

Civil War documents being collected for project

By [STAFF](#)

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As Nelson and Amherst counties among others throughout Virginia prepare to observe the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission and the Library of Virginia have created a statewide online collection of original Civil War manuscripts that still remain in private hands.

The Civil War 150 Legacy Project: Document Digitization and Access focuses on manuscript materials created from 1859 to 1867 that reflect social, political, military, business and religious life in Virginia during the period of the Civil War and the early period of Reconstruction.

Residents are encouraged to bring original family materials to be scanned and included in the project. Scanned materials will be made available on the Web via the Library of Virginia website and the Virginia Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War Commission website.

Civil War 150 Legacy Project staff members will visit Nelson County from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Nelson County Visitors Center at 8519 Thomas Nelson Highway, Lovingston.

Appointments are encouraged and a limited number of walk-ins will be accommodated. Call (434) 263-7015 to schedule an appointment

The Civil War 150 Legacy Project is a multiyear initiative to find, digitize and provide worldwide access to the private documentary heritage of the American Civil War era from throughout Virginia. Utilizing local sesquicentennial committees already established by the Virginia Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and through a partnership with the Library of Virginia and a network of statewide connections, the Civil War 150 Legacy Project will provide individuals an opportunity to have historic letters, diaries and other collections scanned to preserve their valuable intellectual content.

The Library of Virginia, www.lva.virginia.gov, in Richmond holds the world's most extensive collection of material about the Old Dominion and has been a steward of the commonwealth's documentary and printed heritage since 1823. The story of Virginia and Virginians has been told in many ways since 1607. At the Library of Virginia, it is told through nearly 113 million manuscripts and more than 1.9

million books, serials, bound periodicals, microfilm reels, newspapers and state and federal documents.

For more information, call Maureen Kelly, director of Nelson County economic development and tourism, at (434) 263-7015 or visit www.nelsoncounty.com.