

## RARE AND UNUSUAL FLAGS

The collection includes a number of uniquely designed presentation flags, the most elaborate of which is a fancy, blue regimental flag presented to the 9th Infantry in late 1862 (No. 52); it cost \$250. In 1863, "The Sunday School Army of Burlington County" raised \$125 to purchase a blue regimental flag for the 23rd Infantry (No. 90). Many presentation flags were larger than standard issue. The collection also contains two early-war militia flags (Nos. 18 and 23), which are also nonregulation in size.

The most uniquely designed flag is a guidon from the 3rd Cavalry (No. 8) that features a large butterfly. The men of the 3rd Cavalry wore fancy uniforms with a great deal of gold braid, which earned the regiment the nickname "butterflies," a symbol proudly carried on this flag. One flag belonging to the 23rd Infantry bears the slogan "Yahoos" (No. 78), a derisive term used by the unit's original commander to describe his unruly men, who liked it so much that they adopted it as their nickname.

One of the rarest flags in the collection is a red and white swallow-tailed guidon used by Company B of the 1st Cavalry for a few months in the first year of the war (No. 133). For most of the war, guidons were swallow-tailed United States flags or rectangular blue flags with a state or federal seal.

The collection also features a number of interesting brigade flags. Two were carried by the 1st New Jersey Brigade ("Kearny's"), which consisted originally of the 1st through 4th Infantry regiments. One is a national flag presented to the brigade by a group of New Jerseyans living in California (No. 125). Another bears the badge of the 1st Division, VI Corps, to which the brigade belonged (No. 14).

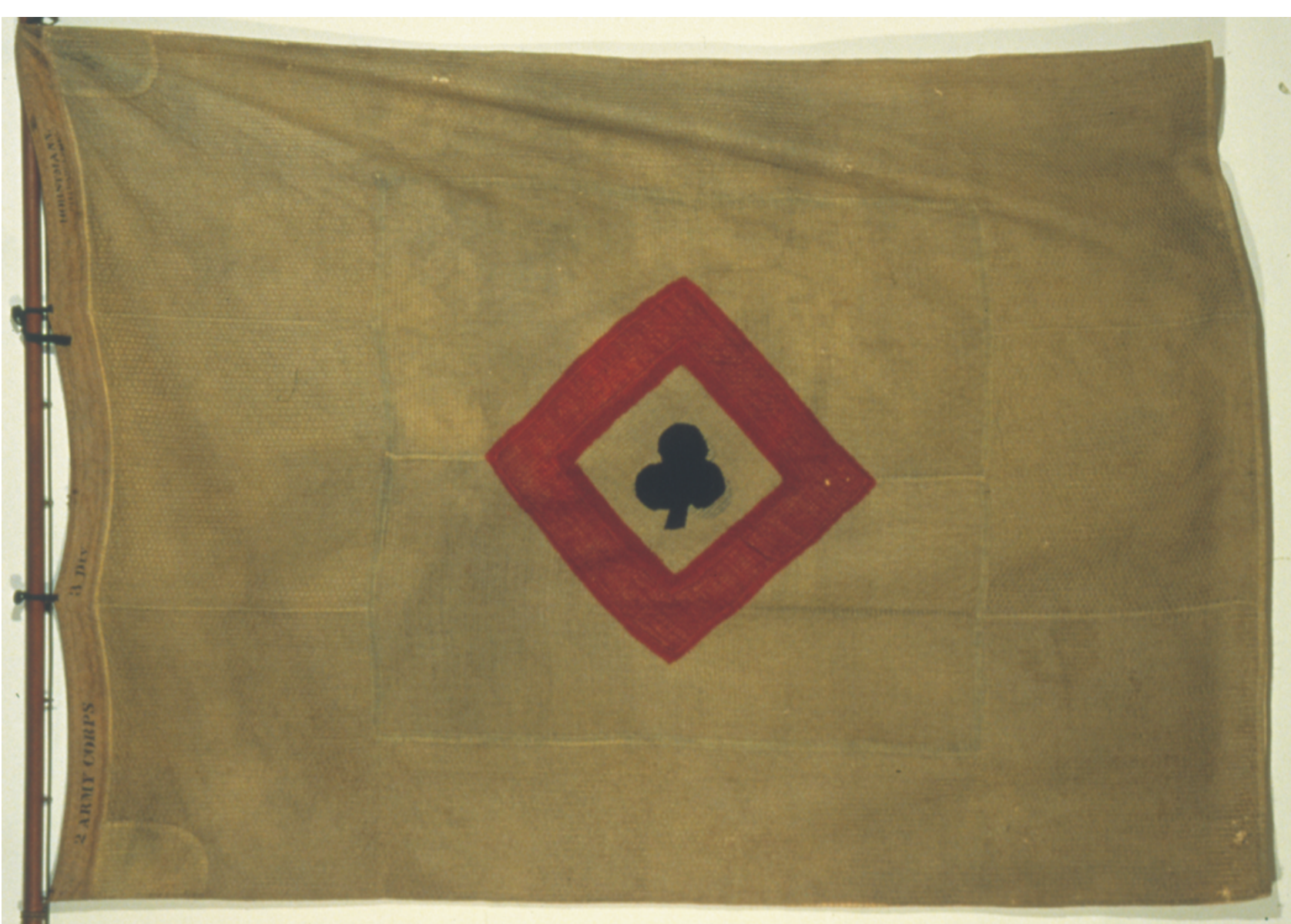
No less than six flags belonged to the Second New Jersey Brigade (originally the 5th-8th Infantry regiments). One is a rare, McClellan-style, designating flag from 1862 (No. 16). Four bear the badge of III Corps, to which the brigade belonged from 1862-64 (Nos. 7, 123, 126, 127), and another is a late war flag after the brigade was transferred to II Corps in 1864-65 (No. 124).



No. 8 Guidon, 3rd Cavalry, with distinctive butterfly design.



No. 52 Regimental Color, 9th Infantry. Distinctive presentation flag.



No. 124 Marker, 2nd New Jersey Brigade, 1864-1865.



No. 125 National Color, 1st New Jersey Brigade, presented by New Jerseyans living in California on November 21, 1862.



No. 133 Swallow-tailed guidon, Company B, 1st Cavalry, 1861 issue.