

## THE REAL IDENTITY OF THE TEXAS CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

In the *UDC Magazine* of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) and the Confederate Veterans of the Sons of Confederate Veterans (SCV) the real identity of the Texas Civil War Museum in ironically names White Settlement, west of Fort Worth, Texas, emerges.

One thing to be kept clear is that there are two different organizations: a Texas Civil War Museum which is the museum with the building in White Settlement and the Texas Confederate Museum of the Texas Division of the UDC. The Texas Confederate Museum had once a building some decades ago with the state of Texas, but after they lost the use of the building their collection had been housed at one institution or another over the years. The Texas Confederate Museum has a board of trustees.

The Dec. 2003 *UDC Magazine* announces that spring of that year there was a ground breaking for the Texas Civil War Museum and that it will house the “Division’s Texas Confederate Museum Collection,” and the collection of “Mr. and Mrs. Ray Richey.” The article says that it will be funded by “Mr. Richey,” and that it is planned that the Texas Division UDC will have a business office there.<sup>1</sup>

In the Jan. 2007 *UDC Magazine* the opening of the Texas Civil War Museum is announced and also the contribution of Texas Division UDC members in supporting the opening of the museum. The article states that, “the Texas Civil War Museum opened to the public on January 25, 2006.” The article reaffirms that the museum is the gift of “Ray and Judy Richey.” Also, it explains that Judy Richey has a collection of Victorian dresses which has an exhibit at the museum and that the Texas UDC collection is the “third collection housed in the museum.” The article states, “This joint venture between private collectors and the UDC is considered rare in the museum industry.” The primary collection is that of Ray Richey of Civil War artifacts.

*UDC Magazine* reporting about the museum always uses the phrase, “War Between the States,” in reference to the Civil War and the words, “Civil War,” is only used when referencing the museum by name. This same article states, “Mr. Richey is believed to have amassed on of the largest War Between the States collections in the world.”

The article also announces that there is a move that is shown, “15 times daily and utilizes several of the Division’s artifacts” and is titled “Our Homes, Our Rights: Texas in the Civil War.”

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<sup>1</sup> No author, “Division News: Texas,” *UDC Magazine*, Vol. 66 No. 11, Dec. 2003, pp. 15-16, mention of Texas Civil War Museum on page 16.

The article also reported that, “the museum staff and Division volunteers hosted a successful media day.”<sup>2</sup>

The July/August 2006 *Confederate Veteran* has an article, “New Museum Opens: Texas Civil War Museum in Fort Worth.”

The subheading announces that, “The new Texas Museum is the largest War Between the States museum west of the Mississippi River and was financed by an SCV Member.”

The article states, “This museum is a combined effort of Compatriot Ray Richey and his wife Judy, along with the Texas Division United Daughters of the Confederacy.” The term “compatriot” means that Ray Richey is a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans. The article states that Ray Richey is president of Richey and Company, Inc. and that he is a member of the William Taylor Camp 1977 in Bedford, Texas. This is a local chapter of the SCV which calls its primary units, chapters, “camps.”

The article reports that the Texas Civil War Museum will host the Texas Confederate Museum collection which has been in storage since 1988.

The article recommends the movie, “Our Homes, Our Rights” stating that, “It is excellent.” The SCV is a neo-Confederate organization and promotes a neo-Confederate ideology that fact that the movie is described as “excellent” is an indication of what type of movie it was. The author saw the movie on March 17, 2018 and it is very clear why a neo-Confederate organization would consider it excellent. The article states, “I think it ranks with the Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, VA and Confederate Memorial Hall in New Orleans, LA. If you have visited these two, you owe it to yourself to add the Texas Civil War Museum to your itinerary.”<sup>3</sup>

When the SCV had their 2016 national reunion in Richardson, Texas, a suburb tangent to the north side of Dallas, they include a tour of the Texas Civil War Museum on their agenda.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>No author, “Texas Division,” *UDC Magazine*, Vol. 70 No. 1, Jan. 2007, page 28-29, quotes from page 28.

<sup>3</sup>Dark, Jim, Adjutant-in-Chief SCV, and Powell, Frank, Editor in Chief of *Confederate Veteran*, “New Museum Opens,” *Confederate Veteran*, Vol. 64 No. 4, July/August 2006, pp. 16-19. Quotes from pages 16 & 19. NOTE: The volume and number systems for the *Confederate Veteran* have been non-standard and at variance from the usual concepts of what a volume would be. For this issue it is assuming that the modern *Confederate Veteran* magazine is a continuation of the *Confederate Veteran* magazine that ended in 1932.

<sup>4</sup>No author, “121<sup>st</sup> National Reunion – Sons of Confederate Veterans Dallas, Texas – July 13-17, 2016 Official Registration Form,” page 28; “121<sup>st</sup> National Reunion – Sons of Confederate Veterans Dallas, Texas – July 13-17, 2016 Schedule of Events,” page 29; “Reunion 2016!” has color section titled, “Visit the Texas Civil War Museum!”; *Confederate Veteran*, Vol. 74 No. 2, March/April 2016, pages 28,29, 31. There was a website [www.scv2016.org](http://www.scv2016.org) which can be accessed through [www.archive.org](http://www.archive.org) WayBack Machine, as an archived website from 2015, 2016, and 2017. It also has the Texas Civil War Museum as a tour. <https://web.archive.org/web/20160609130855/http://scv2016.org:80/events.html>, printed out 3/18/2018.

The Museum of the Confederacy in Richmond, Virginia has been denounced by the SCV for not being pro-Confederate enough and opening up their own Museum of the Confederacy which on latest report by the SCV is scheduled to be open July 2018.<sup>5</sup>

An example of the ire of the SCV towards the Richmond Museum of the Confederacy is a denunciation of the museum in the SCV for its positive view of the American Pledge of Allegiance.

In the Nov./Dec. 2007 *Confederate Veteran* SCV Lt. Commander-in-Chief, Ronald E. Casteel in his column reprints a newspaper column from the Richmond *Times-Dispatch* by Waite Rawls, head of the Richmond Museum of the Confederacy (MOC), along with a letter to the *Times-Dispatch* sent by future SCV Chaplain-in-Chief Fr. Alister C. Anderson. Introducing Anderson's letter, SCV Lt. Commander-in-Chief Ron Casteel explains that he feels that the letter most, "likely represents the feelings of many SCV members". The following paragraph from Rawls' article arouses Anderson's ire:

The Civil War defines us all today, whether our ancestors were here to greet John Smith at Jamestown, fought for or against the Confederacy, or recently immigrated. When they say the pledge of allegiance to the American flag, the phrase "indivisible, with liberty and justice for all" rings in our ears.

Anderson rejects and condemns Rawls' paragraph stating:

When you write your letter, "... when we say the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag, the phrase 'indivisible, with liberty and justice for all' rings in our ears," ... and we're the products of own internal conflict," I must insist these words are not the products of our own internal conflict. These words were written in 1892 by Francis Bellamy, a Baptist minister who was forced to resign his pastorate because of his Socialist sermons and political activities.

This leads Anderson to attack Bellamy and the Pledge of Allegiance because it uses "indivisible" which is held to be oppressive to white Southerners and is additionally some type of socialist conspiracy. Anderson writes, "Through some devious political connections he was permitted to write the Pledge of Allegiance with his Socialist intentions to weld together the mentality of all Americans in their allegiance to a centralized Federal Government." Bellamy's original intention to use the phrase,

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<sup>5</sup> The website for fundraising for the new museum that the SCV is going to announce is <http://www.theconfederatemuseum.com>. They have a Facebook page for the museum <https://www.facebook.com/HistoricElmSpringsCSA/>, printed out 3/18/2018. The update on the scheduled opening is, Strain, Thomas V., "Report of the Commander-in-Chief," *Confederate Veteran*, Vol. 76 No. 1, Jan./Feb. 2918, pp. 4-5. There are photos of earth moving equipment and some initial work done on the property.

“Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity,” in the Pledge instead of “liberty and justice for all,” is denounced as “the atheist words of the radical French Revolution.”<sup>6</sup>

Though the date of this *Confederate Veteran* article about the Pledge is about one-year after the article about the Texas Civil War Museum the article about the Pledge doesn't represent an abrupt change of viewpoint. However, Castell had been elected Lt. Commander-in-Chief of the SCV in 2006 and his first column is in the Sept./Oct. 2006 issue of the *Confederate Veteran*.<sup>7</sup> His first complaint about the Richmond Museum of the Confederacy was March/April 2007 in the *Confederate Veteran*, “Has Political Correctness Arrived At The Museum Of The Confederacy?” (Capital letters as in the original).<sup>8</sup>

Also, in 2016 the SCV includes the Texas Civil War Museum as part of their agenda for their reunion. It is a significant indicator of what type of museum the Texas Civil War Museum is in that it has and continues to meet with the SCV's approval.

It would be interesting to know if Ray Richey is one of the SCV members that Casteel refers to as being hostile to the Pledge of Allegiance.

The *UDC Magazine* 2008 article, “Jefferson Davis Honored in Grand Style: Texas Celebrates Davis Bicentennial,” reports of a celebration of Jefferson Davis at the Texas Civil War Museum. The article reports, “Texas Division UDC members Betty Mann and Sherry Davis, in conjunction with the Jefferson Davis Bicentennial Organization and the Texas Civil War Museum, sponsored the Jefferson Davis Bicentennial of the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Fort Worth Forts Muster,” in 2008.<sup>9</sup>

The international<sup>10</sup> UDC at their 118<sup>th</sup> convention in 2011 in Fort Worth, Texas included a tour of the Texas Civil War Museum. In an article describing the upcoming convention, was a reference, “the pride of the Texas Division, the Texas Civil War Museum.”<sup>11</sup> The Texas Civil War Museum gives Texas Division UDC members a sense of pride in their organization and hence that the organization is worthwhile, which would

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<sup>6</sup> Casteel, Ronald E., “Report of the Lt. Commander-in-Chief,” *Confederate Veteran*, Vol. 65 No. 6, Nov./Dec. 2007, pages 8-9, 56; Waite Rawls article from Times-Dispatch and given date of Sunday, Sept. 9, 2007 and 12:04 am.; Fr. Alister C. Anderson letter dated Oct. 5, 2007.

<sup>7</sup> Ronald E. Casteel, “Report of the Lt. Commander-in-Chief,” *Confederate Veteran*, Vol. 64 No. 5, Sept./Oct. 2006, pp. 8-9, is his first column as Lt. Commander-in-Chief.

<sup>8</sup> Ronald E. Casteel, “Report of the Lt. Commander-in-Chief,” *Confederate Veteran*, Vol. 65 No. 2, March/April 2007, pp. 8-9.

<sup>9</sup> Davis, Sherry S., “Jefferson Davis Honored in Grand Style: Texas Celebrates Davis Bicentennial,” *UDC Magazine*, Vol. 71 No. 7, August 2008, page 11.

<sup>10</sup> The UDC rejects any idea that they have “national” officers, they always call them “General.” I use international her to indicate to the reader I am referring to the entire organization and not a division.

<sup>11</sup> No author, announcement of plans for the 118<sup>th</sup> Annual General Convention, *UDC Magazine*, Vol. 74 No. 7, Aug. 2011, page 21.

be greatly enhanced if the Texas Civil War Museum received the Robert E. Lee monument from the City of Dallas.

In the Sept. 2012 *UDC Magazine* is an article about a dedication of a monument “commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the War Between the States,” which they dedicated May 5, 2012. It is a Confederate monument about 15 feet tall in front of the Texas Civil War Museum and both commemorates the Confederates, but also the Texas Division of the UDC. The article states:

One walkway is engraved with ancestors, Chapters, and member’s names. The other is engraved with Texas Division Presidents, Texas Honorary Presidents, and Texas Presidents General.<sup>12</sup>

A more detailed report of the dedication is in Texas Division news, Dec. 2012, UDC Magazine. Attendance at the event was, “Approximately 250 people,” that had music and was catered by City Kitchen. The inscriptions on the monument were read. The article report that, “Ten ex-Presidents of the Texas Division were present, as well as two Texas ex-Presidents General.” It was a significant event in celebrating the Confederacy and the achievement of the Texas Division UDC and the Texas Civil War Museum provided the space for it. There is an additional page for photos and it is titled, “Texas Division Confederate Monument: Dedication – May 5, 2012, Fort Worth, Texas.”<sup>13</sup>

Indeed as will be reported later in this essay of an inspection of the monument, it is a monument to honor the Confederacy and the Texas Division UDC.

Visiting the Texas Civil War Museum on Saturday, March 17, 2018 reveals a lot about the museum and the Confederate monument in front of it.

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<sup>12</sup> No author, “Varina Howell Davis Chapter 2143, Houston,” in “Division News,” *UDC Magazine*, Vol. 75 No. 8, Sept. 2012, page 34. In case you are wondering the Texas Division would have a president, there are honorary presidents for one reason or another, and then there would be presidents of the international group from Texas.

<sup>13</sup> No author, “Texas Division,” *UDC Magazine*, Vol. 75 No. 11, Dec. 2012, pp. 23, 37; page with photos of the monument close up, is page 37, unpaginated but across from page 36 and followed by page 38.





