

C Hinrichs, Charles F. (1828-1902), Papers, 1862-1902
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INTRODUCTION

Papers and records of a German American who lived in Cape Girardeau and Butler Counties in Missouri. Records concern Hinrichs's Civil War service in Company L, 10th Missouri Volunteer Cavalry. Other papers document his agricultural interests, the Seventh Day Adventist Church, and his efforts to establish a German colony at Carola, Butler County, Missouri.

DONOR INFORMATION

The Hinrichs Papers were loaned to the University of Missouri for copying by Lincoln Hinrichs on 8 September 1959 (Accession No. 3413). The collection is part of the German Heritage Archives

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Charles F. Hinrichs was born in Warin, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, to C.D. and Louise Priester Hinrichs on 15 February 1828. At the age of sixteen he immigrated to America. Hinrichs returned to Germany in 1847 in order to bring his family to Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

In 1861 Hinrichs married Malinda Maye. She died in 1879, and the next year he married Belle Cook. Hinrichs had four children: Charles Jr., Arvid, Mary, and Lincoln. Hinrichs was a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church and the author of several religious essays and interpretations of scripture, including the pamphlet *Apocalypse Interpreted*.

Hinrichs enlisted in the Missouri State Militia in 1861 and the following year joined Company L, 10th Missouri Volunteer Cavalry as a first lieutenant. He was promoted to captain in August 1863. Following the war Hinrichs settled near Gillis Bluff in southern Butler County.

He engaged in a profitable farming and livestock business and invested in Butler County real estate and mining interests. In 1879, Hinrichs retired and moved to Poplar Bluff, Missouri, where he resided until his death in 1902.

In 1881, Hinrichs persuaded a group of Germans to immigrate to America and settle on his land at Gillis Bluff. The settlement became known as Carola. The colonists established a German newspaper, a postal system, and a sawmill and purchased a steamboat, the Belle of Carola, to run between Carola and Poplar Bluff. The handicaps of inept farming practices, an inadequate drainage system, and recurrent epidemics of malaria led to the demise of Hinrichs's colony.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The bulk of the collection concerns Hinrichs's service as a first lieutenant and captain in Company L, 10th Missouri Volunteer Cavalry. Included are diary entries, a supply account book, a company clothing book, a company descriptive book, morning reports, and a clothing, camp and garrison equipment record. Other diary entries for 1871, 1872 and 1883 refer to Hinrichs's farming interests and his concerns with the German colony at Carola. Also included

are miscellaneous records of lot sales at Carola, Hinrichs's obituary, an unidentified photograph, and a Confederate \$500 bill.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Roll 1 Diary and supply account books, 1 July 1863- 8 May 1865. Earliest entries consist primarily of supplies received and disbursed by Company L, 10th Regiment, Missouri Volunteer Cavalry. Also includes a few copies of official correspondence and reports. Hinrichs's diary entries concern the activities of Company L in Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi, and Missouri. Hinrichs comments on the major battles in the western campaign, Lee's surrender, Lincoln's assassination, the foraging activities of the Union army, the activities of the freed slaves, and the attitudes of the Union soldiers toward blacks, captured Confederate officers, and southern Union sympathizers. Good descriptions of the Alabama, Mississippi and Georgia countryside are included.

Roll 2 Company clothing book, 1862-1865, and diary, 20 October 1871-18 July 1872; 1 August 1883-9 September 1883. The clothing book gives the soldier's name, rank, supplies drawn and a few enlistment records. The 1871 and 1872 diary entries concern Hinrichs's farming interests and the 1883 entries refer mainly to the Carola colony.

Company descriptive book, ca. 1862-1865. Contains lists of commissioned and non-commissioned officers and registers of transfers, discharges, deaths and deserters. Includes biographical information and physical descriptions of the members of Company L. Also included are religious essays, sermons and poetry written by Hinrichs.

Company morning reports, August 1864-May 1865.

Clothing, camp and garrison equipment reports, 1864-1865.

Miscellaneous papers including a record of lot sales at Carola, a trustee's deed under sale for the Saxon Agricultural Manufacturing and Navigation Company, obituaries for Charles F. Hinrichs, an unidentified photograph, and a Confederate \$500 bill.

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