I’m not a fan of technology. I wholeheartedly describe myself as technologically challenged, and I resist getting the latest gadgets and devices. When I came to work at Drum Barracks I didn’t have a Facebook page, had never heard of Instagram, and wouldn’t have sent a Tweet to save my life. But being Director of Drum Barracks has changed all that. Social media has invaded my life, and I cannot deny the importance of “being online” for a small museum like us.

The museum currently has three social media outlets; Instagram, Facebook and our website www.drumbarracks.org. On Instagram we will be participating in a popular trend once a week, “Throwback Thursday”, when we share images from the past with the hashtag #TBT. These might be archival images from the 19th century, or scenes from past museum programs or events. You can also post and share your Drum Barracks experiences on Instagram with the hashtags #drumbarracks or #drumbarrackscivilwarmuseum.

If you haven’t already done so you can look us up on Facebook and “Like” our page. As a follower you will get news and updates about museum programs, events and exhibitions. We will frequently post photos and videos of happenings at the museum. Please feel free to “Share” our Facebook page with your “Facebook Friends” who are interested in the Civil War and may not know about Drum Barracks.

Our website, www.drumbarracks.org, is a wonderful resource for visitors and members. It contains the latest details for touring the museum, additional information about artifacts and collections on display, the current book club reading list, a calendar of events, and links to sources on Civil War Research, Historic Preservation, Civil War Round Tables, Genealogy, and other local museums and historic sites.

Next month we will start posting issues of the Reveille on our website under the “About Us” section. We will still send the Reveille through the mail, but if you are so inclined you can go online and view the latest PDF of the Reveille, or look through an archive of past issues, all available to download for free.

The technology we have at our fingertips provides us with infinite possibilities for exploring the past, but in my opinion nothing can substitute for the museum experience. I urge you to visit us in the “slow lane” where you can step inside our 1863 building, pretend to fire our real Civil War cannon, gaze upon the damaged American flag rescued from the Vicksburg battlefield, or talk to a knowledgeable museum guide. However, when a visit isn’t long enough, or you feel like you just need more Civil War, jump on the information superhighway and discover the many ways we are using social media to bring you more history, more Civil War California, and more of what makes Drum Barracks such a special place.
Soldiers in the Southwest

By far, the highest levels of Hispanic participation in the Civil War occurred in the states and territories of the Southwest. Following war with Mexico (1846-1848), the victorious United States acquired vast portions of Mexico's northern territories. More than 100,000 Mexicans lived on these lands and with the stroke of a pen became citizens of the United States. These residents of Texas, California, Arizona, and New Mexico soon found themselves immersed in a national dispute over the expansion of slavery into the West. When war erupted, they had to choose sides.

They often faced difficult choices. Slavery had been banned by the Mexican government and only a few dozen enslaved African Americans lived in the arid lands of west Texas and New Mexico. Many Hispanics opposed the idea of bringing the institution into their homeland and endorsed Union efforts to prevent it. Nevertheless, owners of crop lands in New Mexico—a group that included some wealthy Hispanics and Anglo Americans—often relied on the coerced labor of American Indians and shared some of the views of their slave-holding counterparts in the South. Other Hispanics harbored bitter feelings toward the US government as a result of the Mexican War and demonstrated their disapproval by supporting the Confederacy. The political influence, trade connections, and geographic proximity of the South also drew many Hispanic ranchers and farmers closer to the movement to secede from the Union.

The result was a scattering of loyalties. Texas became a stalwart supporter of the Confederate cause, but Hispanics—particularly those along the Rio Grande frontier with Mexico—divided in their support for the Union. In New Mexico, lucrative links to Missouri and the southern states via the Santa Fe and Butterfield Trails encouraged some Hispanic residents to lean toward the Confederacy while others maintained Union ties. California was also split. Union sentiments prevailed in the northern reaches as stronger Confederate leanings developed in the predominately Hispanic southern part of the state. By the time the first shots of the war were fired at Fort Sumter, Texas had joined the Confederacy. California remained, uneasily, a part of the Union.

