



## Press Release

Wednesday, November 19, 2008  
Texas State Library and Archives Commission  
Derick Hackett, Communications Officer  
(512) 463-5514, dhackett@tsl.state.tx.us

# TSLAC online exhibit “Under the Rebel Flag: Life in Texas During the Civil War” now available

AUSTIN, Texas – The Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) released its newest online exhibit titled “*Under the Rebel Flag: Life in Texas During the Civil War*,” at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/civilwar/index.html>.

The exhibit begins with the story of Texans who voted decisively to secede from the Union to join the Confederacy in 1861, after fighting previously for annexation to the United States. It chronicles Texas life from the embattled cotton port of Galveston to besieged Indian frontier and from the Louisiana border to the Rio Grande. The exhibit tells how Texans would spend the desperate, hard and bitter years learning the reality of life under the rebel flag, during the Civil War.

“The primary source of the exhibit documents comes from the records of the governors and from adjutant general state military records,” said Liz Clare, TSLAC digital imaging specialist who coordinated the exhibit. “These records are packed with correspondence of both government officials and ordinary citizens dealing with unimaginable problems such as the draft, hunger and lynching. Texas is often portrayed as a backwater in the war, but nothing could be further from the truth.”

The exhibit features digital images of the original photographs, manuscripts, letters and documents that authenticate the lives of Texans from the pre-Civil War days; to secession and joining the Confederacy; to the collapse of Confederacy currency; to widespread misery leading up to the last battles of the Civil War; and ending with the ruinous tolls that Texans paid for joining the war as reconstruction begins.

“The Texas State Archives has such a wealth of information about the war and how it affected ordinary citizens in Texas,” said Clare.

TSLAC’s online exhibits are designed to communicate and expand the awareness of its historical collections in the archives and to showcase Texas history.

Other TSLAC online exhibits include *Hard Road to Texas: Texas Annexation 1836-1845*; *Triumph and Tragedy: Presidents of the Republic of Texas*; *Votes For Women!*; *Indian Relations in Texas*; and *Forever Free: Nineteenth Century African-American Legislators and Constitutional Convention Delegates of Texas*.

These and other TSLAC online exhibits can be freely accessed by the general public at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/exhibits/>.

Lorenzo de Zavala  
State Archives and  
Library Building

P.O. Box 12927  
Austin, Texas  
78711-2927

1201 Brazos St.  
Austin, Texas  
78701

[www.tsl.state.tx.us](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us)

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