

THE FIELD COAT and **VEST** of **JONATHAN BIGGS**

On display here are the Field Coat and Vest worn by Lt Colonel Jonathan Biggs. There is a puzzle surrounding these garments.

The Family history relates that Biggs was wearing this coat and vest when wounded and left for dead at the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, 8 October 1862. That evening it began to rain and cool, reviving Biggs who made his way back to the Regiment.

Family history says he then sent the coat and vest back to the family for replacement and it remained in the family's possession for many years.

His grandson-in-law related that in later life, Biggs would cough up bits of blue cloth, attributing them to the gunshot to the chest he received at Perryville.

Colonel Biggs was wounded again at the battle of Selma, Alabama, 2 April 1865.

A contemporaneous report from Lt Thomas Bane stated that Biggs received a:

“gunshot wound from the enemy, the ball entering near the left nipple, lodging near the spine.”

There is some speculation as to which wound Biggs suffered is represented by this Field Coat and Vest.