Between these two states, the vast New Mexico Territory became a point of contention. Confederate leaders who hoped to gain access to the gold and silver mines and the strategic ports of California needed control of New Mexico to do so. In mid summer 1861, Lt. Col. John R. Baylor led the 2nd Texas Mounted Rifles into New Mexico, drove away Union defenders, and occupied the town of Mesilla. Establishing Mesilla as a capital, on August 1, 1861, Baylor declared that the southern portion of New Mexico had now become the Confederate Territory of Arizona. He later divided the territory and waited for Capt. Sherod Hunter and his Arizona Rangers to occupy Tucson, which would serve as the capital of a second judicial district, solidifying Confederate control of the area.

Hunter's troops faced limited resistance. Union soldiers in Arizona forts had been ordered to support the war on the east coast and before leaving had burned their buildings and stores to prevent them from falling into Confederate hands. The departure of Union troops left Hispanic and Anglo Americans in the region unprotected from bands of Apache raiders and local outlaws that roamed the region. Fearing for their lives and property, these settlers had little choice but to accept protection from Confederate troops. Hunter's mounted riflemen entered Tucson without resistance, and on February 14, 1862, President Jefferson Davis officially proclaimed the Territory of Arizona as part of the Confederacy. A critical link between Texas and California had been established.

The Union took measures to prevent Confederate expansion westward. President Abraham Lincoln had wisely selected territorial officials from within the local community, ensuring that leaders would remain loyal to the Union. In the New
The ranks of the New Mexico Volunteers were soon filled with "Nuevo Mexicanos" (Hispanic New Mexicans). Many of the volunteers lacked formal military training. Nevertheless, these descendants of Spanish pioneers were excellent horsemen, knew the terrain, and had experience in combat against Apaches, Navajos, Utes, and Comanches, making them prized soldiers and scouts. A few, like Capt. José Sena, who had practiced law in Santa Fe prior to the war, and Capt. Rafael Chacón, a graduate of a Mexican military school, had professional skills that made them even more valuable to the Union cause. The New Mexico units were commanded primarily by Hispanic officers.

The fight for New Mexico escalated. In early 1862, Confederate Brig. Gen. Henry Hopkins Sibley pushed northward with 2,500 troops from Fort Bliss, Texas. Sibley's goal was to seize Fort Craig on the Rio Grande south of Socorro in order to strengthen the Confederate foothold in New Mexico. Col. Edward R.S. Canby, the Union commander of the fort, moved to halt this assault. On February 21, 1862, his 3,800 troops, including 2,500 Hispanic soldiers of the New Mexico Volunteers and militia, engaged the Confederates at Valverde. The Confederates won the day, but heavy casualties convinced them to abandon their advance on Fort Craig. Although defeated, the New Mexico Volunteers under commanders J. Francisco Chaves and Christopher "Kit" Carson fought admirably.

Meanwhile, Confederates in Tucson found themselves threatened by Col. James H. Carleton's "California Column," a force of California Volunteers guided by Hispanic scouts familiar with the trails and water sources of the region. On April 15, 1862, these Californian troops skirmished with Confederates near Picacho Pass, 45 miles northwest of Tucson. The Confederates prevailed in this clash—the westernmost engagement of the Civil War—but the "California Column" continued marching and occupied Tucson soon thereafter.

The decisive battle of the New Mexico campaign, however, took place in the northern part of the territory. Following the battle at Valverde, Confederate General Sibley continued northward along the Rio Grande with the goal of seizing Fort Union via Santa Fe. Upon reaching Albuquerque, he received news that 2,000 "Pikes Peakers" or Colorado Volunteers under Col. John P. Slough were coming to bolster the Union cause. On March 28, Confederate and Union troops clashed on the rugged terrain of Glorieta Pass. The fierce battle swayed back and forth throughout the day with neither force gaining an advantage. The conclusive action of the clash took place at Apache Canyon near Johnson's Ranch on the west side of the mountain pass. There, Union forces, guided by Lt. Col. Manuel Chávez, attacked and destroyed the Confederate supply train. The loss of food and ammunition obliged the Confederates to abandon the field and Glorieta belonged to the Union.

The failure at Glorieta, often called the "Gettysburg of the West," spelled the end of Confederate designs on the West. Following an additional skirmish at Peralta, south of Albuquerque, the undersupplied, overextended, and outnumbered Confederates left New Mexico, ending their quest to create a gateway to California.

