###### Indian Territory and the Civil War



**Search Aids**

Search Terms

(Use for computer searches)

* Native American Civil War
* Five Civilized Tribes Civil War

Subject Headings

(Use in card catalogs and print indexes)

* Oklahoma and Civil War
* Indian Nation and Oklahoma

### Call Number

* 973.7(Dewey Decimal)

### E491 thru 600 (Library of Congress)

### Indexes and Abstracts

* EBSCO HOST
* First Search
* EHistory Archive

### Library catalogs

* Stillwater Public Library, Stillwater, Oklahoma
* Edmon Low Library Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma
* Library of Congress, Washington D.C. USA

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This pathfinder will be useful in finding information about Oklahoma before Statehood and the Native American’s involvement in the Civil War. It is designed for the High School Student.

**Oklahoma Priority Academic Student Skills:**

**Oklahoma History – High School**

**Standard 4:** The student will evaluate the major political and economic events prior to statehood.

**Number 2:** Explain the significance of the Civil War in Indian Territory and the prominent figures and groups that fought in its battles (e.g., Stand Watie, General James Blunt, General Douglas Cooper, and the 1st Kansas Colored Regiment).

For an introduction to the topic see:

* *American Civil War in the Indian Territory,* by Spencer, John D. (1955)

\*A history of the inner conflict within the tribes and how the individual tribes themselves split their allegiance.

* *Bourland in north Texas and Indian Territory during the Civil War: Fort Cobb, Fort Arbuckle, & The Wichita Mountains,* by Adkins Rochette, Patricia

\*A great resource concerning the conflicts along the Red River which involved the Indian tribes and the Texas citizens describing in great detail how this war created so many difficulties at the family and the community at large.

## Key Resources at a Glance:

* <http://www.civil-war.net/>

\*One of the largest and most comprehensive collections

of Civil War related material on the internet.

* <http://www.civilwar.com/>

\*This site is devoted to Civil War researchers and many maps.

* *The Confederate Cherokees: John Drew’s Regiment of*

*Mounted Rifles,* by Gaines, W. Craig *(*Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, LA 1989),

\*Gaines provides an absorbing account of the Cherokees' involvement in the early years of the Civil War, focusing in particular on the actions of one group, John Drew's Regiment of Mounted Rifles.

## Reference Background

* <http://www.lib.utk.edu/refs/history/guide_067b.pdf>

\*An annotated guide to comprehensive reference material concerning the Civil War.

* Encyclopedia of the American Civil War: A Political, Social, and Military History, by McPherson, James M., Publisher W.W. Norton and Co. (2002).

\*This encyclopedia covers all battles, political situations and social upheaval of the Civil War.

* Encyclopedia Smithsonian: Civil War Bibliography on line:

<http://www.si.edu/encyclopedia_si/nmah/civilwar.htm>

\*A powerful tool listing the written resources concerning the Civil War.

## Resources

**Books**

* *Red Fox: Stand Watie and the Confederate Indian Nations During the Civil War Year in Indian Territory,* by Knight, Wilfred (1988).

\*Biography of Stand Watie during his actions in the Civil War.

* *General Stand Watie’s Confederate Indians,* by Cunningham, Frank.

\*A battle history of General Stand Watie.

* *Sam Bell Maxey and the Confederate Indians,* by Waugh, John C.: McWhiney, Grady (1995).

\*General Maxey, dignified, articulate, and confident, arrives in Indian Territory in 1863 to assume command of a diverse and motley army of Indians.

* *The Prairie was on Fire: Eyewitness Accounts of the Civil War in the Indian Territory*, by Edwards, Whit (1995).

\*Author Whit Edwards provides the reader with a compilation of primary accounts dealing with the many campaigns and battles fought throughout the Indian Territory.

* *Kepis and Turkey Calls: An Anthology of the War Between the States in Indian Territory*, by Cantell, Mark Lea: Harris, Mac R. (1982).

\*A closer look at the ramifications of the actions taken by the Native Americans during the civil war.

* *Quantrill’s Civil War Operations in Indian Territory,* by Fischer, LeRoy Henry (1918).

\*A look at Quantrill and his criminal tactics.

**Journals**

* Minister to the Cherokees, *Civil War History*, Vol. 50 Number 2, (2004).

\*James Anderson Slover autobiography, a review.

#### Magazine Articles

* “General Douglas H. Cooper”, *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, by Murial Wright, (1954), Vol. 32, pp. 142-184, 42p.

\*A unique leader during the Civil War.

* “Arkansas Historical Quarterly”, *General James G. Blunt: Tarnished Glory,* (Autumn 2007), Vol. 66 issue 3, pp. 386-388, 3p.

\*A look at General Blunts operations during the Civil War in Indian Territory.

**Web Pages and Web Portals**

* Blood & Fire: 1st Kansas Colored Infantry  
   [www.bivouacbooks.com/bbv8i1s2.htm](http://www.bivouacbooks.com/bbv8i1s2.htm)

\*The history of this Black Regiment and its actions in the Civil War.

* The American Civil War  
   [www.homepages.dsu.edu/jankej/civilwar/civilwar.htm](http://www.homepages.dsu.edu/jankej/civilwar/civilwar.htm)

\*A web site with many maps and photos concerning the Civil War.

**Organizations and Special Collections**

* Cherokee Nation

[www.cherokee.org/Culture/161/Page/default.aspx](http://www.cherokee.org/Culture/161/Page/default.aspx)

\*Web site that will lead you to much information concerning the Cherokee

during the Civil war.

* Seminole Nation

[www.seminolenation-indianterritory.org/leaders.htm](http://www.seminolenation-indianterritory.org/leaders.htm)

\*Seminole Nations home Web site.

**Multimedia Resource**

* *Indian Warriors*, The History Channel, (2007) [DVD].

\*This is a powerful visual presentation of the Native American in war.

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\*\* You can evaluate other resources using criteria at: www.THEpathfinderproject.org/evaluate.html \*\*

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