

**** AMERICAN CIVIL
WAR ****

About: This pathfinder is an annotated bibliography designed to assist in research for the topic of the American Civil War. The list contains non-fiction items that are held by the Troy-Miami County Public Library. The pathfinder guide does not contain *all* books the library has on the subject, but is designed as an introduction to the larger collection of library holdings.

Books about the Civil War are in call number 973.7. When looking up a more specific topic within the larger topic of the Civil War it is best to use the SUBJECT HEADING of "Civil War 1861-1865."

GENERAL HISTORIES

Title: **The American Civil War: A Military History**

Author: Keegan, John

Call No: 973.7 KEE

Keegan, one of the premier contemporary historians of military history, provides a detailed single volume history of the war through the lens of military power. The book reviews strategy and tactics of both sides and covers topics such as army training, the home front, and detailed descriptions of seminal battles. The concluding chapters detail the legacy of the war on military doctrine and American life. It also reviews several "what if" questions if history had taken a turn in a different direction.

Title: **Civil War: Home Front and the Economy**

Author: Curriculum Connections

Call No: 973.7 HOME

Young Adult

The text outlines the economy of the North and South and how the war changed these aspects of daily life. The review is fairly broad in its reach as there are chapters covering industry, agriculture, clothing, transportation, food and education, among other areas. This is fairly interesting as it touches on aspects of the war not usually discussed in literature but were acutely felt by those living during this era.

Title: **The Civil War: Day by Day**

Author: Katcher, Phillip

Call No: 973.7 KAT

Oversize

The book begins with an introduction to the war and issues behind it. Then it branches into the chapters of the text. Each year is its own chapter and the text provides a brief description of major actions, both civil and military, that happened over the course of that day or week which influence the course of the war. The book is filled with illustrations and pictures of the events and people described in the text. This is an excellent book for understanding the basic linear pattern of the war and the events from Ft Sumter to Appomattox.

GENERAL MILITARY

Title: **The Cavalry During the Civil War.**

Author: Uschan, Michael

Call No: 973.74 USC

Young Adult

The book outlines the use of cavalry (horse mounted units) during the War. It includes chapters on training, recruiting, and the importance of cavalry in military history. Of particular interest are the chapters on combat and assorted raids. The book is designed for young adults and it contains numerous helpful maps and images.

Title: The Union Soldier in Battle

Author: Hess, Earl J.

Call No: 973.7 HES

In this book, the author reviews the life of the average Union soldier and how they were able to endure the trials and tribulations of bloody 19th century combat. The author draws from letters, journals, and manuals to understand the tactics of infantry warfare as well as the fears and strengths of the Federal soldier in the line of battle.

Title: The Civil War: Weapons of War

Author: Stewart, Gail

Call No: 973.73 STE

Young Adult

There is a debate on whether the Civil War was the last of the old style wars or the first of the modern wars. This book explores the backbone of that debate by looking at the weapons used in the conflict. These include the rifled musket, new types of artillery, and ironclads on the water. Anyone interested in how the war was fought, why it was so bloody and how it changed combat will do well to review this brief introduction to the topic.

BATTLES

Title: STARS IN THEIR COURSES: THE GETTYSBURG CAMPAIGN June-July, 1863.

Author: Foote, Shelby.

Call No: 973.734 FOO

This stand-alone book is the chapter on Gettysburg taken from Vol II of the author's three-volume chronical of the war. The text outlines the decisions behind the campaign, the lead up and execution of the three-day battle, and the outcome of Gen. Lee's second invasion of the North. The author is a fiction writer by trade and this text is very readable and the narrative flows similar to a novel.

Title: Perryville: This Grand Havoc of Battle

Author: Noe, Kenneth

Call No: 973.733

This 2001 book details the crucial, but often overlooked, October, 1862 Battle of Perryville Kentucky which is viewed as the high water mark of Confederate activity in the west. The Battle was a Union victory and ended Gen Braggs incursion into Kentucky and ensured that the Commonwealth would remain out of Confederate hands—as well as removed threats to the State of Ohio and important river ports (Louisville) by large southern armies.

Title: Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam: The Battle that Changed the Course of the Civil War

Author: McPherson, James

Call No: 973.733 MCP

Fresh off the victory of Second Bull Run, Robert E Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia took a chance at changing the war with an invasion of Maryland. The goal was to bring this Border State into the arms of the Confederacy and thus cutoff Washington DC and perhaps win the war for the south in 1862. This culminated in the Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg) in which the two sides fought for the very future of the nation. James McPherson, one of the premier scholars of the American Civil War, recounts the story of how the bloodiest single-day battle in American history shaped the course of the war.

BIOGRAPHIES

Title: The Lincolns: A Portrait of a Marriage

Author: Epstein, Daniel Mark

Call No: 973.7092 EPS

The book provides a full length portrait of the marriage between Abraham Lincoln and his Wife Mary Todd. The book details the relationship from the early courting days in Springfield, Illinois up to their time in the White House. It focuses on the pivotal events in Lincoln (and the nation's) life through the eyes of couple.

Title: Glorious War: The Civil War Adventures of George Armstrong Custer

Author: Hatch, Thom

Call No: B CUSTER HATCH

Hatch's biography of the famed Union cavalry officer outlines his heroics during the Civil War. It is his success during the Civil War, the author argues, that makes his later fall such an iconic event in American history.