Following the Confederate abandonment of the New Mexico and Arizona territories, the Union quickly occupied many strategic points in the newly founded Territory of Arizona. Little known is the important role "Californios" (Hispanic Californians) played in this effort. Highly skilled on horseback and accustomed to working in excruciating heat, they made excellent cavalrymen. Serving under both Hispanic and Anglo officers, hundreds of soldiers from the First Battalion of Native Cavalry of the California Volunteers would prove their ability and loyalty by securing these vast lands for the Union, eliminating the intrusion of French imperialists who supported Maximilian's rule in Mexico and other backers of the Confederacy.

Texas remained critical to Confederate fortunes in the Southwest and some of the bitterest fighting occurred there with Hispanics serving on both sides. Here a civil war within a civil war occurred as "Tejano" fought "Tejano" (Hispanic Texans). Tejanos faced particularly complex choices as to where to place their loyalties. Living in a region where the institution was relatively scarce, slavery played less of a role in these decisions. Many had grown up on the northern frontier of Mexico as proponents of Mexican Federalism, a belief in regional autonomy that coincided with the states' rights policies of the Confederacy. Others had engaged in frequent clashes with US troops stationed on the border in the aftermath of the US-Mexican War and welcomed the removal of these forces from the region. Wealthy Tejano ranchers mirrored their Creole counterparts in Louisiana and were linked to the Confederate leaders of Texas by marriage, politics, and shared economic interests. Such was the situation of Santos Benavides, a member of a wealthy Laredo family who accepted the rank of colonel in the Confederate army.

Still Union sentiments remained strong among some Tejanos. Some opposed slavery and had no desire to support a government that promoted it. Others were Hispanics of the lower classes who had little interest in a Confederate social system that placed them at the bottom.
These differences occasionally produced strong political stands and even violence. When Texas first announced its secession from the Union in 1861, a group of 40 Tejanos led by Antonio Ochoa marched on the Zapata County seat to prevent local officials from taking an oath of allegiance to the Confederacy. Confederate troops responded by forcing Ochoa to flee across the border into Mexico. There Ochoa gained the support of Juan Nepomuceno Cortina, a Mexican general and folk hero, who had already gained a reputation as a fearless defender of Mexican American rights. From the safety of Mexico, Ochoa, Cortina and others attacked military and economic targets in south Texas, keeping Confederate troops constantly preoccupied. In one brutal attack, pro-Union raiders commanded by Octaviano Zapata rode to the ranch of a Confederate county judge and hanged him. Confederate retaliation was swift. Capt. Refugio Benavides led a company of cavalry into Mexico in pursuit of Zapata, killing 18 and wounding 14 of his men. Zapata escaped that time, only to die later at the hands of Refugio's brother, Santos Benavides.

Skirmishes gave way to full scale warfare as south Texas gained importance for the Confederacy. When Union ships blockaded Confederate ports in 1862, Texas border communities like Brownsville and Laredo became key ports for the export of Southern cotton. Wagon trains rolled into south Texas, where the cargos of this "white gold" were carried across the Río Grande and loaded on Mexican flagships that could sail safely past Union warships. This trade, established largely through the efforts of the Cuban-born, Harvard-educated diplomat José Agustín Quintero, helped maintain a vital line of trade for the cash-strapped Confederacy.

The United States attempted to cut this economic lifeline. In November 1863, a large Union force landed on the barrier islands of south Texas and occupied Fort Brown in the city of Brownsville. From this base, Union troops continued west in an attempt to capture Laredo and its cotton stores. Instead, on March 19, 1864, Col. Santos Benavides forced the invaders back down the Río Grande.

In the aftermath of the failed attack on Laredo, much of the Union invasion force withdrew from south Texas to fight in other arenas of the war. Confederate troops took advantage, sweeping back toward Brownsville and, after several skirmishes, retaking the city in July 1864. Only a small Union presence remained in the region, occupying Brazos Island on the Texas coast.

It was this small garrison that would fight the final action of the Civil War. Aware of the surrender of Confederate General Lee at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, the Union commander of Brazos Island made one final foray toward Brownsville on May 12-13. Confederate troops including Hispanic soldiers responded, and on the coastal plains near the mouth of the Río Grande at Palmito Ranch, they defeated the Union forces—a final Confederate victory in a lost cause.

