




DISCOVERING
THE CIVIL WAR



A new traveling exhibit from the
National Archives

Enclosures

Goals

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

- To peel back 150 years of accumulated myths and punditry to reveal a Civil War that is little known.
- To present the most extensive display ever assembled from the National Archives' incomparable Civil War holdings.
- To give visitors the chance to walk in the shoes of researchers, unlock secrets, solve mysteries, and uncover unexpected events in our records.

Scope

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

Part A:

- Breaking Apart
- Raising Armies
- Finding Leaders
- We Were There
- A Local Fight
- A Global War

Part B:

- Surviving the War?
- Invention and Enterprise
- Spying
- Emancipation
- The Continuing Struggle
- Memories

The exhibit is unconventional in every way. It will be thematic, not chronological. Rather than following a story arc from Sumter to Appomatox – it deals with topics like, “how do you raise an army?”, “how do you find leaders?”, “what happens after a battle?”, and “what was the global impact of the war?”

As a traveling exhibit, “Discovering the Civil War” will be displayed at 5-6,000 sq. ft. At the National Archives, where our O’Brien Gallery is roughly 3,000 sq. ft, we extend the engagement over nearly a year, showing “Beginnings” in Part A followed by “Consequences” in Part B.

Discover

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

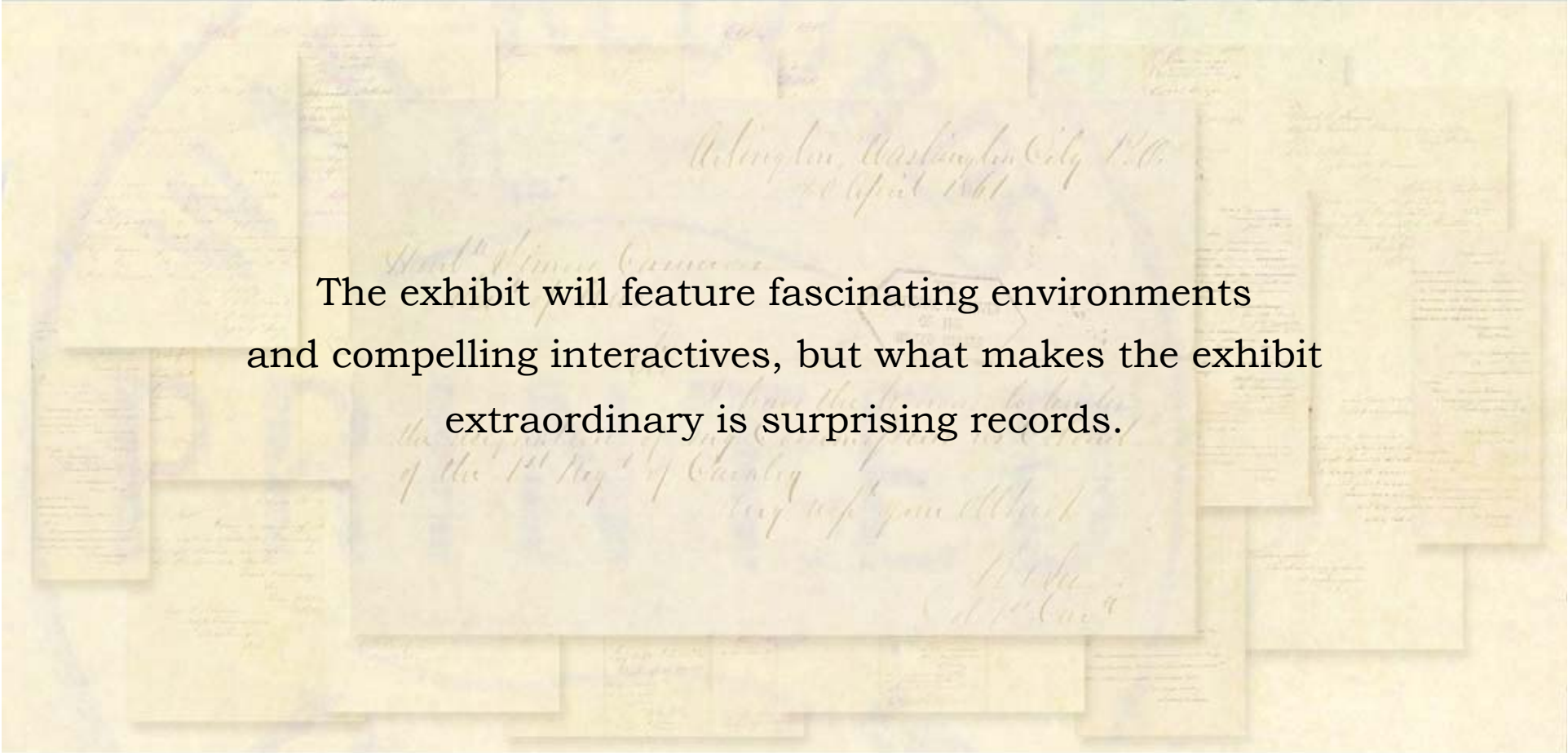


Visitors will experience an engaging media presentation of an archivist in the stacks, inviting them to join her in making discoveries in the records of the National Archives.

