

CONFEDERATE

Traveling Trunks are designed to aid teachers by allowing them to handle and show reproduction items carried and worn by Civil War soldiers as a visual aid for their students. These tangible items are meant to help students with their study of the thousands of men (and some women) who fought and died during one of the most significant era in American history. Feel free to let students handle and touch any of these items. Please be aware that some items are fragile and must be handled with care. The following is a list of items in this trunk with descriptions of how they were worn or used by a Civil War soldier at the time of the battle of Pea Ridge, March 7-8, 1862.

Item List:

1. Sack Coat
 - a. All weather wear uniform coat.
2. Trousers
 - a. Light blue pants were worn by Union soldiers early in the war.
3. Suspenders
 - a. Used to hold up ones trousers.
4. Shirt
 - a. Worn under the coat and suspenders
5. Brogans
 - a. Leather shoes of the day.
6. Kepi hat
7. Belt
 - a. Used to hold the cap pouch and the bayonet scabbard (not included in the trunk).

b. The belt was worn over the cartridge box.

8. Belt plate

a. The metal belt plate with CS on the front (CS stands for Confederate States)

9. Cap Pouch

a. Worn on the right front hip.

b. Holds primers for percussion muskets/rifles/rifled muskets.

10. Cartridge box

a. Used to carry up to forty rounds (cartridges).

b. Worn with the box on the right hip and the strap over the left shoulder. Strap generally worn under the belt.

11. Canteen

a. Used to carry water.

b. Worn over left hip, strap around right shoulder.

12. Haversack

a. The haversack was worn over the left hip with the strap around the right shoulder.

b. The haversack carried personal items and food.

c. Items in the haversack:

i. Tin cup

1. Used for drinking (coffee) but also for cooking/boiling water over the fire and for digging into the ground when a shovel was needed but not readily available.

ii. Tin plate

1. Used for eating but also for cooking over the fire.

iii. Fork/knife

1. Used for eating

iv. Candle

1. Used for light in camp.

v. Housewife

1. Sewing kit used to make repairs to clothing items.
2. Contained items like needles, pins, thread and buttons.

vi. Toilet paper

1. Self-explanatory...
2. If they did not have toilet paper many would use leaves, newspapers, letter paper or any other item they could find.

3. Penny Whistle

- a. Music was a popular pastime in camp.

vii. Toothbrush

1. Used for dental hygiene.
2. Civil War soldiers were required to have at least some teeth because firing the small arms weapons of the day required tearing a paper cartridge before loading.

viii. Playing cards

1. Civil War soldiers spent a majority of their time in camp.
2. Drilling and other military duties were required but entertainment in the form of cards, music and sport was common.