Hispanics on the Homefront

The Civil War tested the will of civilians as well as soldiers, and Hispanics shared in the national suffering. This was especially the case in the old Spanish Southwest. Families went hungry as armies seized harvests or destroyed crops in the field. Deprivation and despair preceded and followed battles. Disease and death swept through communities in the aftermath of military campaigns. Though their saga is not as familiar as those in other arenas of the war, Hispanic civilians displayed their own heroism and resolve on the homefront. They pulled together as communities, adjusted to meet challenges, and, in some cases, even found opportunity in an era of destruction.

Socorro, New Mexico, illustrated the common fate of southwestern Hispanic communities caught in the line of fire. The planting season had just started when many men from the town were called to war. The people left behind tended the crops as best they could but managed only a limited harvest of corn and wheat. The town then fell in the path of Confederate troops. Union Col. Nicholas Pino attempted to halt the advance but ultimately surrendered the town to avoid the inevitable civilian casualties and damage that a battle would bring. Hungry Confederate troops pillaged the town, seizing food and supplies before moving on. Starvation and misery increased as bands of Apache and Navajo raiders attacked the town and took livestock. Militia troops under the command of Maj. Luis M. Baca finally returned to Socorro to defend the community from additional losses.

Men like Baca did what they could to protect their communities but with so many men called off to fight, women became the last line of defense for families and towns. Some fled danger for the safety of distant towns, ranches, family, and friends. Others stayed at home, determined to guard their property against hostile troops and bands of Apaches and Navajos. One such woman was Petra Pino, the wife of Jose Pino, a wealthy merchant and Confederate officer. She stayed on the family farm with her nine children throughout the Confederate occupation of Socorro. Her daily sacrifice was magnified by the death of her youngest child during these hard times.
Dolores Perea Connelly, wife of the territorial governor, experienced a different loss. Confederates retreating from the skirmish at Peralta on April 18, 1862 destroyed her home. Soldiers burned the hacienda, destroyed its fields, and took livestock and other property. "There was much about the house of goods and furniture that they could put to no useful purpose," Governor Connelly wrote, "yet all was taken or wantonly destroyed." Dolores Connelly and her family narrowly escaped this havoc.

Dozens of similar tales unfolded throughout the war-torn Southwest, sometimes involving Confederate supporters and at other times advocates of the Union. Through it all, women exhibited great strength of character and compassion. Petra Pino not only looked after her own family but also tended to Confederate soldiers in a nearby hospital. Others were equally kind. A. B. Peticolas, a private in the 4th Regiment of Texas Mounted Volunteers, described an unknown woman who, with tears in her eyes, offered food to the ragged and hungry troops as they moved north along the Rio Grande. Many other women offered shelter, sustenance, and care to the soldiers they encountered.

Hispanic people displayed great strength and resilience, overcoming the tragedies of war to rebuild their lives and communities. In some cases encounters between Hispanic women and soldiers would transform lives. Viviana Gómez met Karl Wengert, a German immigrant soldier sent to fight in the New Mexico Territory. The couple married and, after the war, established a business together in Taos, New Mexico. Wengert Plaza, the location of that business, survives today.

From Civil War to Civil Rights

As the Civil War drew to a close, this conflict became a symbol of freedom for many in the Spanish-speaking world. The unveiling of Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation was cause for celebration. Slavery had already been banned in most of Latin America, and citizens of those nations believed abolition in the United States would prevent its reemergence. In Cuba, where slavery survived, abolitionists saw a chance to end the institution in their homeland. The United States also emerged as a symbol of national liberation. As Mexican President Benito Juárez battled French occupation, he received moral and material support from the Lincoln Administration. Cubans seeking independence from Spain also counted on support from the United States in their struggle. Cuban freedom fighter José Martí was only a youth of 12 when Lincoln was assassinated but many years later still recalled wearing a black armband to honor the slain president and the freedom that he symbolized.

In the United States, however, war did not necessarily liberate all Hispanics from economic chains. The policy of debt peonage which had existed for centuries continued to subjugate many Hispanics in the Southwest. Different than slavery, peonage was supposed to allow workers to pay their debts with their labor. Instead it frequently became a form of long-term bondage. Unscrupulous masters charged their peons fees for food and housing in amounts that often far exceeded the original debt, and hard-working servants found themselves trapped in a spiral from which they could not escape. This strategy provided landowners with a significant amount of labor. On his hacienda near Albuquerque, for example, Rafael Armijo had 22 peons working his land, stock, and mercantile operations.