A view facing the highway away from the Texas Civil War Museum

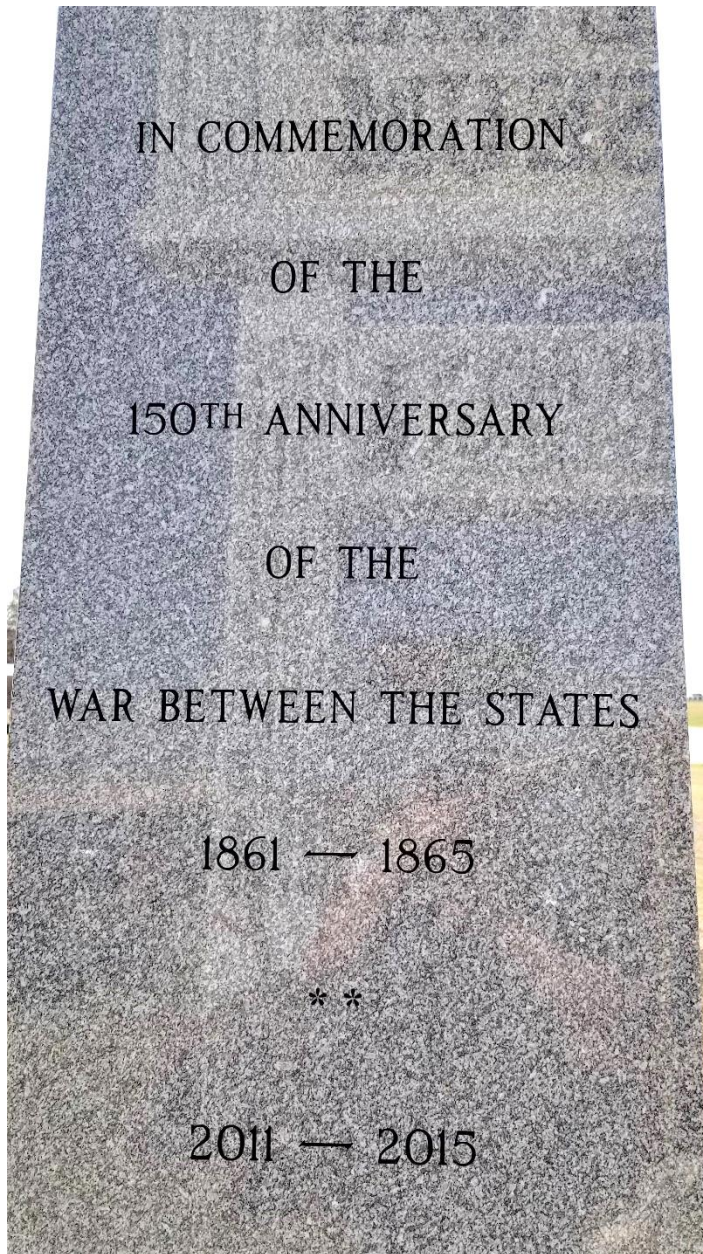


A close up of the text shows that it says.

“Our Heros in Gray \* \* \* \* They did their duty.”



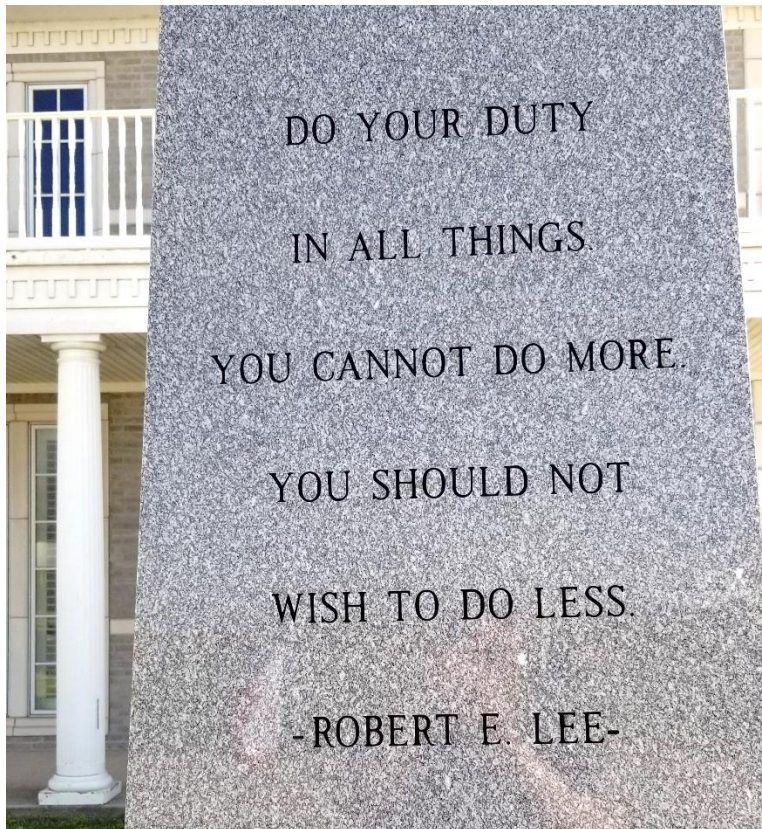
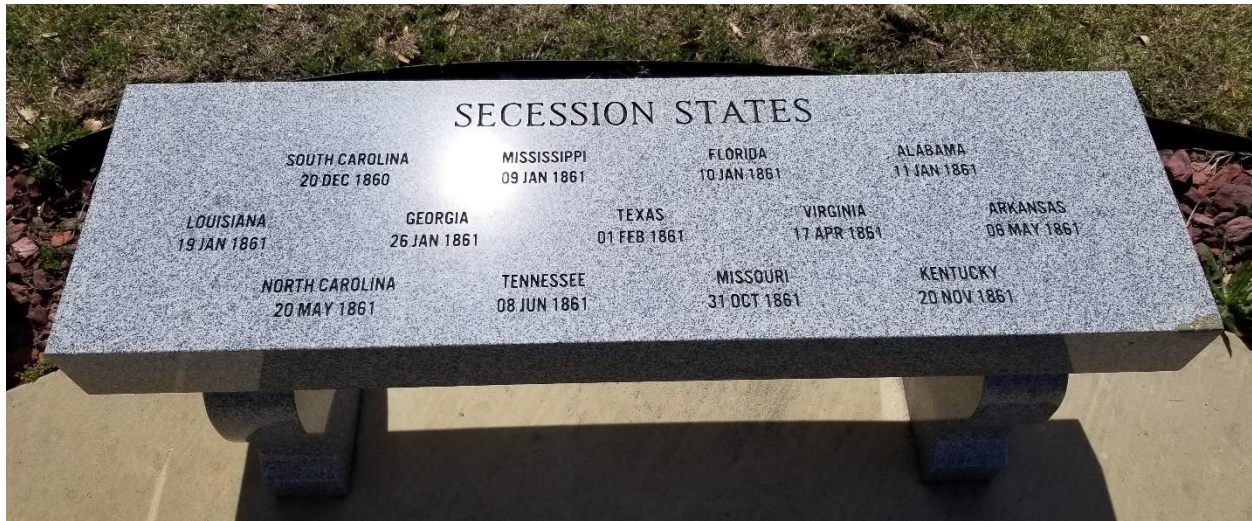




The monument uses the neo-Confederate term “War Between the States” instead of the Civil War.



A bench next to the monument celebrates the secession of the Confederate states.



Robert E. Lee is quoted on the monument.

Bricks are present which honor past presidents of the Texas Division of the UDC and UDC General Presidents from Texas.





