to imagine a time when the process was so complex that it took two men to complete the task. This process is explained in Taking Photographs at the Time of the

Civil War, a special section in the Selected Civil War Photographs Collection <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cwtake.html> accessed March 8, 2008. This collection also contains the John Hays Civil War photograph album with photographs of over 200 individuals.



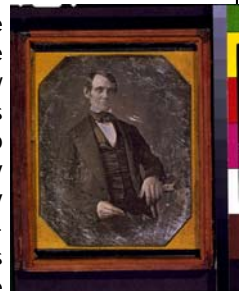
Panoramic Photographs http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/panoramic_photo/

Battlefields and monuments are the subjects in these panoramic photographs, most of which were taken after the end of the Civil War. However, some of the photographs taken during the time of the Civil War include Atlanta before General Sherman's army marched burning it to the ground, and Fort Stanley. The panoramic photographs at the Library of Congress average about 28 inches in length which makes them extremely hard to handle. This explains why today panoramic photography is used mostly as artistic expression. Library of Congress American Memory accessed March 7, 2008. Don't miss the essays on Shooting a Panoramic Photograph http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/panoramic_photo/pnshoot.html and A Brief History of Panoramic Photography http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/panoramic_photo/pnhist1.html.



America's First Look Into the Camera Daguerreotype Portraits and Views, 1839-1864 <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/daghtml/daghome.html>

The earliest known photographs of Abraham and Mary Lincoln are digitized in this collection. The majority of these photographs are portraits. Over 300 are credited to Matthew Brady, who opened his first daguerreotype studio in 1844. A list of glossary terms and a brief history into daguerreotype photographs are



some of the special presentations in this collection. Library of Congress American Memory accessed March 7,

2008.



Lesson Plans and Activities

Lesson Plans:

What Do You See? <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/97/civilwar/hinesday.html>

Photojournalism: A Record of War. <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/97/photo/home.html>

The Matthew Brady Bunch: Civil War Newspapers <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/98/brady/home.html>

Wise Guide:

Portraits of the Civil War <http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/jan06/portraits.html>

Today in History:

February 27, Matthew Brady <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/feb27.html>

November 18, Louis-Mande Daguerre <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/today/nov18.html>

Activities:

Does the Camera Ever Lie? <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphtml/cwpcam/cwcam1.html>

Prints and Photographs:

About the Civil War Photographs <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/pp/cwphtml/cwpabt.html>

Civil War Photographs by Matthew Brady's Staff and Others <http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/coll/048.html>

Brady-Handy Collection http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/coll/222_bradyhandy.html

Portraits of Named Civil War Enlisted Men http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/list/233_cwsoldiers.html

Exhibitions:

A Photographic Sketchbook <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm051.html>

Ruins in Richland <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm110.html>

A Civil War Sailor <http://www.loc.gov/exhibits/treasures/trm196.html>

What's New at LOC.Gov

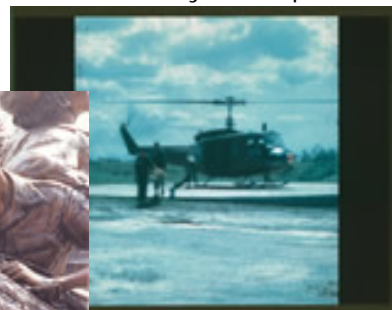
Women of Four Wars: Stories from the Veteran's History Project

The Veteran's History Project commemorates women and their role in the military during war time. The project is divided into two sections. The first, Korea and Vietnam, offered women limited opportunities to serve their country in battle. The second, Persian Gulf and Iraq/Afghanistan gave women a greater chance to serve their country but at a higher price with catastrophic circumstances.

In these stories you will find extraordinary women who served their country. Some were nurses helping in MASH units others were captured and became prisoners of war. Each has a heartfelt story, some with video, audio and pictures.