US officials initially shied away from addressing peonage. In the years prior to the Civil War, restrictions on the movement of African Americans into the West limited the labor pool and encouraged landowners to rely on Hispanic peonage. New Mexico territorial laws tended to protect masters far more than peons. Even after the Emancipation Proclamation outlawed slavery in US territories, army recruiters in the New Mexico Territory received orders that "no peon will be enlisted without the consent of his master." This mirrored the situation in the post-war South, where many freed slaves often found themselves once again bound to land and masters by an exploitative sharecropping system.

Change came slowly. As the war drew to a close, officials representing southwestern territories and states began to call for an end to the peonage system. In 1865, their calls were heeded with the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment, which stated that "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude... shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction." The inclusion of involuntary servitude was designed specifically to eliminate the long tradition of peonage. New Mexicans, however, desired a stronger law, so in 1867 Congress passed the Anti-Peonage Act.

Nevertheless, Hispanics did not always receive their promised rights. In the Southwest, cases of peonage lingered into the 1900s. Ultimately it was employment, not legislation that ended the practice. In the 1930s and 1940s, as men like US Senator Dennis Chávez lured higher paying jobs to New Mexico, workers were able to break their chains of debt and peonage disappeared.

By contrast, in the southern states, the passage of time eroded both existing and new-found rights for Hispanics. The
close relationship many Hispanics had shared with their southern neighbors during the Civil War suffered in the years that followed. Stung by the punitive actions of northern states during the Reconstruction era, Southerners lashed back. They reclaimed control of their states and devised laws to segregate African Americans from the white population. These “Jim Crow” laws did not specifically apply to Hispanics, but residents of Spanish descent were often affected and in many places were isolated from mainstream opportunities.

Not until the civil rights efforts of the mid-1900s did many Hispanics in the South begin to reclaim the opportunities that had once been available to them, while those in the Southwest who suffered from the exploitation of field labor and domestic servitude took another step toward equality. There are still obstacles to overcome before all Americans are equal. If the Civil War was the defining moment in the history of the nation, full citizenship is the defining task of the current generation and those yet to come.

Conclusion

The Civil War was an American epic and an American tragedy. The bloodiest war in United States history claimed the lives of more than 620,000 Americans. Hispanics were very much a part of this conflict. They knew hardship, fear, death, and destruction. They experienced victory and defeat. Some performed acts of spectacular gallantry. Others provided steady service that attracted little comment or notice. National battlefield parks from Gettysburg to Vicksburg to Glorieta give silent testimony to their valor. Still more lent hearts and hands on the homefront. All merit recognition, not just for the honor they brought upon the Hispanic American community, but for their service and sacrifice as Americans in the nation’s greatest struggle—the Civil War.

**Presidents who were Civil War Veterans**

The Civil War was the defining event of the 19th century, and some presidents got a political boost from their wartime service. Veterans organizations such as the Grand Army of the Republic were ostensibly non-political, but there’s no denying that wartime exploits translated to the ballot box.

**Rutherford B. Hayes**

Rutherford B. Hayes, who became president following the disputed election of 1876, served with great distinction in the Civil War. At the end of the war he was promoted to the rank of general. He was in combat on many occasions, and was wounded four times.

The second, and most serious wound sustained by Hayes was at the Battle of South Mountain, on September 14, 1862. After being shot in the left arm, just above the elbow, he continued to direct troops under his command. He recuperated from the wound and was lucky that his arm did not become infected and need to be amputated.

Born, October 4, 1822, Delaware, Ohio.
Died: At the age of 70, January 17, 1893, Fremont, Ohio.

**Presidential term:** March 4, 1877 - March 4, 1881

**Accomplishments:**

After coming to the presidency in highly unusual circumstances, following the controversial and disputed election of 1876, Rutherford B. Hayes is best remembered for presiding over the end of Reconstruction in the American South.

Of course, whether that counts as an accomplishment depends on point of view: to southerners, Reconstruction had been considered oppressive. To many northerners, and for freed slaves, much remained to be done.

