

TATTERED BANNERS

Thomas Owen, the founding director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, was particularly interested in gathering and preserving materials related to Alabama's role in the formation of the Confederate States of America and the subsequent Civil War. Owen was especially concerned with preservation of the flags of the various Alabama commands and was very successful in his efforts to acquire them. In the years since his death in 1920, the department continued to acquire Confederate flags (and other Alabama-related flags).

Unfortunately, over the years the flags in the Department's collection have suffered from various "agents of deterioration." Uncontrolled temperature, humidity, and ultra-violet light have taken their toll on the collection. A Flag Conservation Project, begun in 1989, has resulted in improved storage and display techniques, as well as providing funding for much needed conservation. All of the conservation is funded through private donations.

The flags are part of a large collection representing Alabama's military traditions since colonial times. It is hoped that knowledge of this collection will foster additional interest in work in the preservation of flags, as well as illustrate the preservation needs of all types of fragile material in the Archive's collections. While great strides have been made in documentation, curatorial management, and conservation, your support of the Friends of the Archives' Flag Conservation Fund will allow further improvements.

Help Us Save History
Buy a poster and support conservation.



TATTERED BANNERS
CIVIL WAR FLAGS AT THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

Tattered Banners posters are available in the Friends Gift Shop for \$12 each. Proceeds benefit the Flag Conservation Project.

Alabama Department of Archives and History
624 Washington Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130-0100

Phone: (334) 242-4435
Hours: 8:30-4:30 Mon.-Sat.
Website: www.archives.alabama.gov

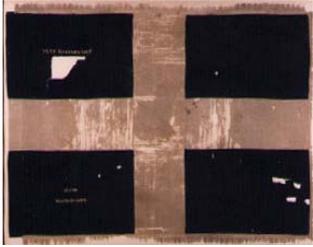


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Alabama Department of Archives and History

22nd Alabama Infantry



Only two other flags of this design are known to survive. This flag was apparently presented to the regiment early in 1863.

It was captured by the 121st Ohio Infantry on September 20, 1863, during the Battle of Chickamauga. During the battle four color bearers were killed while carrying the flag. The flag was pierced by artillery and small arms projectiles and is stained with human blood. After the Civil War it was displayed at the Ohio State Capitol.

On July 15, 1911, Dr. Thomas Owen, director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History, wrote the Governor of Ohio inquiring about the flag, but nothing other than a confirmation of the flag's location resulted from the correspondence. In 1972, H. Michael Madaus of the Milwaukee Public Museum discovered the flag during a research trip to Ohio. Madaus informed Archives Director Milo Howard of the flag's location, and it was returned to Alabama during official ceremonies on November 11, 1972. The flag received conservation treatment in 1991 at a cost of \$5,637.

13th Alabama Infantry



This flag is an Army of Northern Virginia, 3rd wool bunting issue. Flags of this pat-

tern were used at a depot between July 1862 and May 1864. It was issued to the regiment after the loss of their 2nd wool-bunting-issue flag at Antietam (Sharpsburg) September 17, 1862. The flag was carried by the regiment at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where it was nearly captured on the first day (July 1, 1863) during the retreat from McPherson's Ridge. At that time, according to his account, flag bearer Private W. A. Castleberry placed the flag on the ground to prevent its capture. He then picked it up, tore it from the staff, and placed it inside his jacket.

The flag was captured on July 3, 1863 during the assault on Cemetery Ridge (Pickett's Charge) by the men of Co. C, 1st Delaware Infantry. At the height of the charge, the flag bearer, who had replaced the missing flag staff with a lance, stabbed a Federal soldier through the chest. The flag was forwarded to the U.S. War Department and was eventually returned to the State of Alabama, effective March 25, 1905. The flag received conservation treatment in 1991 at a cost of \$4,476.

2nd Alabama Infantry Co. C, Claiborne Guards



This homemade flag was presented to the Claiborne Guards on March 23, 1861 in Monroe County, Alabama by seven young ladies, each of whom had been chosen to represent one of the seceded states. The Claiborne Guards were later designated Co. C, 2nd Alabama Infantry and were stationed at Ft. Morgan, Alabama, and Ft. Pillow, Tennessee. When the regiment was disbanded in 1862, the flag was sent home for safekeeping.

U.S. General Morgan H. Chrysler obtained the flag when his troops passed through Claiborne in 1865. In 1878, he wrote a letter to the *Monroe Journal*, offering to return the flag. It was eventually received by Mrs. Thomas A. Hamilton, who had been one of those to present the flag in 1861. It was donated to the Alabama Department of Archives and History on March 13, 1941, by her nephew. The flag received conservation treatment in 1992 at a cost of \$9,130. Prior to treatment, the flag was in several thousand pieces.

18th Alabama Infantry



This flag is the fourth style of this pattern to be made, and is commonly called a Hardee pattern after Major General William J. Hardee. The flag

was made by Jacob Gall, Hardee's personal tailor, in September 1863 and presented to the regiment in Tennessee. It was captured on November 25, 1863, during the Battle of Missionary Ridge by Lt. Simeon T. Josselyn of Co. C, 13th Illinois Infantry. Josselyn was recommended for and received the Congressional Medal of Honor. The flag was eventually forwarded to the U.S. War Department, where it was assigned Capture Number 86. It was returned to the State of Alabama effective March 25, 1905. The flag received conservation treatment in 1992 at a cost of \$1,830.

More information concerning Confederate Civil War Flags may be found on-line at www.archives.alabama.gov.