

DeKalb History Center

Jacob Wheeler Collection

Scope and Content: The Jacob Wheeler Collection has biographical information, artifacts and correspondence relating to the disinterment of confederate soldier Jacob Wheeler in the late 1970s and the 1980 dedication of the bridge over Interstate 20 where he had been originally buried. There are programs from dedication and memorial programs, proof sheets of the actual disinterment and newspaper clippings.

Provenance: Gift of Herbert O. Edwards, 1979. Accession # 1979.41

Access: Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citation should be as follows:

Description of specific item; Jacob Wheeler Collection, DeKalb History Center Archives

Processed by Jill Sweetapple, Archivist, 2010.

Size: 1 document box, 1 artifacts box

Biographical Sketch of Jacob Wheeler: Private Jacob R. Wheeler of the 5th Georgia Cavalry, was killed in battle on September 28, 1864 and was buried near present day Columbia Drive and Interstate 20. He was one of nine children of Jacob and Mary Wheeler. His grave was found in 1938 and given a retaining wall, but Columbia Drive widening necessitated that Wheeler's grave be moved all together. He now is buried in the family plot in Hinesville, Georgia.

Description: There is a comprehensive biography folder for him compiled by Joan H. Young in 1978. His collection has a pocketknife, coffin nails, and jacket buttons. Newspaper articles chronicle his disinterment and reburial. Articles on the dedication of the Wheeler Bridge and the memorial service for him are also included.

Subject Headings: Where possible, Library of Congress Subject Headings have been used.

Main Entry: Wheeler, Jacob R. (1844-1864)

Subject/Added Entries: Civil War, U. S., 1861-1865

Folder List

Box	Folder	Contents	Dates
1	1	Correspondence	1975-1980
	2	Grave data	
	3	<i>The History and Archaeology of a Civil War Soldier</i>	1981
	4	Memorials and Dedications	1977-1980
	5	Newspaper clippings	1978-1992
	6	Proof sheets of disinterment	
	7	Joan H. Young manuscript <i>Jacob R. Wheeler Confederate Soldier Killed on September 28, 1864 Near Decatur, Georgia</i>	1978

Items recovered from Jacob Wheeler grave pit in 1979 reside in museum storage.

Eagle Infantry Buttons
 Eagle Rifle Button
 Milk Glass Shirt Button
 Bone Handle Pocket Knife
 Carved Minnie Ball Nipple Protector
 Whole Nails and Heads; Fragments
 Coffin Wood Fragments
 Black Chert Flakes