

Honor the Colors: Iowa
Battle Flag Project

<http://www.iowaflags.org>

2001.71.66

3rd Iowa Infantry

NE Case, Iowa Capitol

January 15, 2010

Object No: 2001.71.66

Title: National, 3rd Iowa
Infantry

Date: 1863-1864, Civil War

Status: Veteran Volunteer
unit

Material: cloth (silk, cotton);
pigment

Size: 72"H x 76.75"W; 1.75"L
fringe

Active Service Dates: June
8, 1861 to July 12, 1865

Allegiance: Union

Branch: Infantry

Military Engagements:
Battle of Shiloh, Battle of the
Hatchie, Siege of Vicksburg,
Siege of Jackson, Red River
Campaign, Battle of Kennesaw
Mountain, Battle of Atlanta

**Killed in Action or Died of
Wounds:** 8 officers, 119
enlisted men

Died of Disease: 122 enlisted
men

Commanders: Colonel
Nelson G. Williams, Lieutenant
Colonel John Scott

Length of Conservation:
4.5 months, 640 hours



Before Conservation

After Conservation



2001.71.66 A Brief History of the 3rd Iowa Infantry Flag

The flag displayed here honors the 3rd Iowa Infantry. Hand-sewn from silk, the flag accompanied the regiment through many years of fighting. The name of the "3rd Regiment Iowa Infantry Veteran Volunteers" is proudly displayed in the center of the flag. The term "Veteran" refers to the fact that 75% of the regiment re-enlisted after their first period of enlistment expired.

The battles that the regiment fought are painted on the flag – the name of each conflict was most probably added to the flag shortly after the battle by the soldiers themselves.

This flag hung in the halls of the Iowa state capitol building in Des Moines from 1904 to 2004. With this tribute, the people of Iowa honored their citizen soldiers, but the century of exposure to light, heat, and smoke

took a harsh toll on the flag. In 2007, the flag was carefully restored and mounted in a special frame. Thus protected, the flag displays for all history the honor of the 3rd Iowa Infantry – their courage, their sacrifice, and their victory.