FLAG TERMINOLOGY

Listed below are the terms used in writing the description of each flag examined in this survey. A diagram follows locating each of these terms.

Bunting: The term used to describe the loosely woven fabric used in making flags.

Canton: The square or rectangle portion of the flag, contrasting to the rest of the

flag, found in the upper corner next to the staff.

Fly: The part of the flag farthest from the staff. The term is used for the overall

horizontal length of the flag from the leading edge to the end of the flag.

Field: The basic colors and design of the flag prior to embellishment, the

background color of the flag.

Grommet: This is a metal ring or sewn reinforced eyelet found along the hoist edge

of the flag to provide the means to secure the flag to it staff.

Header: A heavy cloth strip sewn to the hoist edge of a flag often bearing the

grommets or eyelets.

Hoist: The part of the flag closest to the staff. The term is used for the overall

vertical width of the flag along the leading edge, excluding any fringe.

References:

The Battle Flags Of The Confederate Army Of Tennessee Howard M. Madaus and Robert D. Needham (Milwaukee Public Museum, 1976)

Flags of the World, Glossary of Flag Terms: website: www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/