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# The Lost Colony Of The Confederacy (Williams-Ford Texas A&M University Military History Series)



## Synopsis

The Lost Colony of the Confederacy is the story of a grim, quixotic journey of twenty thousand Confederates to Brazil at the end of the American Civil War. Although it is not known how many Confederates migrated to South America; estimates range from eight thousand to forty thousand; their departure was fueled by bitterness over a lost cause and a distaste for an oppressive victor. Encouraged by Emperor Dom Pedro, most of these exiles settled in Brazil. Although at the time of the Civil War the exodus was widely known and discussed as an indicator of the resentment against the Northern invaders and strict governmental measures, The Lost Colony of the Confederacy is the first book to focus on this mass migration. Eugene Harter vividly describes the lives of these last Confederates who founded their own city and were called Os Confederados. They retained much of their Southernness and lent an American flavor to Brazilian culture. First published in 1985, this work details the background of the exodus and describes the life of the twentieth-century descendants, who have a strong link both to Southern history and to modern Brazil. The fires have cooled, but it is useful to understand the intense feelings that sparked the migration to Brazil. Southern ways have melded into Brazilian, and both are linked by the unbreakable bonds of history, as shown in this revealing account.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The Lost Colony of the Confederacy is the story of a grim, quixotic journey of twenty thousand Confederates to Brazil at the end of the American Civil War. Although it is not known exactly how

many Confederates migrated to South America -- estimates range from eight thousand to forty thousand -- their departure was fueled by bitterness over a lost cause and a distaste for an oppressive victor. Encouraged by Emperor Dom Pedro, most of these exiles settled in Brazil. Although at the time of the Civil War the exodus was widely known and discussed as an indicator of the resentment against the northern invaders and the strict measures imposed by the federal government after the peace at Appomattox, *The Lost Colony of the Confederacy* is the first book to focus on this mass migration. Eugene C. Harter vividly describes the lives of these last Confederates who founded their own city and were called Os Confederados by the Brazilians. They retained much of their Southernness and lent an American flavor to Brazilian culture. The cultural province they established still exists as testimony to the hardiness of Southern ways. First published in 1985, this work details the background of the exodus and describes the life of the twentieth-century descendants, who have a strong link both to Southern history and to modern Brazil. The fires have cooled, but it is useful to understand the intense feelings that sparked the migration to Brazil and other areas of the globe. Southern ways have melded into Brazilian, and both are linked by the unbreakable bonds of history, as shown in this revealing account.

The late EUGENE C. HARTERÂ retired from the U.S. Senior Foreign Service and lived in Chestertown, Maryland, until his death in 2010.Â HeÂ was the grandson and great grandson of Confederates who left Texas and Mississippi as a part of the great Confederate migration in the late 1860s.Â Harter is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Around 1955, I was a teenager visiting the small Brazilian town of Americana, in São Paulo state. While out walking one day, I noticed a shabbily dressed older man across the street. He called out to me in perfect English, "Hey there, are you the new kid in town?" "I suppose I am", I replied. "Are you American?" "Naah", he said, with a distinct Southern accent, "I'm, just one of the local yokels". Intrigued, I accepted his invitation for a cup of coffee and we chatted in English for about an hour. This is when I first learned of the migration of many Southern families to Brazil in the post Civil War era. He told me of his grandparents' leaving their native land and making a new life in Brazil, and some stories about other families who, although assimilated into Brazilian society, still maintained their language and many customs of the Antebellum South. Now, all these years later, I found this wonderful book which has filled in many of the gaps of information I have wondered about for the last nearly 60 years. I highly recommend it for anyone interested in American history. Many details of the Civil War have been left out of the history books most Americans are familiar with and

this book will provide some insight into the skewed perceptions between the American North and South to this day, and be of interest to many, even those who have no ties to Brazil as I do.

Well documented, informative, includes photos and personal memories of a descendant of Confederados. I am recommending.

I enjoyed every page of the book because I was quite familiar with many of the descendants of the group that settled in Americana and Santa Barbara. Having spent two years in Boarding School in Piracicaba (Colegio Piracicabano) I became close friends with many of them and spent many weekends in their homes. Some of these friendships lasted a lifetime. The book gave me the background history which, as a teenager, I wasn't too interested in but, as an adult I find fascinating. Lucy Gorham Colman

Most people have no knowledge of the Confederados who left the Southern US following the Civil War. Having lived in Brazil I have heard of Santa Barbara and the Americana community. This small volume helps fill the missing chapter in the record of the people who chose to rebuild their lives outside the US after Appomattox. It doesn't take long to read but it is full of great story lines to imagine the lives of the Confederados and their descendants.

This is a well written book, which is easy to read. The author is a reporter and grandson of a Confederate family that emigrated to Brazil after the civil war. This chapter in post Civil War US history is not well known nor documented. The author provided an excellent and facinating depiction of the southern emigration to Brazil and other parts of Central and South America. As the son of a former Methodist missionary, I thoroughly enjoyed reading about the early influence of southern Confederate settlers in Brazil and their experience. The author is credible and offers a unique perspective on this historical experience.

Did not enjoy it.

Fairly concise and interesting introduction to the story of the Confederates who left the U.S after the Civil War to start a new life in Brazil. Includes lots of personal stories.

It was a very informative read.

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