PRESIDENTS TEXAS DIVISION UDC

RATH CAROL CURRIE 1898-99 DALLAS	CORNELIA B STONE 1899-06, 1900-99 DALLAS	HELEN LEE TERRY 1899-06, 1900-03 AUSTIN	ETHEL HARRISON 1901-1902-03 1911-12 1918-19 DALLAS	ADRIAN ANDERSON 1901-02 HOUSTON	MARILEE BELL 1905-06-07-28-30 LINDSEY
IDA SMITH AUSTIN 1905-06 GALVESTON	ELLA MAE BOWEN 1905-07 DALLAS	ANN K. HOWARD 1905-11 DALLAS	SARAH G. GIBBY 1905-11 DALLAS	WILHELMINE BEAM 1905-11 DALLAS	CELESTINE BEAM 1905-11 DALLAS
ANNIE H. BARRON 1918-20 WEATHERFORD	RATH CAROL CURRIE 1918-21 DALLAS	GUICCA L. KARR WEST 1921-22 MERCER	MARIE A. BOHRE 1922-24 FORT WORTH	JOE L. COLE DAVIS 1924-26 DALLAS	JAMES C. TERRY 1925-26 DALLAS
SARAH S. JOYD 1930-32 HOUSTON	EDITH B. CAMERON 1934-36 DALLAS	EDITH B. CAMERON 1934-36 DALLAS	PAULINE L. LAMICOZ 1935-36 HOUSTON	TRICIA H. GOSWAMI 1935-40 AUSTIN	MAE S. WATFIELD 1941-42 HOUSTON
WILLIE WELLY 1942-44 DALLAS	ELLA W. ROBERTSON 1946-48 HOUSTON	ANTHONY T. BARRON 1945-48 DALLAS	MARGIE TULLY 1948-50 DALLAS	GRACE A. HEWITT 1950-52 SAN ANTONIO	EDITH W. HARRISON 1952-56 HOUSTON
HELEN K. RAMSEY 1954-56 HOUSTON	ORAN V. BIRNHOFFER 1956-58 SAN ANTONIO	ETHEL B. COLWELL 1958-60 DALLAS	KATHARINE GIBBY 1960-62 SAN ANTONIO	RUTH L. WIDENER 1962-64 DALLAS	WILHELMINE BEAM 1964-66 DALLAS
LOIS E. BEATH 1964-66 MEMPHIS	NORMA P. SCOTT 1968-70 AUSTIN	HOWARD MITCHELL 1970-72 DALLAS	ROBERTA L. ETTLE 1972-74 HOUSTON	MARIE A. COLE 1974-76 SAN ANTONIO	CELESTINE BEAM 1976-78 HOUSTON
VERA PAT. RORER AND 1978-80 AUSTIN	JUANITA MCENTIRE 1980-82 WACO	TRANCES T. FOWARD 1982-84 DALLAS	HILDA KELLEY BELL 1984-86 WACO	AUTONIA M. CLARKE 1986-88 EDGEWOOD	EDITH W. HARRISON 1988-90 AUSTIN
DRUSILLA C. HOWELL 1990-92 LAKE JACKSON	SHIRLEY ANN DAVIS 1992-94 HOUSTON	ESTHER SIMS 1994-96 TOMBALL	JOAN COBURN LOZD 1996-98 PASADENA	BURKE H. GERRIG 1998-00 SHERMAN	DEBRA HARRISON 2000-02 DALLAS
BERNICE D. FLEAR 2002-04 PHOENIX	JANICE K. LANGFORD 2004-06 HUTCHINSON	VICKI L. KELLER 2006-08 DALLAS	SHIRLEY WOOD COX 2008-10 WACO	JANICE K. LANGFORD 2010-12 BELLAIRE	KEITH E. TERRY 2012-14 DALLAS

HONORARY PRESIDENTS TEXAS DIVISION UDC

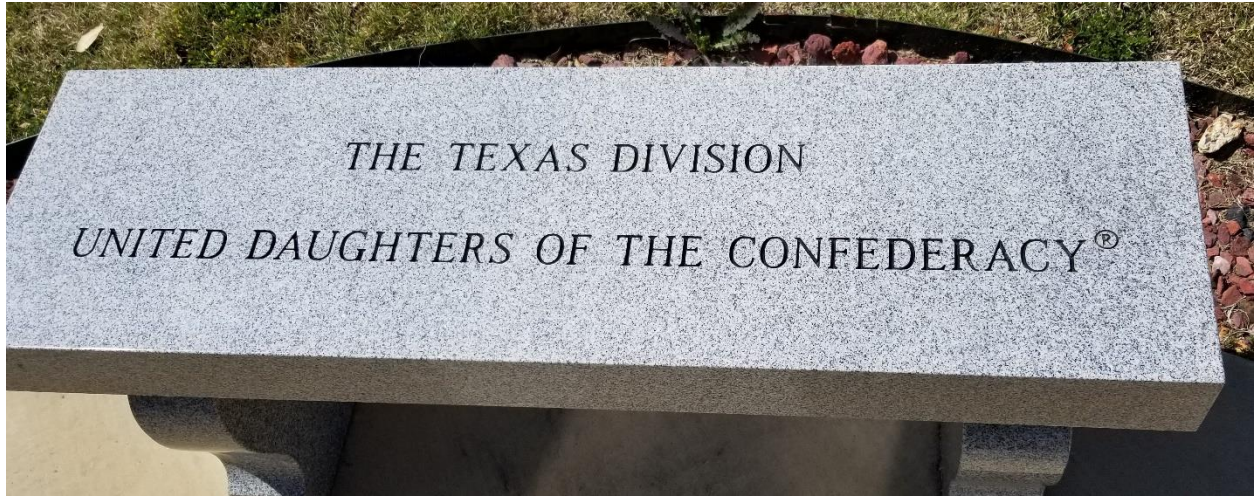
MOLLIE ROSENBERG PATRON SAINT 1924 GALVESTON	MOLLY TRIAGAN 1902 DALLAS	IDA SMITH AUSTIN 1911 GALVESTON	CARE J. McFARI AND 1918 PORT LAVACA	MARY CUMERLAND 1918 CORPUS CHRISTI	JUDITH WESTBROOK 1918 HEARNE
MARY WYNNIE FARRIS 1918 HURTSVILLE	MARY JANE FARE 1918 MARSHALL	KATH SCHOLARS 1920 ORANGE	MARGARET ESPAIN 1920 AUSTIN	MARY F. BRYAN 1921 HOUSTON	MARZENA A. ZUMMEL 1924 COLUMBUS
MARY R. BOLTON 1923 WHARTON	PAULINE BAUGH 1925 SAN ANTONIO	EMMA TOWNSEND 1941 LOUISIANA	EFFIE M. MATRIS 1950 TEXARKANA	JOE L. AMPKID 1950 MFRIDIAN	JAMIE DE V. HARRIS 1951 AUSTIN
MAMIE WILSON ROWE 1951 AUSTIN	SALLY WARD BERTLETTA 1951 SAN ANTONIO	MINNIE WILKINSON 1951 HOUSTON	NETA V. TAYLOR 1951 HOUSTON	MAUD SCOTT KNOLIF 1952 HOUSTON	BESSIE B. HODGINS 1954 HUNGERFORD
JANE F. WEBB 1957 AUSTIN	FRANCIS W. BRADFORD 1958 TYLER	FINNIE W. BARRITT 1958 DALLAS	MABLE CLARE BEATH 1958 DALLAS	EDNA W. THOMAS 1960 ENNIS	MAMIE SHUELL McVEY 1960 DALLAS
SUE WADE McDONALD 1961 FORT WORTH	ELLA L. BACON 1961 AUSTIN	BISS BROWN LOVELL 1966 HOUSTON	JANE L. GREENWOOD 1966 GREENVILLE	MARY BELL FINK 1966 EL PASO	ORA MAYFIELD 1966 TYLER
ELLA MARY McCLURE 1966 TEXARKANA	LURLINE TIEEL 1968 HOUSTON	MILDRED WEBB BUCC 1970 AUSTIN	WILLA STEPHENSON 1976 DALLAS	MATIE S. MITCHELL 1976 SAN ANTONIO	ELLA BARRETT 1976 TEXARKANA
LEE NETTLES GATHIN 1980 BEAUMONT	NAOMI DOWD JAMESON 1980 EL PASO	MABEL GRACE GATLIN 1980 AUSTIN	ETHEL McCUTCHEON 1982 AUSTIN	EMILY COUNTESS 1982 BELTON	DORA D. JUNE 1986 FORT WORTH
BELLE MALEY COOK 1986 AUSTIN	RETTA PRESTON 1986 AUSTIN	ELLA MAE MORRIS 1986 LAKE JACKSON	ELLA MAE SWENSON 1992 TYLER	MILDRED HARRISON 1992 ARLINGTON	SHIRLEY ST 1999 PASADENA
DOROTHY MAZZIOTTA 2000 DALLAS	CAROLYN K. FARMER 2000 HOUSTON	DAISY J. ALBERTHAL 2000 SAN ANTONIO	CAROLYN McCALL 2001 BULLARD	PEGGY B. TOMBS 2002 MARBLE FALLS	VERNA 2007 COTTONWOOD
EDNA CHEATHAM 2003 KINGSLAND	ANN COOK LITTLE 2006 LEAGUE CITY	CARDIYND JAMAAL 2014 SPRING			