Promising that there's more to the story of the Civil War than they learned in school, she pulls out a wide variety of records that relate to the different themes of the exhibit and places them into the "current" overhead, a dynamic display which runs throughout. Visitors are encouraged to explore these interactive records as they begin their own journey of Discovering the Civil War.

Great Records

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR



The exhibit will feature fascinating environments and compelling interactives, but what makes the exhibit extraordinary is surprising records.

Outsourcing 1862

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

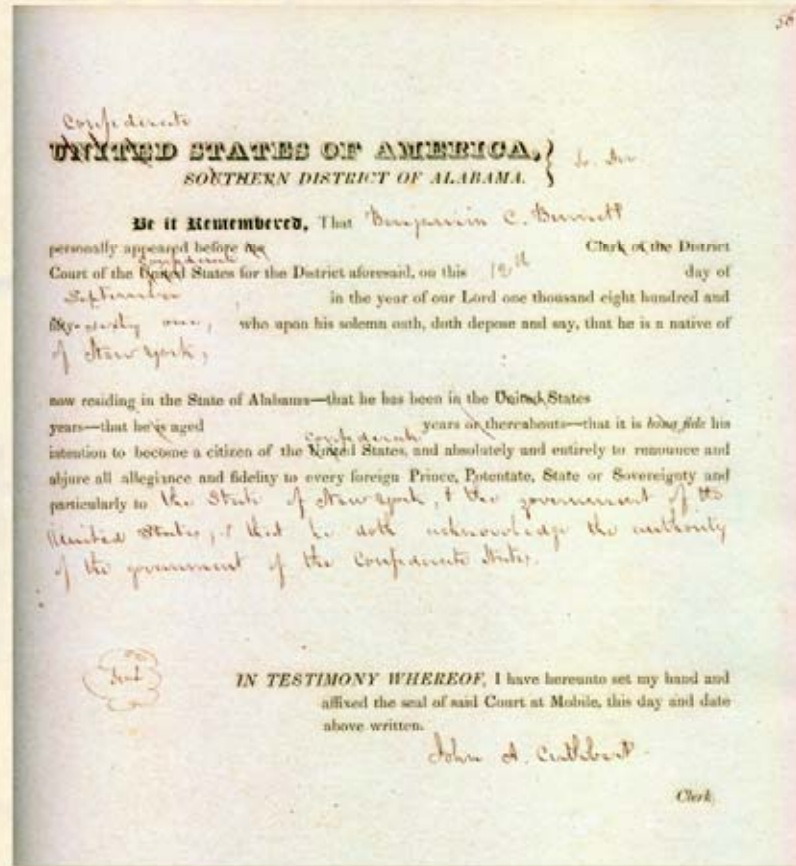
To Hon. Edwin M. Stanton
Secy of War

We the undersigned formerly ^{employed} sewing,
for the United States Arsenal at Philadelphia,
most respectfully remonstrate against the action
of Col. Crossman, in taking the work from,
us and giving it to Contractors who will not
pay wages on which we can live - many of us
have husbands, fathers, sons & brothers now
in the Army, and from whom we derived our
support - deprived of that as we are, our only
mode of living was by sewing and we were able
by unceasing exertions to barely live at the
prices paid by the Arsenal - the Contractors

Here, the Ladies of the Philadelphia arsenal complain to the Secretary of War that since he outsourced their sewing jobs to a private company, their wages have been cut in half - and with their husbands away at war, they don't know how they will survive.