Title: Clouds of Glory: The Life and Legend of Robert E. Lee

Author: Korda, Michael

Call No: B Lee KORDA

NYT Betselling author Michael Korda, who has written similar books on Eisenhower and Grant, reviews Robert E Lee who is possibly the most iconic general in American History. Korda focuses on Lee as a commander in the field but also spends time reflecting on Lee outside of the public sphere. This includes his thoughts and views on contemporary politics of the time. A biography of Lee is a must read for a civil war historian as he emerged as one of the most mythical figures from the conflict.

POLITICS

Title: Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln

Author: Goodwin, Doris Kearns

Call No: 973.7092 GOO

A Pulitzer Prize winning history that details President Lincoln's work with his cabinet, which was compromised of political opponents and those of different political factions. The text shows how Lincoln was able to successfully harness the talents of his cabinet to achieve the abolition of slavery and ultimately win the war. The Steven Speilberg movie Lincoln (2012) is based on the book.

Title: Lincoln: President Elect: Abraham Lincoln and the Great Secession Winter, 1860-1861

Author: Holzer, Harold

Call No: 973.7092 HOL

The book details the tumultuous four months between Abraham Lincolns election in November of 1860 to the time of his inauguration in March 1861. During this time seven states seceded from the Union and Jefferson Davis was elected President of the Confederacy. Outgoing President James Buchanan could not hold the country together and Lincoln was slated to step into a country on the brink of war. This book is one of the first to review the public and private positions Lincoln took in this pivotal time.

Title: A Just and Generous Nation: Abraham Lincoln and the Fight for American Opportunity.

Author: Garfinkle, Norton; Holzer, Harold

Call No: 973.7092 HOLZ

This book takes a very unique view of Lincoln by looking at his economic policies and the foundations for those beliefs. Historian Harold Holzer authors the piece along with economist Norton Garfinkle, what results is an original view of Lincolns life on the American Prairie and how this shaped his outlook on matters of economic philosophy. It was these views, the authors argue, that shaped his actions while in the White House.

OHIO HISTORY

Title: **Buckeye Blood: Ohio at Gettysburg**

Author: Baumgartner, Richard

Call No: 973.734 BUC

Oversize

The book provides a telling of the Battle of Gettysburg through the eyes of Ohio soldiers, units and officers. Included in the book are excerpts from Soldier diaries and numerous photographs of Ohio soldiers. There are several references to Miami County and Miami Valley soldiers, units and officers.

Title: **Ohio Volunteer: The Childhood and Civil War Memoirs of Captain John Calvin Hartzell, OVI**

Author: Switzer, Charles

Call No: 973.7 OHI

The book compiles the life of John Hartzell of Portage County, Ohio and his role in the Civil War. The book touches on strategy, anecdotes of the soldiering and details of several battles such as Perrysville, Chickamauga, Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge. Also of interest is Hartzell's discussion of the changing of life in Portage county during the industrial revolution and influx of Pennsylvania Dutch (Anabaptist) immigrants.

SLAVERY AND ABOLITIONISM

Title: **Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad**

Author: Foner, Eric

Call No: 973.7 FONE

Foner's book focuses on the experience of escaped slaves and the free African population in and around New York City. From this microcosm we see the larger issues of runaway slaves, the underground railroad, escape routes to Canada and other issues that pathed the bath for disunion and war. Slavery being the central issue behind the war between the states, understanding how it interacted with Northern centers of influence (specifically New York) give the researcher and understanding of the worldview of those who would enter the era of the war.

Title: **A Slave no More: Two Men who Escaped to Freedom**

Author: Blight, David

Call No: 973.7 BLI

The text brings to life the narratives of slaves that escaped from the south for freedom. The text is interesting because of this point; the reader receives a firsthand account of slavery and the struggle for freedom. The narratives are placed into the larger context of politics, the war, and debates on the issues of slavery and emancipation.

WOMEN IN THE CIVIL WAR

Title: **Capital Dames: The Civil War and the Women of Washington, 1848-1868**

Author: Roberts, Cokie

Call No: 973.7082 ROBE

Roberts, a journalist with a knack for compelling story-telling, reviews the life of women in the Nation's Capital before and during the Civil War. The book describes the social life of the town and how the war impacted Washington's women as well as how Washington's women impacted the war. Pulled from sources such as newspapers and diaries, the book provides stories of socialites, nurses, munition manufactures, and prominent wives and community leaders.

Title: **Civil War Women: Their Quilts, Their Roles, Activities for Re-Enactors**

Author: Brackman, Barbara

Call No: 973.708 BRA

The book is divided in 9 Chapters. Each chapter is devoted to a specific woman in the Civil War and it provides a background for her as well as how she fit into the larger narrative of the war. The book is unique in that each chapter provides a unique quilt pattern, with instructions, to represent the person the chapter is about. It also gives activities and tips for Civil War Re-Enactors who might want to portray the woman in question.

Title: **A Woman of Valor: Clara Barton and the Civil War**

Author: Oates, Stephen

Call No: 973.7 OAT

The 1994 book details the work of Nurse Clara Barton during the Civil War. The Chapter are divided based on Battles and through the text you see how Barton changed nursing to become a profession, which it formally did after the War.