TEXAS PRESIDENTS GENERAL UDC

CABELL CURRIE 1898-99 DALLAS	CORNELIA B STONE 1907-08 GALVESTON	KATHRYN N WILCOX 1945-47 HOUSTON	HILDA KELLEY BELL 1996-98 PATTISON	JANICE K. LANGFORD 2006-08 HUFFMAN
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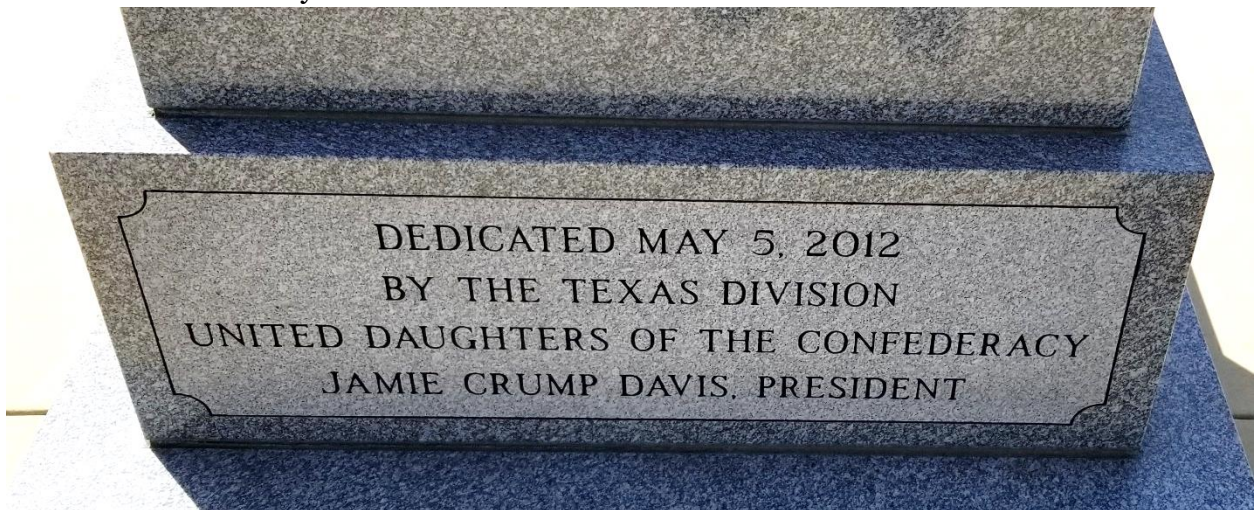
A bench for the Texas Division UDC.



Another bench is to memorialize Texas Division Presidents.



That it is dedicated by the Texas Division UDC is in the base.

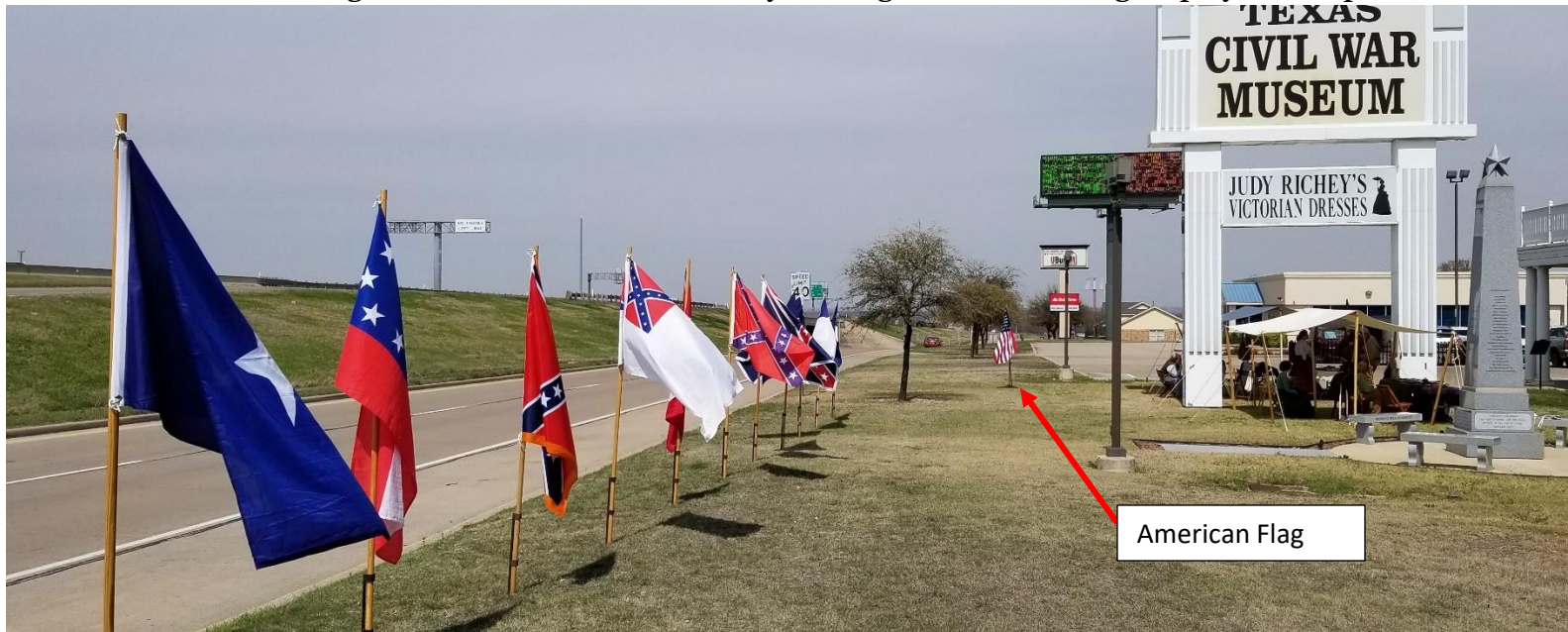




What was very noticeable was the display of eleven Confederate flags in front of the Texas Civil War Museum.



There is an American flag off to the side that technically this big Confederate flag display can be passed off as historical.





