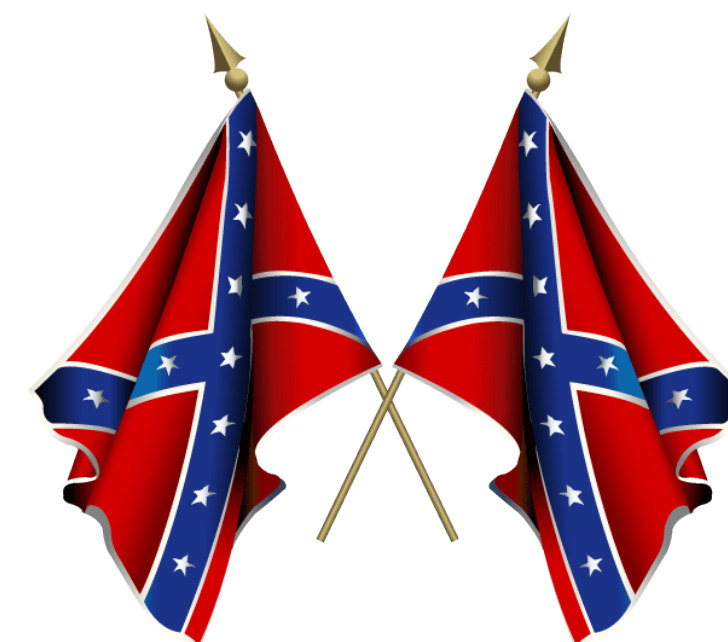




# **MATTOON**

and the

# **CIVIL WAR**



**The American Civil War began on 12 April 1861 with the firing on Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina and effectively ended on 9 April 1865 with General Robert E Lee's surrender to General Ulysses S Grant at Appomattox Courthouse, Virginia.**

**It is said that the American Civil War is the most studied war in history. Some Civil War scholars spend a lifetime studying the Battle of Gettysburg alone.**

**This Center is not intended to offer a complete history of the Civil War, but rather to highlight the unique role Mattoon and its citizens played in the conflict.**

**The genesis for this project was a \$10,000 bequest to the Mattoon Public Library from the estate of Edward A Ward, who was born and raised in Mattoon and had a lifelong interest in the Civil War. He stipulated that the Library was to use the funds to acquire Civil War related materials.**