

U.S. Army Military History Institute
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Flags

UNITED STATES NATIONAL FLAG

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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GENERAL SOURCES

- Canby, George. The Evolution of the American Flag. Phila: Ferris & Learch, 1909. 144 p.
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- Eggenberger, David. Flags of the U.S.A. NY: Crowell, 1959. 206 p. CR113.E35.
- Furlong, Wm R., & McCandless, Byron. So Proudly We Hail: The History of the United States Flag.
Wash, DC: Smithsonian, 1981. 260 p. CR113.F93.
- Garrison, Myrtle. Stars and Stripes. Caldwell, ID: Caxton, 1941. 176 p. CR113.G3.
Includes forerunners.
- Hamilton, Schuyler. Our National Flag, the Stars and Stripes: Its History in a Century. NY: Lockwood,
1877. 40 p. CR113.H28.
- Hannings, Bud. A Portrait of the Stars and Stripes. 2 vols. Glenside, PA: Seniram, 1988. 430 p.
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- Hicks, Frederick C. The Flag of the United States: Address Delivered by.... Wash, DC: GPO, 1941.
40 p. CR113.H5.

Leepson, Marc. Flag: An American Biography. NY: Thomas Dunne, 2005. 334 p. CR113.L44.

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Includes earliest banners on American soil.

_____. Our Flag: Origin and Progress of the Flag of the United States of America, With an Introductory Account of the Symbols, Standards, Banners and Flags of Ancient and Modern Nations. Albany, NY: Munsell, 1872. 535 p. CR113.P72.

Quaife, Milo M. The Flag of the United States. NY: Grosset & Dunlap, 1942. 210 p. CR113.Q3.

_____, et al. The History of the United States Flag: From the Revolution to the Present, Including a Guide to its Use and Display. NY; Harper, 1961. 182 p. CR113.Q32.

Smith, Whitney. The Flag Book of the United States. NY: Morrow, 1970. 306 p. JC346.Z3.S63.

Thomey, Tedd. Immortal Images: A Personal History of the Two Photographers and the Flag Raising on Iwo Jima. Annapolis, MD: Naval Inst, 1996. 202 p. D810.P4.T46.

U.S. Dept of Army. Our Flag: Department of the Army Pamphlet 360-501, dated Feb 1964. 15 p. MilPub-Pams.

Waldron, William H. Flags of America. Huntington, WV: Standard, 1935. 70 p. CR113.W26.

Weaver, Addie G. The Story of Our Flag, Colonial and National, with Historical Sketches of the Quakeress Betsy Ross. Chicago: By the Author, 1898. 77 p. CR113.W4.

Whipple, Wayne. The Story of the American Flag. Phila: Altemus, 1910. 125 p. CR113.W6.

13-STAR U.S. FLAG

Thirteen-star flags were official from 1777 to 1795. Page 9 of DA Pamphlet 360-501 portrays a widely accepted style. For other styles, consult the book by Grace Cooper, p. 11 of which indicates earliest usage of the 13-star circle in 1792. During the Constitutional period, the common arrangement was either 3-2-3-2-3 or 4-5-4 (see pp. 3 & 10).

For information on the flags actually paraded in Philadelphia at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, see p. 156 of So Proudly We Hail: The History of the United States Flag by William R. Furlong & Byron McCandless (Wash, DC: Smithsonian, 1981, CR113.F93).

Cooper, Grace F. Thirteen Star Flags: Keys to Identification. Wash, DC: : GPO, 1973. 62 p. CR113.C66.

SYMBOLISM

Army Navy Journal. (1 Apr 1917): p. 1047. Per.

Includes information of 5 points of stars.

Campbell, Robert A. Our Flag: Or, the Evolution of the Stars and Stripes: Including the Reason to be of the Design, the Colors and Their Position: Mystic Interpretation.... Chicago: Lawrence, 1890. 128 p. CR113.C35.

Moss, James A. The Flag of the United States: Its History and Symbolism. Wash, DC: US Flag Assn, 1930. 272 p. CR113.M56.

Quaife, Milo M., et al. The History of the United States Flag. NY: Harper, 1961. pp. 103-04 & 177. CR113.Q32.

"The Stars and Stripes". Army Navy Register (12 Feb 1938): p. 7 Per.

U.S. Marine Corps. How to Respect and Display Our Flag. Phila: Beck, 1943. 26 p. CR113.H68.

Whitmarsh, A.N. Our Flag: Its Origin and Symbolism. Pittsburgh, PA?: N.p., 1898. 40 p. CR113.W45.

DISPOSAL OF U.S. FLAG

According to Flags and Guidons: Army Regulation 840-10, 23 Aug 1962, Para 116:

When a flag is in such a condition that it is no longer a fit emblem for display, it will not be cast aside nor used in any way that might be viewed as disrespectful. If not preserved, it will be destroyed as a whole, privately [underlining added], preferably by burning or by some other method lacking in any suggestion of irreverence or disrespect to it as a military emblem.

Sources below agree the disposition must be respectful, with burning the preferred manner. The Commerce Dept's publication and the Army Reg further specify the flag be destroyed "as a whole." Neither the U.S. Code nor the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania's bulletin specify the disposal be done privately. See:

Brown, James L. The Flag of the United States: Its Use in Commerce. Wash, DC: Dept of Commerce, 1941. p. 8. CR113.B81.

Display and Use of Flag by Civilians, Respect for Flag. U.S. Code, Vol. 8 (1964). pp. 6991 & 93. Ref.

Pennsylvania. Dept of Public Instruction. Flags and Seals of the United States and of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Bulletin 218, Harrisburg, PA, 1948. pp. 31-32. CR113.P4.

U.S. Marine Corps. Flag Manual. Wash, DC: GPO, n.d. p. 44. CR113.U55.

OTHER ASPECTS

Cutler, Alfred M. The Continental Great Union Flag. Somerville, MA: Somerville School Committee, 1929. 48 p. CR113.C77.

Mastai, Bolesaw. The Stars and the Stripes: The American Flag as Art and as History from the Birth of the Republic to the Present. NY: Knopf, 1973. 248 p. JC346.Z3.M38.

Perkins, C. Norman. "Old Glory." Army (Jul 1992): pp. 41-42. Per.
Dispels a few popular myths.

U.S. War Dept. Illustrations of Bunting Flags, Colors, Standards, Etc. Wash, DC: GPO, 1914. 70 p. UC593.I44.

_____. Quartermaster General. Flags of the Army of the United States Carried during the War of the Rebellion 1861-1865. Phila: Burk & McFetridge, 1887. E646.U57Oversize.

Vetock, Dennis J. "Arms and the Child: When the Flag Salute was Suspect as Un-American." Vignette of Military History No. 271, USAMHI, 14 Jan 1985. 1 p., with enclosures (11 p.)
BibFiles(Flag-US).