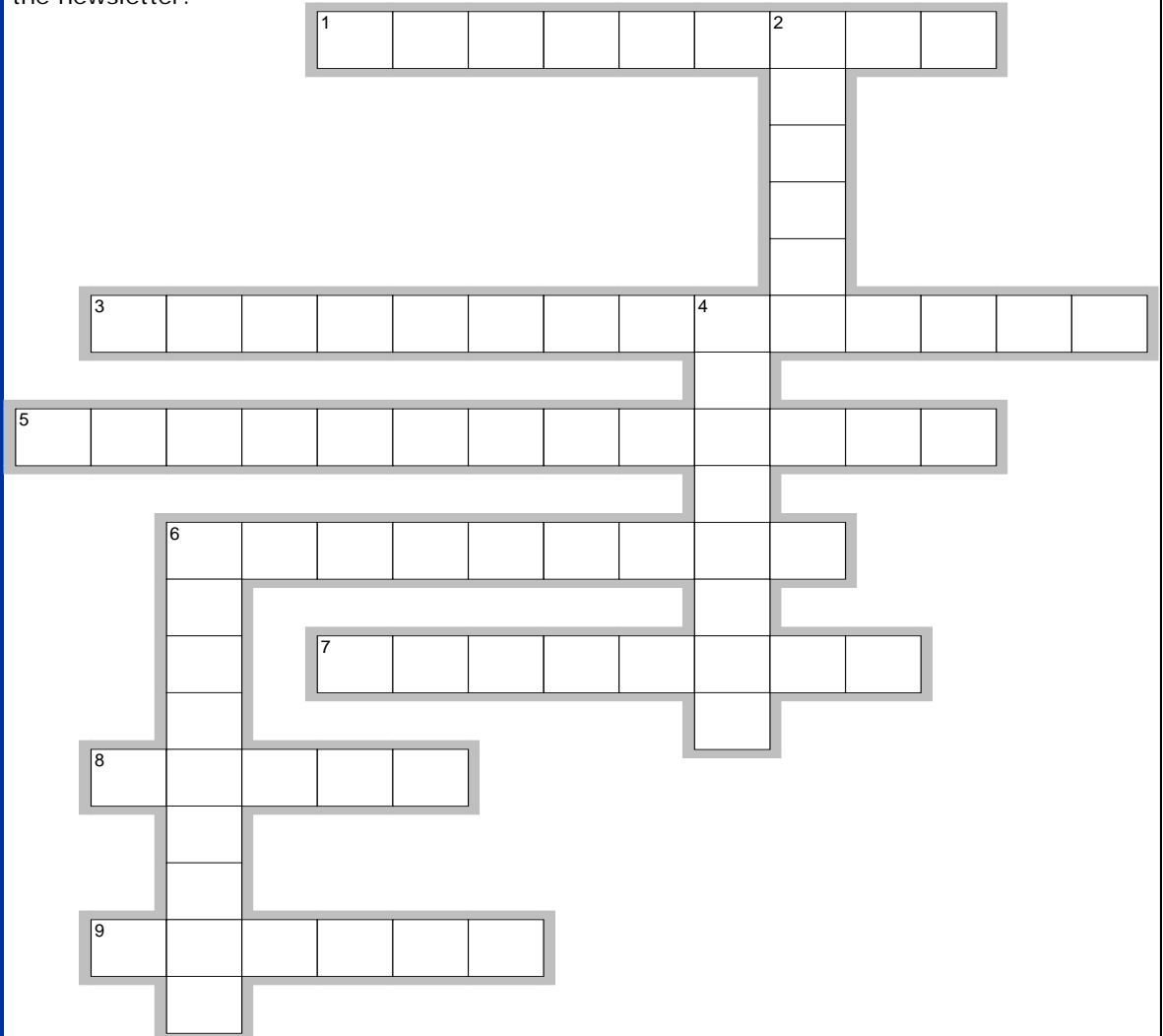
The Library has preserved over 55,000 veteran stories but fewer than 4,000 are recollections of experiences from women veterans. The Library is asking for volunteers to record the stories from the women who served their country during these wars. To find out how you can participate in this project go to <http://www.loc.gov/vets/kit.html>.

Text from Library of Congress
Veteran's History Project News
Release accessed March 7, 2008.



Test Your Knowledge...

Civil War Photography Crossword Puzzle. Answers can be found in this newsletter or links in the newsletter.



EclipseCrossword.com

ACROSS

1. Used to frame the image and provide protective space between plates
3. Place where prisoners were exchanged
5. Earliest type of photograph
6. This brass binding that holds daguerreotype, brass mat and cover together
7. Stamp mark which identifies plate manufacturer
8. Photographer known for his Civil War photographs
9. He created the first photograph

DOWN

2. House where General Lee surrendered
4. One of the bloodiest one-day battles in the Civil War
6. Because of their size these photos are used mostly for artist expression

Image Sources



Library of Congress
Antietam, Md. Allan Pinkerton, President Lincoln, and Maj. Gen. John A. McClernand; an other view
Selected Civil War Photographs, 1861-1865

Library of Congress
A photograph of the President and Thomas (Tad) made by Matthew B. Brady on February 9, 1864
Prints and Photographs



Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. Hanging bodies of the conspirators; guards only in yard
Prints and Photographs

Library of Congress
Unknown location. Embalming surgeon at work on soldier's body
Selected Civil War Photographs, 1861-1865



Library of Congress
Atlanta, before being burnt: by order of Gen'l. Sherman, from the cupola of the Female Seminary.
Panoramic Photographs

Library of Congress
Portrait of Pvt. Charles Mitchel, Company D, 107th New York Volunteers, U.S.A.
Selected Civil War Photographs, 1861-1865



Library of Congress
A contrast. Federal buried; Confederate unburied, where they fell on the battle field of Antietam. [Stereograph]
Civil War Treasures from the New York Historical Society

Library of Congress
Abraham Lincoln, three-quarter length portrait, seated, facing front
America's First Look into the Camera: Daguerreotype Portraits and Views, 1839-1864



Library of Congress
Atlanta, Ga. Gen. William T. Sherman on horseback at Federal Fort No. 7
Selected Civil War Photographs, 1861-1865

Library of Congress
A field hospital scene. [Stereograph]
Civil War Treasures from the New York Historical Society



Library of Congress
Darlene M. Iskra in flight gear, Darlene Iskra Collection
Women of Four Wars
Veteran's History Project

Library of Congress
Wounded soldiers being rushed to hospital, helipad, 3rd surgical hospital MUST (Medical Unit Self-Contained Transportable-Inflatable) Bien Hoz, Vietnam, Jeanne Urbin Markle Collection
Women of Four Wars
Veteran's History Project



Library of Congress
Vietnam Women's Memorial, showing standing figure with whom Ms. Prescott identifies, Rhona Marie Knox Prescott Collection
Women of Four Wars
Veteran's History Project

Library of Congress
Chinook troop transport helicopter bring in casualties, Rhona Marie Knox Prescott Collection
Women of Four Wars
Veteran's History Project