Hayes had pledged to serve only one term in office, so his presidency was always viewed as transitional. But during his four years in office, in addition to Reconstruction, he dealt with issues of immigration, foreign policy, and the reform of the civil service, which was still based on the Spoils System implemented decades earlier.
Supported by: Hayes was a member of the Republican Party.

Opposed by: The Democratic Party opposed Hayes in the election of 1876, in which its candidate was Samuel J. Tilden.

Presidential Campaigns:
Hayes ran for president once, in 1876.

He had been serving as governor of Ohio, and the Republican Party convention that year happened to be held in Cleveland, Ohio. Hayes was not favored to be the party’s nominee going into the convention, but his supporters created a groundswell of support. Though a dark horse candidate, Hayes won the nomination on the seventh ballot.

Hayes did not seem to have a good chance to win the general election, as the nation seemed to have tired of Republican rule. However, the votes of southern states that still had Reconstruction governments, which were controlled by Republican partisans, improved his odds.

Hayes lost the popular vote, but four states had disputed elections which made the outcome in the electoral college unclear. A special commission was created by Congress to decide the matter. And Hayes was ultimately declared the winner in what was widely perceived as a backroom deal.

The method by which Hayes became president became infamous. When he died in January 1893 the New York Sun, on its front page, said: “Although his administration was disgraced by no great scandal, the taint of the theft of the presidency clung to it to the last, and Mr. Hayes went out of office carrying with him the contempt of the Democrats and the indifference of the Republicans.”

More detail: The Election of 1876

Spouse and family: Hayes married Lucy Webb, an educated woman who was a reformer and abolitionist, on December 30, 1852. They had three sons.

Education: Hayes was taught at home by his mother, and entered a preparatory school in his mid-teens. He attended Kenyon College in Ohio, and placed first in his graduating class in 1842.

He studied law by working in a law office in Ohio, but with the encouragement of his uncle, he attended Harvard Law School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He received a law degree from Harvard in 1845.

Career
Hayes returned to Ohio and began practicing law. He eventually became successful practicing law in Cincinnati, and entered public service when he became the city’s solicitor in 1859.

When the Civil War began, Hayes, a devoted member of the Republican Party and a Lincoln loyalist, rushed to enlist. He became a major in an Ohio regiment, and served until resigning his commission in 1865.

During the Civil War, Hayes was in combat on numerous occasions and was wounded four times. Near the end of the war he was promoted to the rank of major general.

As a war hero, Hayes seemed destined for politics, and supporters urged him to run for Congress to fill an unexpired seat in 1865. He easily won election, and became aligned with the Radical Republicans in the House of Representatives.

Leaving Congress in 1868, Hayes successfully ran for governor of Ohio, and served from 1868 to 1873.

In 1872 Hayes ran for Congress again, but lost, probably because he had spent more time campaigning for the reelection of President Ulysses S. Grant than for his own election.
Political supporters encouraged him to run for statewide office again, so as to position himself to run for president. He ran for governor of Ohio again in 1875, and was elected.

Later career: After the presidency, Hayes returned to Ohio and became involved in promoting education.

Death and funeral: Hayes died of a heart attack on January 17, 1893. He was buried in a local cemetery in Fremont, Ohio, but was later reburied at his estate, Spiegel Grove, after it was designated a state park.

Legacy: Hayes did not have a strong legacy, which was perhaps inevitable considering that his entry to the presidency was so controversial. But he is remembered for ending Reconstruction.

Civil War Forts

Benicia Arsenal

The Benicia Arsenal (1851–1964) and Benicia Barracks (1852–66) were part of a large military reservation located next to Suisun Bay in Benicia, California. For over 100 years, the arsenal was the primary US Army Ordnance facility for the West Coast of the United States.

In 1847 a 252-acre (102 ha) parcel of land adjoining the Benicia city limits on the east was acquired for a military reserve. First occupation of the post was on April 9, 1849, when two companies of the 2nd Infantry Regiment set up camp to establish Benicia Barracks, which also housed the 3rd Artillery Regiment. In 1851, after the urging of General Persifor F. Smith, the first Ordnance Supply Depot in the West was established in Benicia. In 1852 it was designated Benicia Arsenal. Notable military personnel who were stationed there during this time include Ulysses Grant, Edward Ord, and Joseph Hooker, among others.

