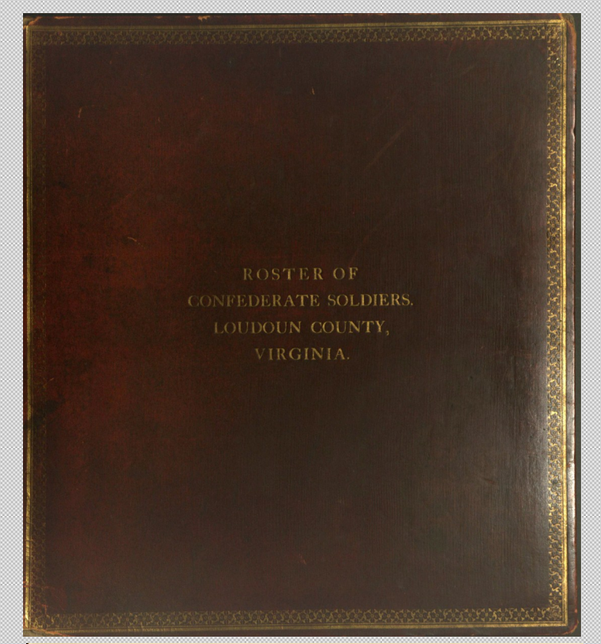

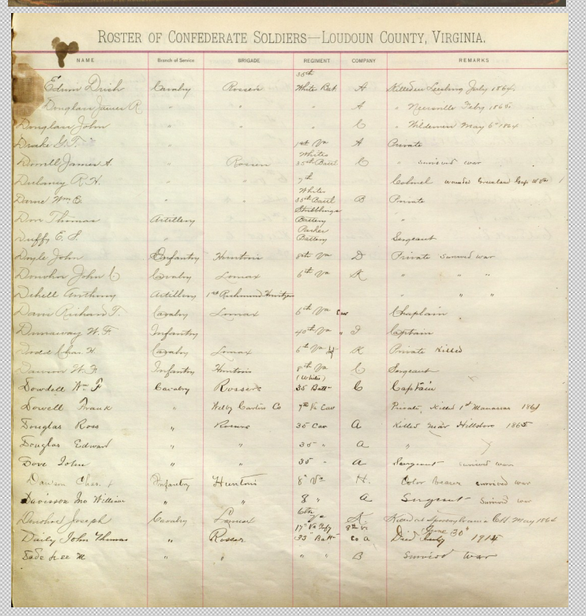

Gary Clemens Clerk of the Circuit Court

Clerk of the Circuit Court Historic Document Nominated as an Endangered Artifact

Loudoun County Clerk of the Circuit Court Gary M. Clemens is pleased to announce that The Roster of Confederate Soldiers for Loudoun County, which is retained in the historic records library in the office of the clerk of the circuit court was nominated as one of Virginia's Top Ten Endangered Artifacts.

The Roster of Confederate Soldiers for Loudoun County was purchased for $4.25 in 1896, by W. Dade Hempstone, Clerk of the Circuit Court from 1894-1918. A 1916 newspaper article, found inside the roster, states that Mr. Hempstone purchased the book at his own expense. The roster was intended for soldiers and family members of soldiers to enter the name, rank, branch of service, brigade or company and other information such as battles, wounds and cause of death. Hempstone may have been the first entry in the roster. His entry states he joined the Army of Northern Virginia in September 1864 at the age of 16 as a courier for the Inspector-General. The first names were added in 1896 and the last name was entered in 1978. A total of 525 soldiers, whose ranks range from private to general and include a few surgeons, are entered on 53 pages within the roster. Most entries include the names of soldiers who fought in the Battle of Balls Bluff (Leesburg) 1861, the Battle of First Manassas, the Battle of Gettysburg, the Brandy Station campaign and the Spotsylvania campaign. The roster reveals that a variety of injuries the soldiers suffered in battle from a simple battle wound to losing an arm or leg.

Support The Roster – by voting from August 4th – August 23rd in *Virginia's Top Ten Endangered Artifacts* by scanning the QR code or go to www.vatop10artifacts.org

Nominations will be reviewed by an independent panel of collections and conservation experts, and Top 10 honorees, as well as a "People's Choice" honoree, will be announced September 9th. The public voting will be considered by the panel as they make their final selections.

Virginia's TOP 10 ENDANGERED ARTIFACTS

Virginia's Top 10 Endangered Artifacts is a program of the Virginia Association of Museums (VAM). VAM is the resource network of the Virginia and Washington DC museum community, providing education, technical assistance, and advocacy.

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION of MUSEUMS