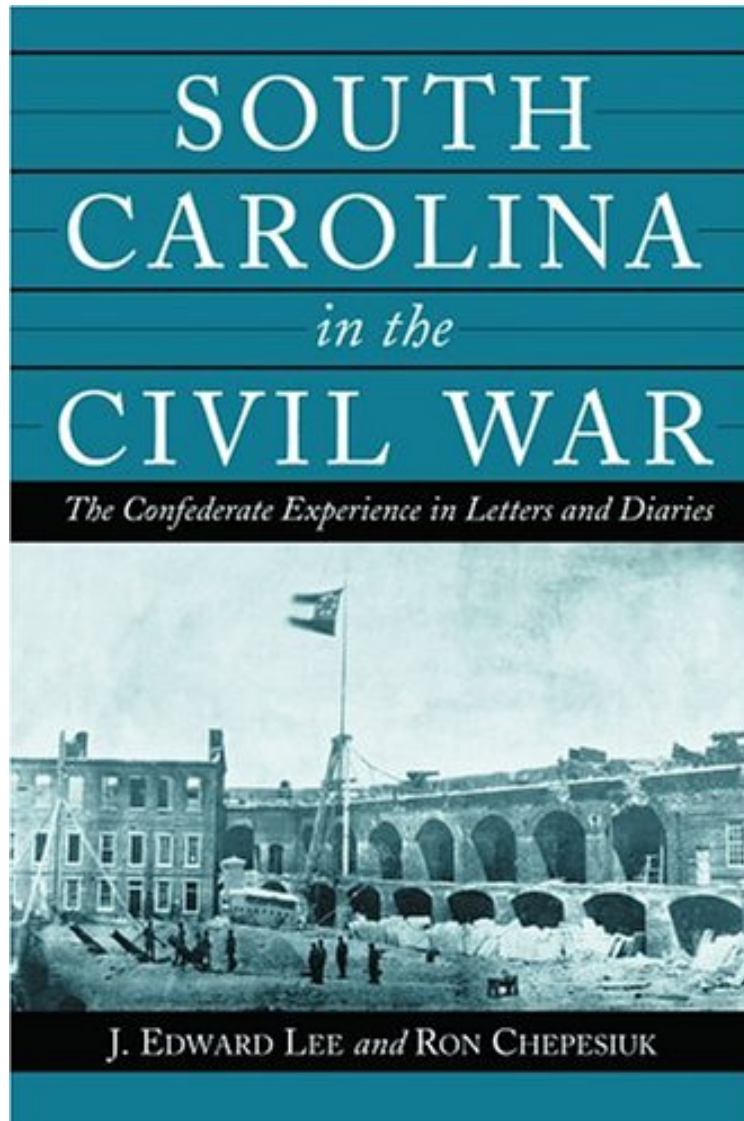


South Carolina in the Civil War: The Confederate Experience in Letters and Diaries

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Book Review Edward Lee and Ron Chepesiuk collaborate to compile Confederate experiences recorded in letters and diaries in their superbly history, *South Carolina In The Civil War*. Seventeen accounts provide us insights into the lives of a Confederate spy, a German immigrant, the voices of ordinary women, and common men whose love for their state led them to risk their lives and liberties in its defense during the harrowing years of the American civil war. Highly recommended for academic collections and Civil War buffs, the informative, engaging text is enhanced with photographs of many of the contributors, along with maps placing events in context.

Although modern authors continually produce important studies of the War Between the States, the firsthand accounts of those who were in the conflict remain the most valuable tools for understanding. This collection of letters and diaries provides glimpses into the lives of a diverse group of South Carolinians. Among the seventeen accounts are the voices of women, including a Confederate spy; of officers like Captain Obidiah Hardin, who left his beloved Palmetto State to fight and die in Virginia before the war was even a year old; and of common men, like German immigrant Augustus Franks, whose love for his adopted state compelled him to staunchly defend the Confederacy. Collected from the archives of Winthrop University, these remarkable documents give voices and faces to the war as it affected South Carolina and her citizens.

From Booklist These eyewitness accounts of the vagaries of total warfare documents the reactions of a representative group of South Carolinians to the hardships of the home front and the horrors of the battlefield during the Civil War. These poignant letters and diaries offer a compelling glimpse into the hearts and minds of 17 Confederate citizens, from the glory days of Fort Sumter to the death knell of the Southern cause signaled by Sherman's physically and emotionally devastating march into Columbia, South Carolina. Officers, enlisted men, and the women they left behind to tend the farms and raise the children give voice to the confusion and chaos wrought by armed conflict. Especially noteworthy are the reminiscences and letters of two native Southern women trapped on Union soil for the duration of the hostilities. This soul-stirring chronicle of the desires and the frustrations of both soldiers and civilians is recommended for larger Civil War collections. Margaret Flanagan Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "compelling...recommended"--Booklist; "interesting...expertly annotated"--Blue Gray; "an engaging, well-edited series of writings by men and women who experienced the war firsthand"--North South; "highly recommended...informative"--Midwest Book .About the Author J. Edward Lee is the coauthor of *Nixon, Ford and the Abandonment of South Vietnam* (2002) and teaches history at Winthrop University. He lives in York, South Carolina. Ron Chepesiuk is a professor and head of special collections at Winthrop University. He is also the author of *Sixties Radicals, Then and Now* (1995), *Raising Hell* (1997), *Hard Target* (1999) and *The Scotch-Irish* (2000). He lives in Rock Hill, South Carolina.