The grounds of the Benicia Arsenal are also famous for stabling one of the elements of the Army's Camel Corps. The short-lived Camel Corps was disbanded in 1863, but the Camel Barns, built in 1855, remain and are now the Benicia Historical Museum.

The Benicia Arsenal was a staging area during the Civil War for Union troops from the West, and the installation remained a garrisoned post until 1898 when troops were assigned to duty in the Philippines during the Spanish–American War. During World War I, the Benicia Arsenal gave ordnance support to all large Army installations in the Western States as well as supplying Ordnance material to American expeditionary forces in Siberia. In the 24 hours following the Pearl Harbor bombing, 125 separate truck convoys
were loaded and dispatched from the Benicia Arsenal, leaving its stock of ammunition, small arms, and high explosives completely exhausted. Throughout the war, the arsenal supplied ports with weapons, artillery, parts, supplies, and tools. In addition, the arsenal overhauled 14,343 pairs of binoculars, manufactured 180,000 small items for tanks and weapons, and repaired approximately 70,000 watches. However, the arsenal is most famous for supplying munitions to Lieutenant Colonel Jimmy Doolittle for the first bombing raid on Tokyo on April 18, 1942, launched from the USS *Hornet*.

Guardhouse

Prior to 1940, the arsenal employed 85 civilian employees; by October 1942, the payroll had reached 4,545. The labor shortage in 1944 forced the arsenal commander to put 250 Italian and 400 German prisoners of war to work, alongside 150 juveniles from the California Youth Authority. Women comprised nearly half the civilian employee force. During the Korean War, the number of civilians reached an all-time high of 6,700 workers.

The Benicia Arsenal was deactivated in 1963, and the facility was closed in 1964. The arsenal has been redeveloped as work and sales space for artists and artisans.

Indian Campaigns Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient John H. Foley is buried in the arsenal's cemetery.

Sergeant John H. Foley (1839 – November 18, 1874) was born in Cork, Ireland in 1839. He later emigrated to the United States and enlisted in the U.S. Army in Boston, Massachusetts. Joining Company B of the 3rd U.S. Cavalry, he served on frontier duty in Nebraska during the early 1870s and eventually reached the rank of sergeant. On April 23, 1872, Foley was among the cavalry troopers under Captain Charles Meinhold who left Fort McPherson to pursue a band of hostile Miniconjou Sioux. Upon reaching the South Loup River (near present-day Stapleton, Nebraska) the following day, Meinhold ordered Foley and civilian scout William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody to take 10 men and search the south bend of the river while the main force crossed to the north side. Cody managed to take Foley and his men within 50 yards of the Sioux camp, located near Loupe Fork of the Platte River, before their presence was discovered. Foley then led a charge into the enemy camp followed by fellow Sergeant Leroy H. Vokes, Private William H. Strayer and William Cody. In the ensuing shootout, Cody killed one Indian while another two were killed by Foley's men. Six other Sioux, who were hunting away from the camp, heard the gunfire and were able to escape. His commanding officer, Captain Meinhold, noted in his report that Foley had "charged into the Indian camp without knowing how many enemies he might encounter". All four men, including Foley, were recommended for the Medal of Honor for "gallantry in action" and received the award a month later. Foley died in Benicia, California on November 18, 1874, at the age of 35. He was interred at the Benicia Arsenal Post Cemetery.

Montana in the Civil War

https://www.revolvy.com/topic/Montana%20in%20the%20American%20Civil%20War

The area that eventually became the U.S. state of Montana played little direct role in the Civil War. The closest the Confederate States Army ever came to the area was New Mexico and eastern Kansas, each over a thousand miles away. There was not even an organized territory using "Montana" until the Montana Territory was created on May 26, 1864, three years after the Battle of Fort Sumter. In 1861, the area was divided between the Dakota Territory and the Washington Territory, and in 1863, it was part of the Idaho Territory.

