Washington Artillery Collection
RG 71
Louisiana State Museum Historical Center
November 2012

Descriptive Summary

Provenance: This collection is a combination of gifts and loans from several sources.

Title: Washington Artillery Collection

Dates: 1854-1920

Abstract: Primarily a collection of invitations and documents relating to the Washington Artillery. Includes journals and scrapbooks.

Extent: 1 oversized box

Accession: 1767; 6499a; 9791; 11524; 12059; 12949; 1956.20; T025.2003.21.01-.58

Biographical / Historical Note

The Washington Artillery developed out of New Orleans’ Native American (meaning American-born citizens) Artillery. The Native American Artillery was founded in the late 1830s, and would become part of the Washington Battalion in 1841. After the Mexican-American War of the 1840s, the unit became known as the Washington Artillery. The Washington Artillery joined the Confederate Army in 1861 and fought in many engagements during the Civil War. After the war, the Washington Artillery was prohibited from continuing in a military capacity and became for several years a benevolent organization. In 1875, the Washington Artillery was again permitted to act in a military capacity, and it would take part in the Spanish-American war of the late 1890s.

Its insignia is a red field with a tiger head, inscribed with the company’s motto, “Try Us”. The company would continue to serve the United States Army during the 20th and 21st century. (Historical information taken from The Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the Washington Artillery, 1914.)

Scope and Content

This collection includes correspondence and documents relating to the Washington Artillery, a history of the Washington Artillery, a memorandum book of C.C. Bier (1861-2), a scrapbook of World War I memorabilia (compiled by Alfred D. McBryde, Jr.), and ball invitations of 1884-5, 1902-3, 1914.
Subjects

Washington Artillery
Washington Artillery Monument
World War I
Confederate Veterans of the Mississippi Department
Ball Invitations

Access of Use Restrictions

Access

Collection is open for research

Related or Separated Materials

The following items from RG 71 have been placed into the oversized combination box no. 1:

United Confederate Veterans’ Certificate (3 in file, no visible accession numbers). May 4, 1903.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Washington Artillery Collection, Louisiana State Museum Historical Center.

Acquisition Information

6499a: gift of Mrs. L.A. Tassin; 9791: Gift of W. J. Warrington, November 19, 1929
11524: loan from the Board of Managers of the Washington Artillery, February 21, 1936
12059: loan from the Battalion of the Washington Artillery through Colonel H. B. Curtis, March 16, 1939
12949: loan from Casey Powell, December 5, 1949.

Notes

More information about the Washington Artillery may be found in the Vertical File.
Contents List

Folder 1: Letter to General E. L. Tracey from John L. Lewis, Mayor of New Orleans. September 12, 1854.


Folder 3: Photograph of John B. Richardson, Captain of the Washington Artillery, New Orleans, whose battery fired the first gun at Manassas. Circa, 1865.


Folder 3B: Roster, invitation, Battalion, Washington Artillery. February 22, 1886.


Folder 5: Invitations to balls of the Washington Artillery; 1877, 1886, 1903.


Folder 8: WWI Scrapbook of newspaper clippings. Circa, October 14, 1917 – February 16, 1919.

Folder 9: Postcards (2) to A.D. McBryde from Alfred McBryde. Circa, 1919.


Folder 11: Address/Notebook. Circa, 1918.


Folder 14: History of Washington Artillery by Major Allison Owen (Book review; speech). No date.


Folder 17: Invitation. [Miss Ethel Perkins. Includes envelope, invitation, name card, and roster]. February 22, 1884.


Folder 23: Invitation. [Admit card, envelope, labeled Miss Evans]. February 12, 1885.


Folder 25: Invitation – Reception & Ball, Washington Artillery [includes invitation and envelope labeled Mr. R. M. O’Brien February 12, 1885.


Folder 28: Invitation [includes envelope, invitation, and name card]. May 19, 1903.


Folder 31: Name card [L. A. Adam]. No date.

Folder 32: Invitations (3) Envelopes, Washington Artillery. No date.

Book 1: Scrapbook of Confederate Veterans of the Trans Mississippi Department. July 14, 1892 – August 2, 1909.