Within the museum there is the Texas Confederate Museum



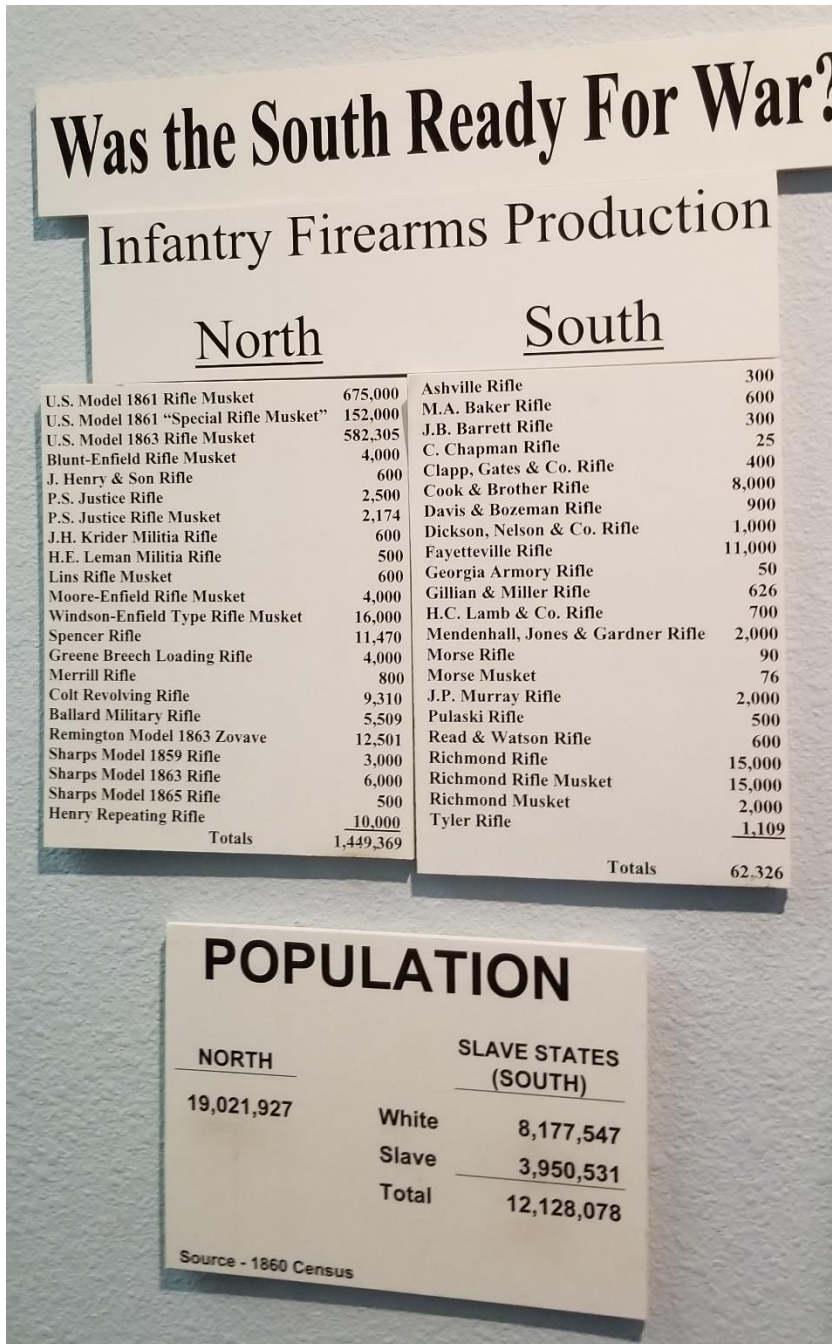
The UDC section uses “War Between the States” for its reference to the Civil War.



The Richey collection in another section has a fairly good collection of Civil War artifacts and “interesting” interpretations of the Civil War. It however focuses on fighting and not why the soldiers were fighting. There is no Declaration of the Causes for which the Texas secession convention declared to explain why they need to secede.

Slavery is mentioned once, but in an interesting argument as to why the slave states seceded which makes secession something done to escape the rule of the majority and the federal government.

What is curious is that there were several of these comparisons of relative material resources of the United States and the Confederacy to wage war.



One of the issues for the Lost Cause to praise the Confederate armies as great soldiers and generals despite the fact that they lost.

Since this is uncritically proposed in most American history textbooks it tends to be believed by the average American.

However, great military leaders in history are known to be great because they beat the odds such as Alexander the Great. George Washington managed to beat the British Empire.

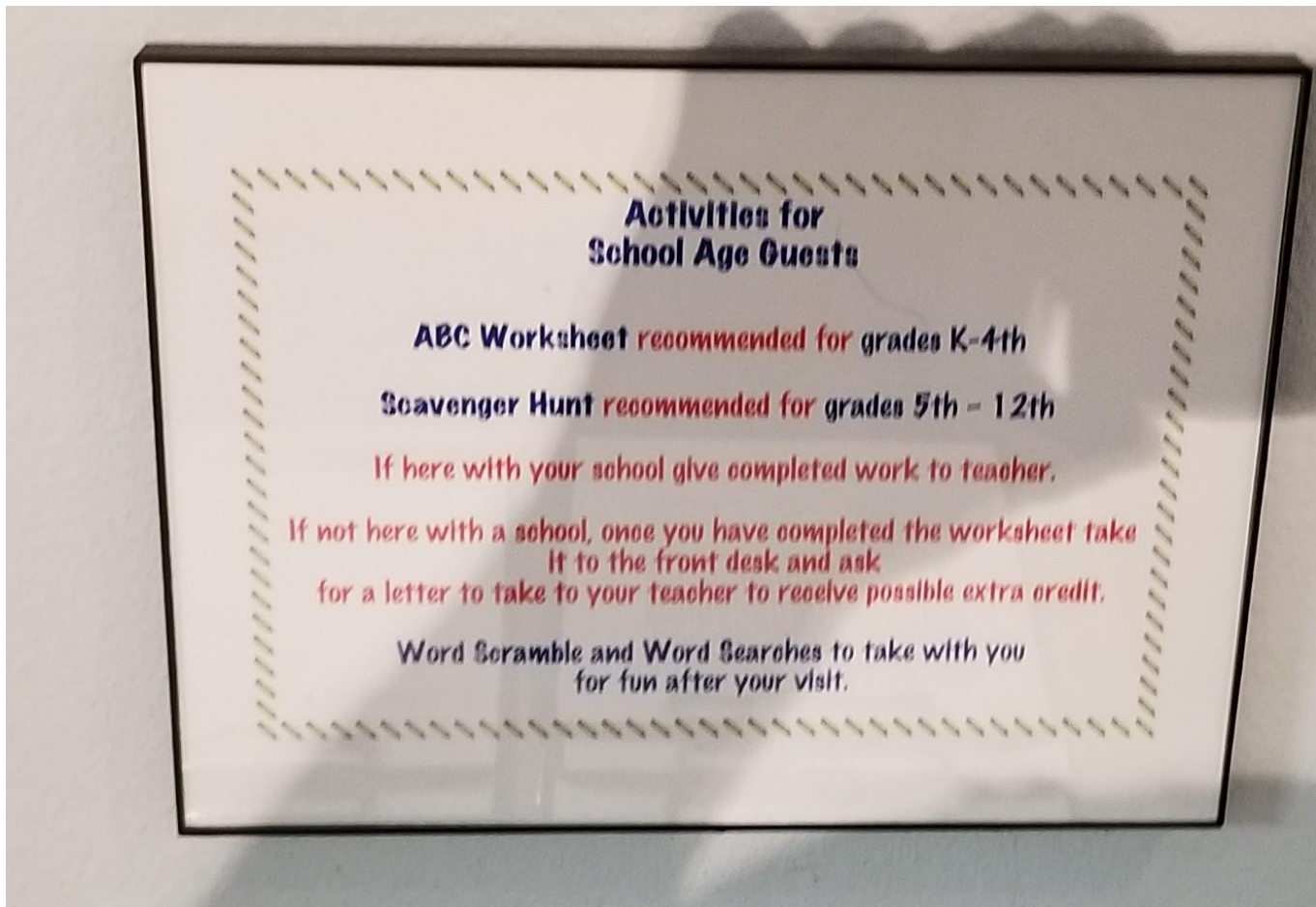
A measure of how patriotic the Confederates actually were is that they weren't willing to tax themselves to pay for the war. War voraciously consumes money more than any other activity of a state. The Confederate government came up with the idea of printing money which had the expected consequences.

Confederate troops were ragged and underfed and suffered.

In contrast the American government implemented higher tariffs and an income tax to pay for the war.



The museum also has materials for young people to learn their view of the Civil War and engage the displays.



Its website offers the museum as a place where schools can bring their students.

