MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS
Spanish-American War Collection

Abstract: Digital scans of 25 glass plates taken at various locations during the Spanish-American War and Philippine-American War.

Extent: 138 unique images, 175 scans

Physical Description: Digital photographs

Location: Missouri State Archives; Stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Alternative Formats: None

Access Restrictions: Five images have graphic content – see below

Publication Restrictions: Include a line, “Courtesy of the Missouri Military Museum”

Preferred Citation: [description of item], [date]; Spanish-American War Collection, Record Group 998.497; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Loaned for scanning; Accession #2018-0059

Processing Information: Initial processing completed by EW on 03/14/2019

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Spanish-American War (1898):
“Reports of Spanish brutality in Cuba led many Missourians to support a war with Spain in 1898. The sinking of the battleship Maine in Havana Harbor on February 15, 1898, only strengthened the support, as cries of ‘Remember the Maine!’ echoed across the country and jingoistic politicians and yellow journalists urged a free Cuba.

“Our April 25, the United States Congress declared war on Spain. Missouri was asked to provide five regiments of infantry and one battery of light artillery. Inadequate appropriations made it difficult to camp, feed, clothe, and equip the men. Governor Lon Stephens’s determination to be
fiscally responsible left the soldiers with leaky tents, insufficient bedding, and worn-out uniforms before the official call to mobilize. However, because the war lasted less than four months, none of these state troops saw action. Battery A of light artillery was sent to Puerto Rico as part of the First Army Corps, but arrived as the armistice was being announced. The Sixth Volunteer Regiment, organized after President William McKinley’s second call for troops, arrived in Havana in December to assist with the occupation of Cuba, and served there for three months.

“Over 8000 Missourians served in the state’s National Guard; none were killed in enemy action, although there were many deaths from accidents and disease. Approximately 3500 Missourians volunteered in the regular armed forces; over half enlisted in the Army.

“Individual Missourians in the regular Army and Navy saw action, though, in Cuba and the Philippines at San Juan Hill and Manila Bay, respectively. Several companies of an African American regiment, known as the ‘Seventh Regiment of Immunes,’ were raised in Missouri and sent to Georgia for training before being mustered out in February 1899. Some Missouri women who volunteered for nursing service were sent to Santiago. Over $500,000 worth of Missouri mules and horses were purchased for Army use.”

(copied from the Archives’ website https://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/soldiers/abstract)

Philippine-American War / Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902):
With the Spanish defeated and the Treaty of Paris signed in December 1898, the Philippine Islands were turned over from Spain to the United States. Filipinos had just finished fighting the Spanish for their independence and were not happy to be under yet another country’s rule. They declared War on the United States in early 1899. The Philippine-American War would last three years with the Americans coming out as victors. Missouri General John J. Pershing would be an important figure in the Philippine Insurrection.

The Philippines would not gain independence from the United States until 1946.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Related Collections

RG133 Adjutant General (service cards, muster rolls and trust fund documents)
RG550 Missouri General Assembly

History of the Sixth Regiment Missouri Volunteer Infantry by the Missouri Pacific Iron Mountain Railway, found on the Reference Room military shelf.

A Partial Listing of Veterans of the American Revolution, the Civil War, and the Spanish-American War Buried in Certain Missouri Cemeteries, Covering Parts of Johnson and Hickory County, on the Reference Room military shelf.
Partial Listing of Veterans of the Civil War and Spanish-American War Buried in Linn County, Kansas, on the Reference Room military shelf.


Spanish-American War Biography and Service Record Index, on the Reference Room military shelf.

Look for Missouri Spanish-American War soldiers in our online soldiers’ database here: https://s1.sos.mo.gov/records/archives/archivesdb/soldiers/.

Additional External Resources

From The State Historical Society of Missouri in Columbia:
#K0035 Rosa Barker Papers
#K0846 Samuel William James Collection
#P0976 Mrs. Walter V. Lemon Photograph Collection
#R1096 United Spanish War Veterans, Dept. of Missouri Booklet, 1940


SERIES

Glass Plate Scans, 1898-1900

Scope and Content

Digital scans of 25 glass plates taken at various locations during the Spanish-American War and Philippine-American War. Each 8x10 plate has six unique images. There are two duplicate plates, making the total unique images 138. The glass plates were loaned to the Archives for scanning by the Missouri Military Museum. The plates were returned to the MMM per the loan agreement. MSA kept a copy of the digital scans, which is what this series contains.

Many of the plates have damaged emulsion, so not all images are fully there. The plates are a mixture of positives/transparencies (15) and negatives (10). The negatives were typically the ones with location labels. The plates are gelatin dry plate transparencies and negatives made with a camera with sliding apertures.

One of the images is captioned “Hawthorn’s Battery.” This is likely the 6th U.S. Artillery, Hawthorne’s Battery named for 1st Lt. Harry Leroy Hawthorne. His unit came out of California. A passport application he filled out in 1919 states that he was in the Philippines from June 1898 through June 1900.

There is no known Missouri connection to these images, except that the glass plates were found in an attic in Clinton, Henry County, Missouri. The homeowner wishes to remain anonymous. The images are primarily of Filipino families, American soldiers, and ships. However, patrons should be aware that certain images contain graphic content of dead bodies or bones. These are images M018-022-0014, M018-022-0014C, M018-022-0014E, M018-022-0025 and M018-022-0025F. Use discretion.

Locations mentioned in the captions are:
Mare Island = Naval Installation in CA, USA
“Hon” = Honolulu, HI, USA
Oahu = HI, USA
Culiculi = Rizal, Philippines
Manila = Philippines Capital
“Caululut” = Calulut, Pampanga, Philippines
Pueblo Hinoba = Hinoba-an, Negros Occidental, Philippines?
Malibay Road = Philippines
Cavite P.I. = Cavite Peninsula, Philippines?
Pasig = Pasig Bay, Philippines?

One set of these 800dpi tiffs can be found on the Z Drive. A Reference copy of Manuscript DVD #8 is pending.

Container List
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