

A Guide to the Grayson County (Va.) Reports of Indigent Soldiers' Families, 1862-1865

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1862-1865

A Collection in the Library of Virginia 0007404579
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History

Processed by: Greg Crawford

Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Barcode numbers

0007404579

Language

English

Collector

Grayson County (Va.) Circuit Court

Physical Characteristics

0.25 cu. ft. (2 folders)

Location

Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

These items came to the Library of Virginia in shipments of court papers from Grayson County.

Preferred Citation

Grayson County (Va.) Reports of Indigent Soldiers' Families, 1862-1865. Local government records collection, Grayson County (Va.) Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Va. 23219.

Historical Information

Grayson County was named for William Grayson, a delegate to the Continental Congress from 1784 to 1787 and one of the first two United States senators from Virginia. It was formed from Wythe County by a statute adopted on 7 November 1792. The county court first met on 21 May 1793. A portion of Patrick County was added in 1810. The county seat is Independence.

Throughout the Civil War, the principal responsibility for Virginia's indigent soldiers' families lay with the locality. The Virginia State Convention in 1861 gave the responsibility entirely to counties and incorporated towns and authorized whatever actions had already been taken. Acts of Assembly in 1862 and 1863 expanded the localities' powers to provide for their needy, and in 1863 some minimal state assistance was added in. At first relief was provided as money, but as the monetary system collapsed, relief was distributed in kind. Agents of the court maintained lists of eligible families, gathered goods for distribution and paid for them, and impressed supplies if necessary. Virginia was unique amongst the southern states in that it assigned the provisioning of needy families almost solely to the locality.

Scope and Content

Grayson County (Va.) Reports of Indigent Soldiers' Families, 1862-1865, records names of the soldiers and family members, number of children per family, the amount of money or provisions provided to each family and for what use. The reports record that funds were to be used for provisions, shoes and clothing.

Index Terms

Corporate Names:

Grayson County (Va.) Circuit Court

Subjects:

Families of military personnel--Virginia--Grayson County

Poor--Virginia--Grayson County

Tax collection--Virginia--Grayson County

Geographical Names:

Grayson County (Va.)--History--19th century

Grayson County (Va.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

Genre and Form Terms:

Accounts--Virginia--Grayson County

Local government records--Virginia--Grayson County

Arrangement

Chronological.