A Yankee No More

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR



Visitors will encounter this naturalization oath administered in 1861 in Alabama, hastily improvised by crossing out “United” and writing in “Confederate” States.

The “country” the immigrant hails from happens to be “New York.”

Avoid the draft! Join the Navy!

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

THE CONSCRIPT BILL! HOW TO AVOID IT!!

U. S. NAVY.

1,000 MEN WANTED, FOR 12 MONTHS!

| | | |
|---|--------|------------|
| Seamen's Pay. | 818.00 | per month. |
| Ordinary Seamen's Pay. | 14.00 | " " |
| Landmen's Pay. | 12.00 | " " |
| 81.50 extra per month to all, Grog Money. | | |

\$50,000,000 PRIZES!

Already captured, a large share of which is awarded to Ships Crews. The laws for the distributing of Prize money carefully protect the rights of all the officers.

petty OFFICERS.—Promotions.—Seamen have a chance for promotion to the offices of Master at Arms, Boatswain's Mate, Quarter Masters, Captain of Top, Foremast, Middle, Afterguard, etc.
Landmen may be advanced to Ammunition Mates, Carpenter's Mate, Sailmaker's Mate, Painter, Cooper, etc.
PAY OF petty OFFICERS.—From \$20.00 to \$45.00 per month.
CHANCES FOR WARRANTS, BOUNTIES AND MEDALS OF HONOR.—All those who distinguish themselves in battle or by extraordinary service, may be promoted to higher Warrant Offices or Acting Master's Mate, and upon their promotion receive a quantity of \$500, with a medal of honor from their country.
All who wish may leave **HELP PAY** with their families, to commence from date of enlistment.
Men must have a written consent, sworn to before a Justice of the Peace.

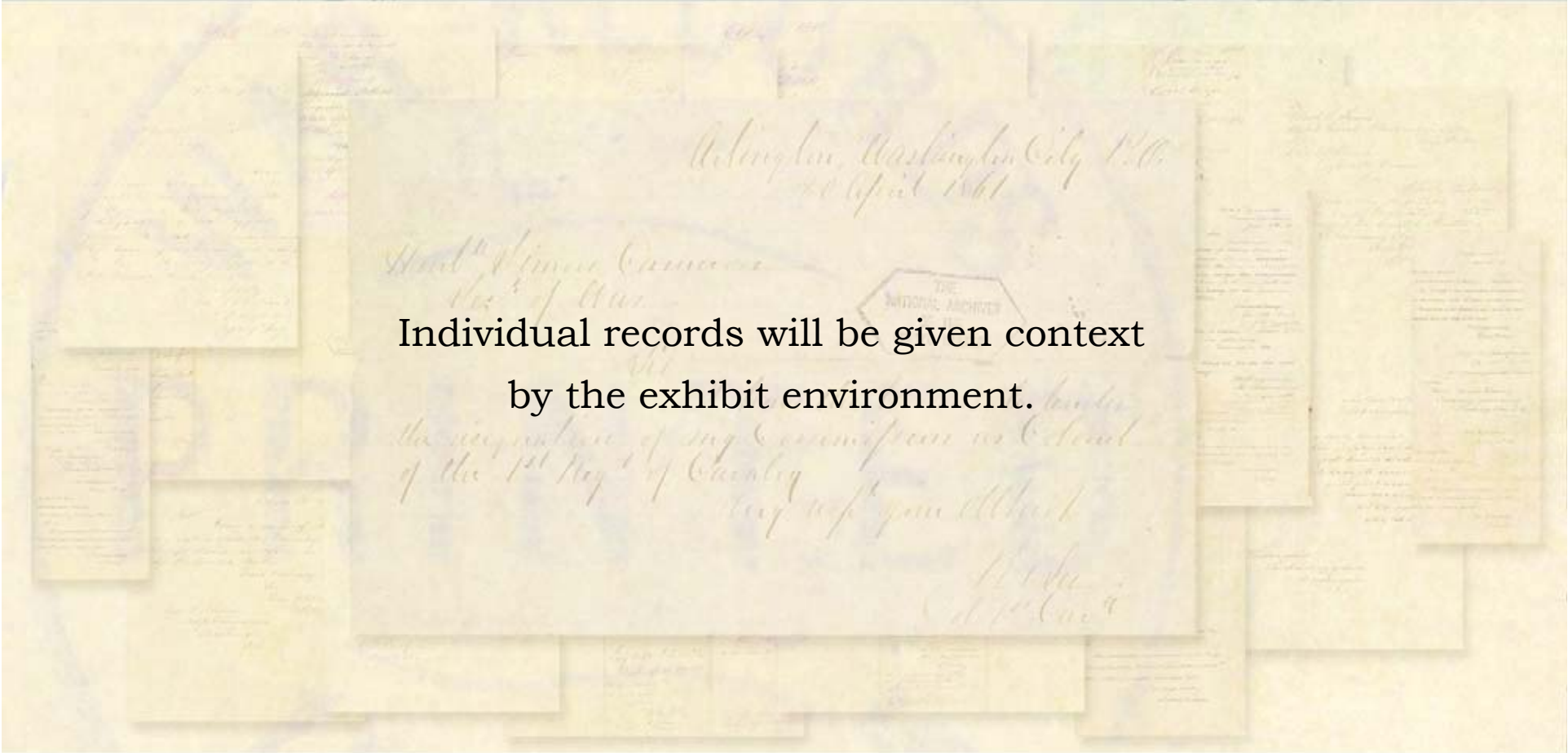
For further information apply to **U. S. NAVAL RENDEZVOUS,**
E. Y. BUTLER, U. S. N. Recruiting Officer,
No. 14 FRONT STREET, SALEM, MASS.