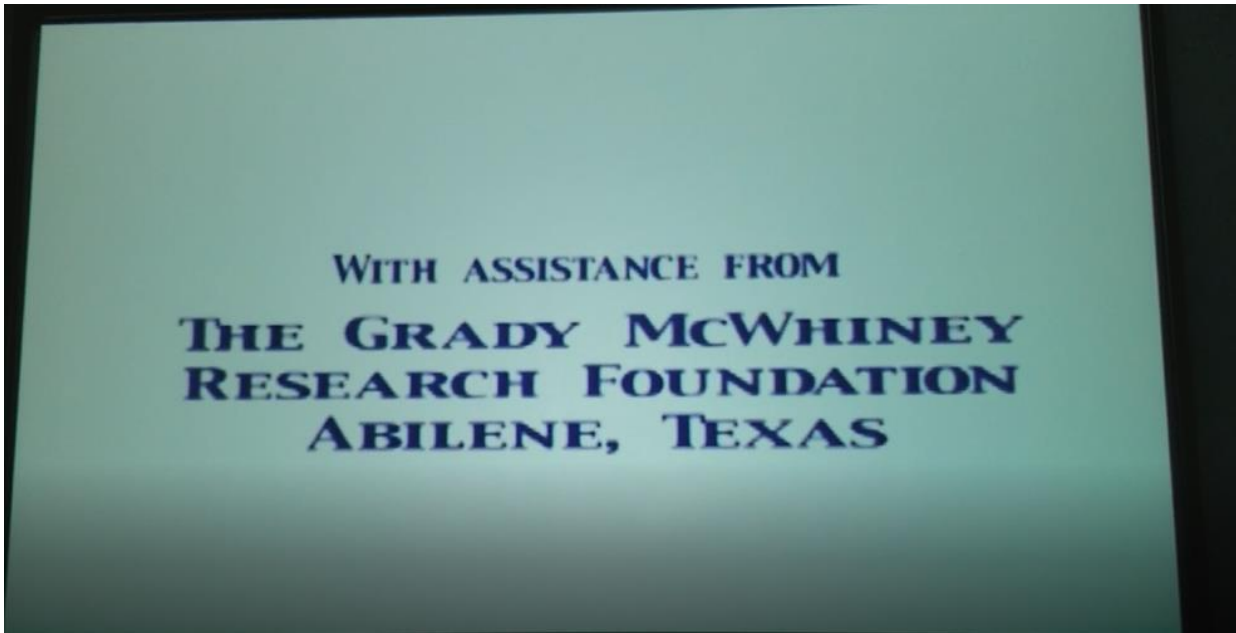
There is a video given which used both the term “Civil War” and “The War Between the States,” in the introduction which would introduce students and others to the phrase “The War Between the States.”

In its description of Texas there is only oblique reference to slavery and the issue is generally ignored. It use a Texas Confederate flag to imply that the Civil War was about “Our Homes and Our Rights” shown in a circle of stars in the opening of the film.

In the introduction the film’s opening credits state that it is made, “With the assistance from The Grady McWhiney Research Foundation, Abilene, Texas.”

Grady McWhiney was one of the founding directors of the neo-Confederate organization League of the South. McWhiney is infamous for his Celtic Confederate theories of Southern identity. The author of this paper had a paper published in the journal “Scottish Affairs” at the University of Edinburgh about this movement which included a summary on the nonsensical nature of

McWhiney's theories. It is online at <http://www.templeofdemocracy.com/curriculum-vitae.html> in the listing of the peer-reviewed academic articles.



In one part the video states about the settling of Texas that, "They had come from all over the world," and showed what appears to be a slave family. Whether this is an avoidance of the issue of slavery or just bad video production is hard to determine, but each historian will have to decide which part of the video is the most startling for themselves.

The end includes the statement, "The Civil War, America's War Between the States," as in the beginning part of the video.

The contents of the video are not surprising since the ending credits say it was, "Written by Donald S. Frazier," who was as of Feb. 4, 2005 the "Executive Director and Vice President," of the Grady McWhiney Institute who was also one of the two directors of the film. They have a webpage online at <http://mcwhiney.org/>. The website praises McWhiney's books, but omits his role in the League of the South. Also, omitted is that Grady McWhiney contributed to the neo-Confederate magazine *Southern Partisan* or that his theories about the South were central to the neo-Confederate movement. The McWhiney Foundation press published a book by another founding board member and major neo-Confederate Clyde Wilson.

Among its Senior Fellows are some infamous neo-Confederates and a variety of Civil War scholars who are lost in the Lost Cause. Its four Master Fellows include Shelby Foote and Frank Vandiver of Lost Cause delusions. Vandiver thought that efforts to get rid of the Confederate flag and monuments would lead to race war in one of his speeches towards the end of his life. In short it was largely a Confederacy of dunces and a few people who should have known better.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> For a 2005 listing use this archive.org web page.

<https://web.archive.org/web/20050204063750/http://www.mcwhiney.org:80/org/directors.html>; for senior fellows, <https://web.archive.org/web/20050204070051/http://www.mcwhiney.org:80/org/sfellows.html>; for master fellows, <https://web.archive.org/web/20050204065226/http://www.mcwhiney.org:80/org/mfellows.html>.



These t-shirts basically portray up what I see as the museums approach to the Civil War.



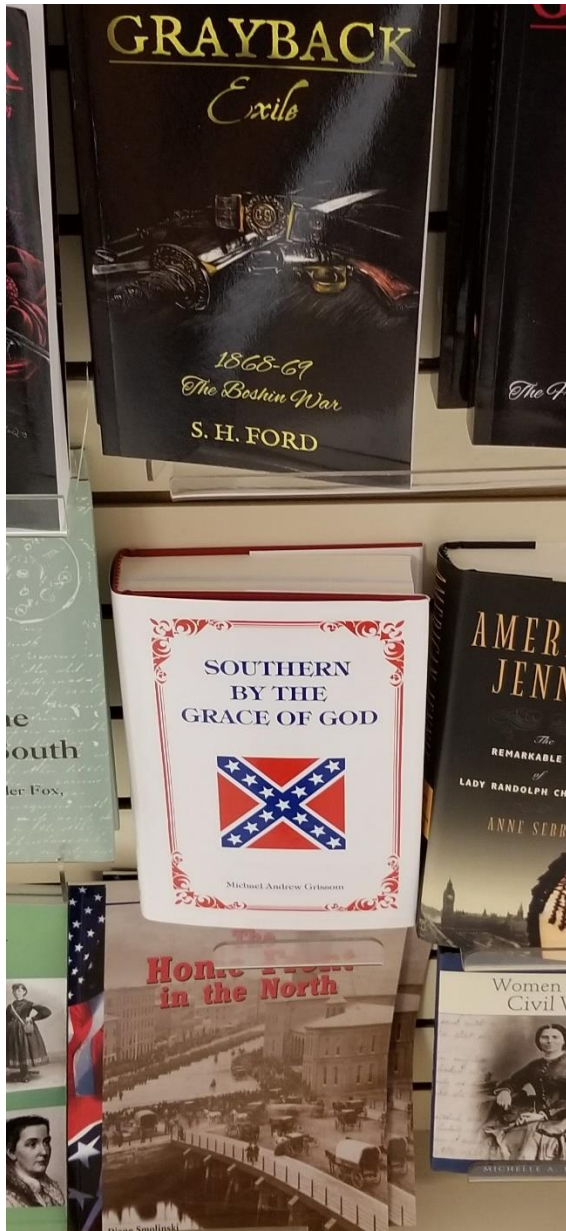
Notice the text in the circle of stars, “Our Homes and Our Rights.” It is the old Lost Cause argument that the Confederate soldier is fighting only because of the invasion and obscures the issue of slavery.