Nevertheless, Confederate sympathizers did have a presence in what is now the U.S. state of Montana. Those in the Montana Territory who supported the Confederate side were varied. Among them were Confederate sympathizers who were determined that some of Montana's gold would go into the Southern instead of Northern coffers. But most were those who would rather not fight in the war, which ranged from pure drifters to actual Confederate deserters.
In southwest Montana, Madison County residents of the area native to the Southeast United States wished to name their new town Varina, in honor of Varina Davis, the wife of the Confederate President Jefferson Davis. The Varina Townsite Company, on June 16, 1863, went to confirm the 320 acres of land as the town of Varina. However, when they applied for the name, the judge—Connecticut native Dr. G.G. Bissell—refused, saying they would be “damned” before he would allow the town to be named for the first lady of the Confederacy. Bissell did say he would allow the company to name the town after the state of Virginia, and they did so, incorporating the town of Virginia City. Charles Dickens even mentioned it in his periodical All the Year Round.

The loyalty towards the Confederacy concerned many supporters of the Union. Seeing this, Sidney Edgerton in 1863 went quickly to see Abraham Lincoln about the situation, and this was one impetus to create the Montana Territory so quickly.

Gold mining in Montana began during the Civil War; gold placer deposits were discovered at Bannack in 1862. The resulting gold rush resulted in more placer discoveries, including those at Virginia City in 1863 and at Helena and Butte in 1864. Gold from the Montana gold mines went to both sides of the conflict. In Broadwater County, in the central portion of the state, Confederate sympathizers found a vein of gold eight miles west of Townsend, with the immediate area named “Confederate Gulch” in their honor. It was said to be among the "largest and richest of the placer diggings" within the state.

Although no organized Confederate forces reached Montana Territory, a series of detachment from union regiments, most of which were raised to fight confederates in the south, instead found themselves far to the west of the Civil War, fighting Native Americans and guarding outposts in Montana Territory.
2018 Event Schedule

Civil War Book Club Meetings
Meetings of the Richard Rollins Civil War Book Club are held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the Library. All are welcome to attend, even if they have not read the book, as they can participate in or listen to a lively discussion of that monthly book selection. There are no meetings held in July and August. Check the Book Club entry under "Events" for a list of the books that will be discussed in 2018.

"Remembrance Day" 2:00 pm, Saturday, November 17, 2018
For the eighth year, the Drum Barracks Museum joins in the national remembrance and celebration of President Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address given at the dedication of the Gettysburg National Cemetery on November 19, 1863. The event is sponsored by the Gen. W. S. Rosecrans Camp No. 2, Department of the Pacific, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War and their Auxiliary, the ASUVCW. Free admission.

Drum Barracks Spirit Tours, Saturday, October 20, 2018
One night only! Drum Barracks has a long and well-documented history as a haunted landmark. Docents in period attire will lead tours through the museum and tell tales about the historical figures that are said to reside here. Advance ticket purchase required. Call Drum Barracks office at 310.548.7509 for tour times and to purchase tickets. Regular price, $20 Adult, $18 Child (12 or under), Member price, $15 Adult, $13 Child (12 or under).

"Trick or Treat" the Drum, Monday, October 31, 2018
Walk-through the first floor of the museum, and children in costume receive candy. 7 pm – 9 pm. FREE event.

"Civil War Christmas" Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 1-2, 2018 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
The 18th Annual Holiday Celebration. An event that should not be missed and one that has become a holiday tradition for thousands! The Banning Museum and the Drum Barracks Museum sponsor free horse-drawn carriage rides between the two sites, which are each decorated for true holiday delight. Admission to both museums and the carriage rides are all free. Now that's the holiday spirit.

Wilmington Holiday Parade, Sunday, December 9, 2018
Starting at noon, the parade moves north up Avalon Boulevard from Anaheim Street, ending at Banning Park. Volunteers in period attire reenact skirmishes for delighted spectators.

Come March to the Beat of the Drum
Join the Drum Barracks Garrison & Society and help preserve this unique piece of California’s History

Private (Individual) $20  Colonel $200  Please make checks payable to:
Corporal (Family) $30  Brigadier General $300  Drum Barracks Garrison & Society
First Lieutenant $50  Major General $400  1052 Banning Boulevard
Captain $75  Lt. General $500  Wilmington, CA 90744
Major $100  General $1000
Lt. Colonel $150

NAME: ______________________________________________________
ADDRESS: ___________________________________________________
CITY: ______________________________ STATE: _______ ZIP:__________
TELEPHONE: _____________________________

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer in one of these areas?  Docent _____  Exhibition/Display _____
Museum Shop _______ Library _____  Research on the Civil War in California _____