FROM WHEAT & POTTER'S MARINE PRINTING ESTABLISHMENT, 26 & 28 STATE LANE, CORNER OF BEVERLY STREET.

In this poster, the U.S. Navy tells men how to avoid service in the U.S. Army. The Navy seems to promise \$50,000,000 in prizes from captured vessels. But notice the small print, “already awarded.”

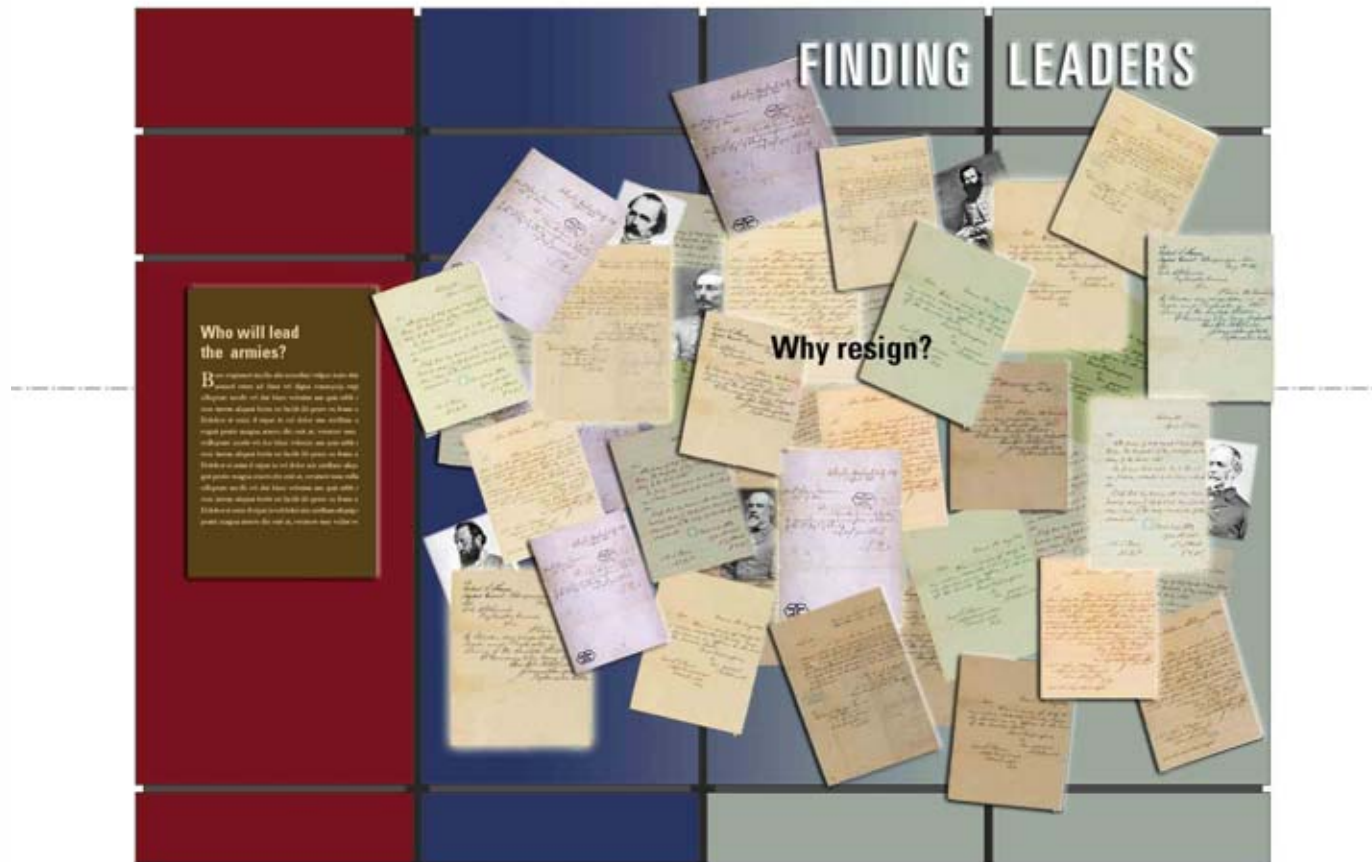
Immersive Environments

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR



Individual records will be given context
by the exhibit environment.

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR



Here a facsimile of Lee's resignation sits atop a pile of other resignations of officers and West Point cadets at the beginning of the War. It is our introduction to the topic of "Finding Leaders."

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR



The theme, "We Were There," introduces visitors to some unexpected participants in the war efforts, not only the previously mentioned Philadelphia Arsenal workers, but also Emma Seely - whose pension file in the National Archives states that she was known to her fellow soldiers as Frank - until her secret was revealed.

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR



We also deal with unexpected places – for example we suspect most visitors won't realize that the Japanese Shogun's government was waiting for delivery of an American-manufactured warship released only as our conflict was ending and Japan's Civil War was beginning.