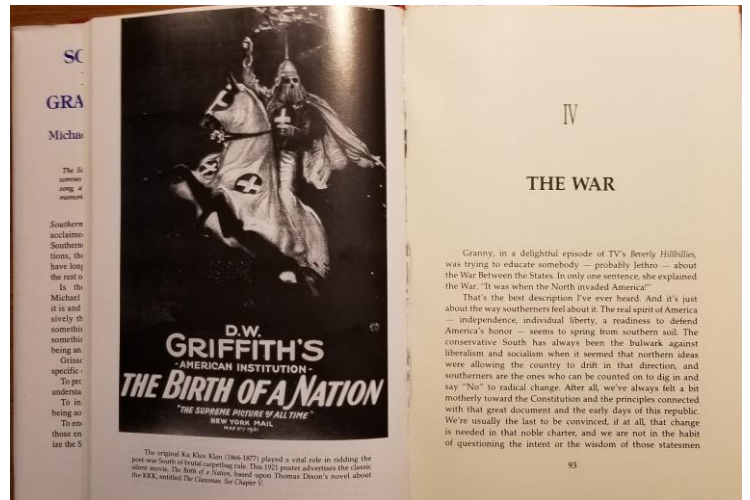


The selections of the books avoided the issue of slavery. What was interesting is that two books which are the foundation books for the modern neo-Confederate movement were for sale.

In this close up photo you can see the book that “Southern by the Grace of God,” by Michael Andrew Grissom is offered for sale. A copy was purchased by the author.



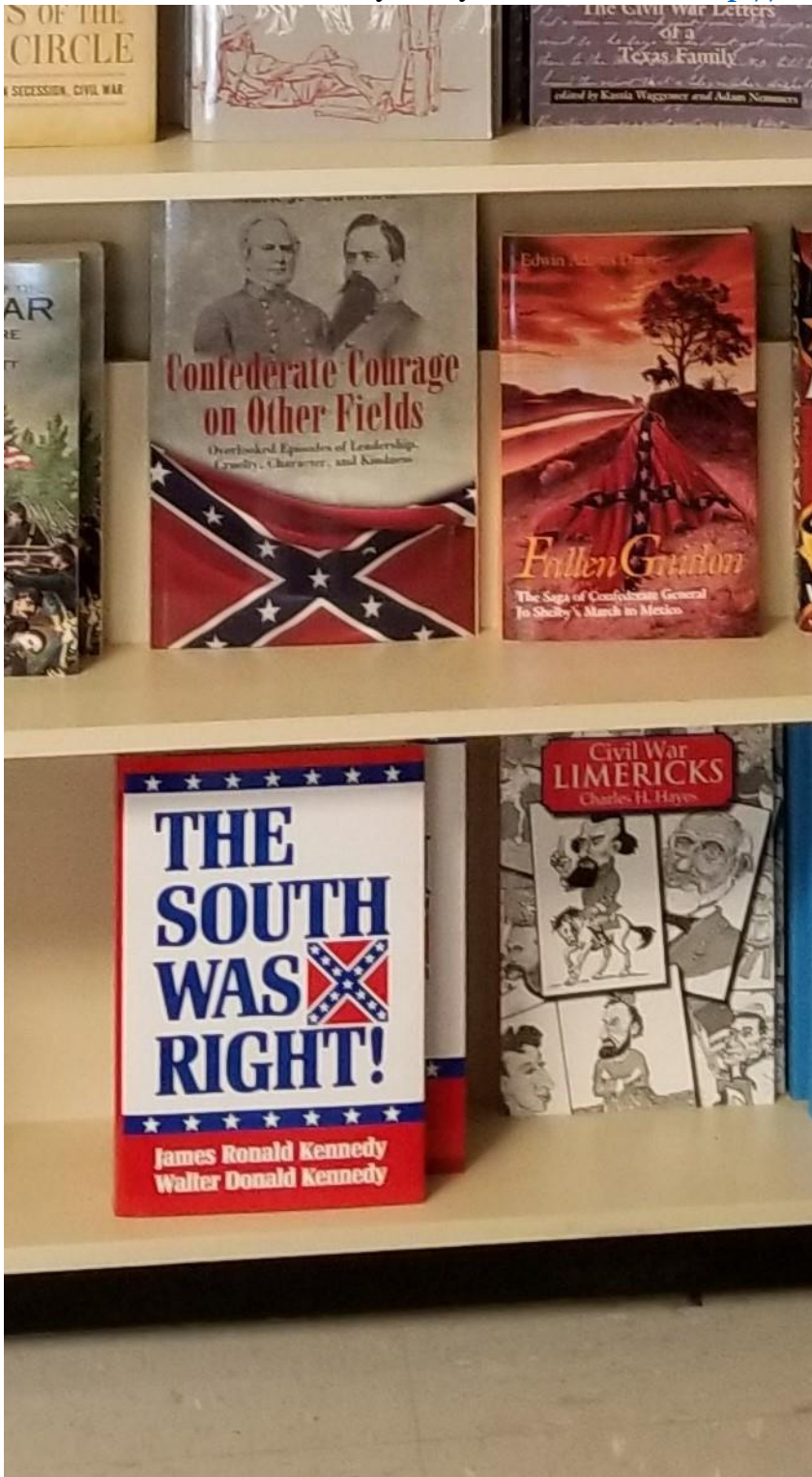
This book recommends joining the Council of Conservative Citizens, defends the Ku Klux Klan of Reconstruction and strongly endorses the novels of the white supremacist Thomas Dixon.



The caption below the picture says:

The original Ku Klux Klan (1866 – 1877) played a vital role in ridding the post-war South of brutal carpetbag rule. This 1915 poster advertises the classic silent movie, *The Birth of a Nation*, based on Thomas Dixon’s novel about the KKK, entitled *The Clansman*, See Chapter V.

Another book found was “The South Was Right!” by the Kennedy twins, James Ronald Kennedy and Walter Donald Kennedy. They have a website <http://kennedytwins.com/>.



The book is notable for its angry denunciation of the Voting Rights Act as a fraud.

However, the book store as a whole is notable for the absence of books which regard the issue of race or slavery. In this book store it is a spring morning and the Supreme Court hasn't yet issued its Brown vs. Board of Topeka school integration ruling.



The Texas Civil War Museum is this building on a bare lot on the west side of Fort Worth.



It has meager resources and is very modest. If the City of Dallas gives it the equestrian statue of Robert E. Lee this museum will acquire a tremendous amount of prestige and will get a great many more visitors to push its agenda. It will also get more donors and can upgrade its facilities, publicize itself, perhaps do something about its grounds so they aren't so bare. The donation of the equestrian statue will give this museum a tremendous boost so they can push their Lost Cause message and sell books like the ones discussed.

It would be a morally abhorrent to give this museum the equestrian statue of Robert E. Lee. The City of Dallas would be basically handing the statue over to neo-Confederates.

Edward H. Sebesta is an investigative researcher into the neo-Confederate movement and is interested in the issues of historical memory. He is the editor of two books, *Neo-Confederacy: A Critical Introduction* published by the Univ. of Texas Press and *The Confederate and Neo-Confederate Reader* published by the University Press of Mississippi. The first book documents that the so-called “heritage” is really about a reactionary movement that is against racial equality, in fact against equality and democracy in general. The *Reader* provides documents from the Philadelphia Convention to 2001 showing that the “heritage” is about racism and slavery. He has been published in multiple peer-reviewed academic journals, the last one at Cambridge Univ. as well as articles in *Black Commentator*. His curriculum vitae is online at <http://www.templeofdemocracy.com/curriculum-vitae.html>.



Edward H. Sebesta was awarded the Spirit of Freedom medal by the African American Civil War Museum in Washington, D.C. in 2015 for his life's work in investigating and fighting the neo-Confederate movement.