

# Colonel Ebirt t-shirts

Colonel Ebirt t-shirts

2023

---

## Title Statement

Colonel Ebirt t-shirtsGuide to the Colonel Ebirt t-shirts UA 423

**Author:** William & Mary Special Collections Research Center staff

## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** Special Collections Research Center

William & Mary Special Collections Research Center  
Earl Gregg Swem Library  
400 Landrum Dr  
Williamsburg, Virginia  
Business Number: 757-221-3090  
spcoll@wm.edu  
URL: <https://libraries.wm.edu/libraries-spaces/special-collections>

---

2023 October

## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-05-15 13:34:39 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Descriptive Summary

**Unit ID**

UA 423

**Unit ID**

/repositories/2/resources/9762

**Unit Date**

2023

**Language**

English

**Extent**

2 Linear Feet

**Repository**

Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

## Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Manuscript collections and archival records may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations, such as the Virginia Public Records Act (Code of Virginia, § 42.1-76-91); and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Code of Virginia § 2.2-3705.5). Confidential material may include, but is not limited to, educational, medical, and personnel records. If sensitive material is found in this collection, please contact a staff member immediately. The disclosure of personally identifiable information pertaining to a living individual may have legal consequences for which the College of William and Mary assumes no responsibility.

## Conditions Governing Use

Before publishing quotations or excerpts from any materials, permission must be obtained from the Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased with the assistance of the Armand and Mary Galfo Swem Library Fund.

## Preferred Citation

Colonel Ebirt t-shirts, Special Collections Research Center, William & Mary Libraries.

# Biographical / Historical

Images of Native Americans along with the term "Indian" was used as the athletic logo and mascot of William & Mary until 1978. However, feathers were used as a part of the logo post 1978 until 2007. The decision was made to phase out the use of the images and term "Indian" in response to the NCAA, who argued that they were offensive to Native Americans. From 2001-2006 a temporary mascot was used and Colonel Ebirt was born, Ebirt is tribe spelled backwards and was represented as a green frog. The mascot was fully adopted by the athletic department from 2001-2006. In 2009 it was a committee was drawn, appointed by then William & Mary President Taylor Reveley to decide a new mascot and the Griffin was chosen.

# Content Description

Two Colonel Ebirt T-shirts, with an illustration of William and Mary's unofficial mascot, Colonel Ebirt created by Williamsburg-based Parkway Printshop. Colonel Ebirt is tribe spelled backwards and was the unofficial mascot for William & Mary from 2001-2006.

# Keywords

School mascots

College of William and Mary--History--21st century

College of William and Mary--History

T-shirts

Indians as mascots

# Description of Subordinate Components

## T-shirt I

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606979

**Unit Date** 2023

**Mixed Materials** UA small collections oversize textile box 3

**Container** 2023.301.A1 (Artifact)

## T-shirt II

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606980

**Unit Date** 2023

**Mixed Materials** UA small collections oversize textile box 3

**Container** 2023.301.A2 (Artifact)