Compelling Interactives

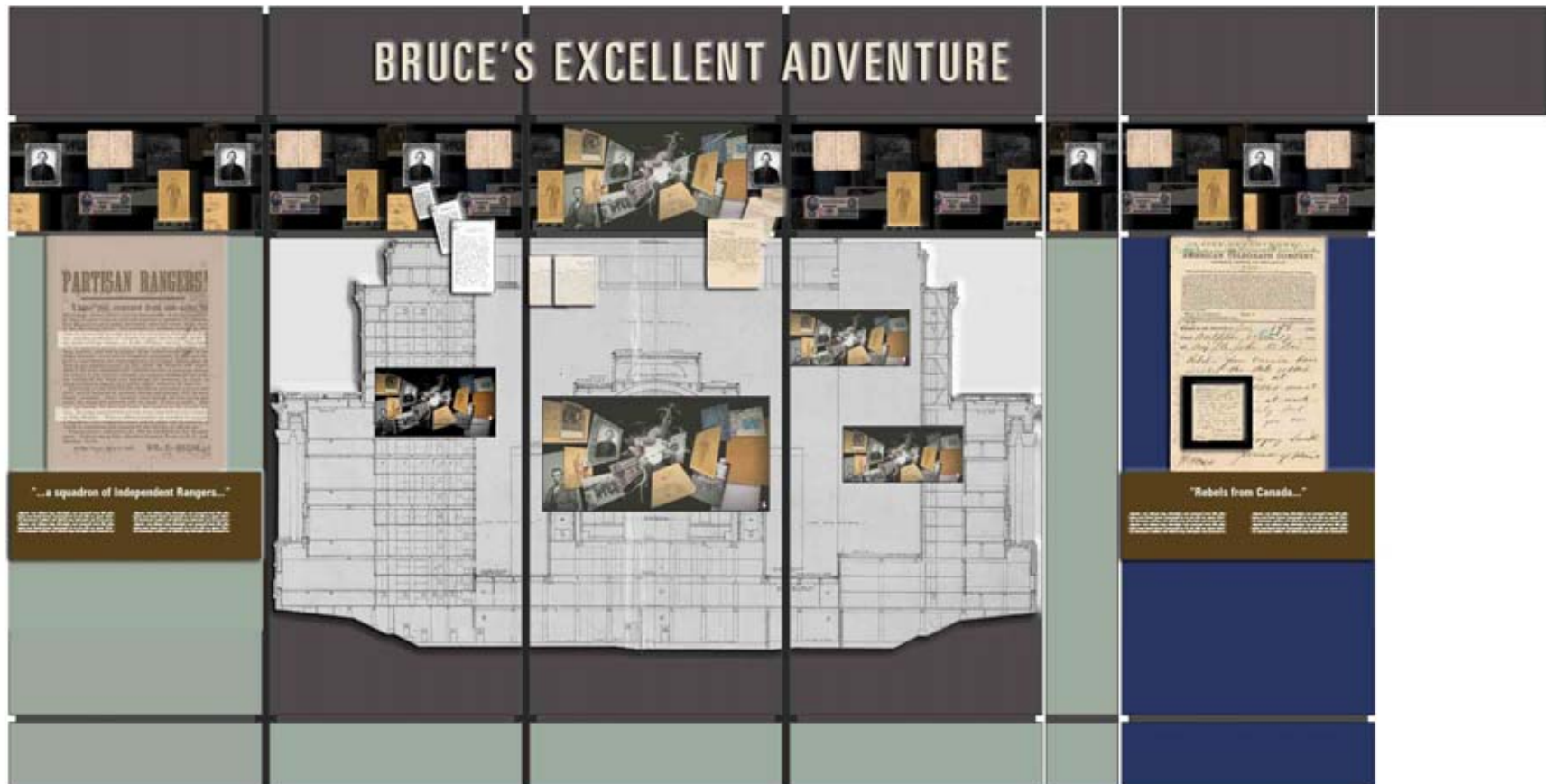
DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

Our interactives have been designed to fulfill our promise that, rather than trying to recreate 1860, we will let visitors see the war through the lenses of 2010 technology.

Notice the current of records at the top of the following elevations.

It will run throughout the exhibit. Visitors will be able to reach into the current and pull out records for closer examination or to launch an interactive.

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR



In the "Local Fight" area, an interactive invites visitors to join a real life story of searching through the stacks on the trail of a cryptic notation about hostage executions.

Follow our curator through a remarkable account of vengeance, technology, and Abraham Lincoln's prudent judgment.

Fact Sheet

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

- 5,000 to 6,000 sq. ft.
- Opens in Washington, DC, O'Brien Gallery – April 2010
- Eight National venues – Memorial Day, 2011 thru New Year's Day, 2014
- Venue length: about 3 months
- In addition to the exhibition, there will be a catalogue, an education package, and a dynamic website.

Become Involved

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

THE FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

JOIN US.

Bring to life the original records of the American Civil War. Help create DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR.

The National Archives is diving through the stacks, opening Hollinger boxes, and untying the red tape to find the most fascinating, thought-provoking, and moving records- records that will inspire discoveries for visitors nationwide, from new audiences to period scholars.

The Foundation for the National Archives, with help from you, will enable the design, fabrication, and tour of the interactive framework which will invite Americans from coast to coast to use these records to “Discover the Civil War.”

Become Involved

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

Pledge your support now to ensure the creation of a state-of-the-art, innovative exploration of the Civil War. Participate in the national recognition marking the 150th anniversary by supporting this important traveling exhibition and its companion educational activities, public programs, publications, and online initiatives.

You- or your company, or your foundation- can become a major partner in DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR.

Contact- To make a contribution or to get more information:

Stefanie Mathew, Director of Development

Foundation for the National Archives

(202) 357-5946

foundation.members@nara.gov

700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Rm. G12

Washington, DC 20408

Contact Information

DISCOVERING THE CIVIL WAR

Potential Venues:

Contact- For More Information:

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National Archives Experience (NWE)

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Washington, DC 20408