



# Smithsonian's History Explorer Podcast

## Teacher Guide



## Confederate Currency and the Richmond Hoard

*with curator Richard Doty*

**Podcast Link:** <http://amhistory.si.edu/thinkfinity/podcast/doty.mp3>

**Images Link:** <http://amhistory.si.edu/thinkfinity/podcast/Richmond.zip>

### Pre-Listening Questions:

Look closely at this Confederate dollar: <http://www.historyexplorer.si.edu/artifacts/resource.asp?id=1170>

- How would you describe this bill? Is there anything unusual about this piece of currency?

### Discussion Questions:

- How was the Richmond Hoard created? What was the purpose of creating the Hoard?
- Why was the Hoard seized, and why do you think it was preserved?
- What significance does Doty believe Southerners saw in their paper money?
- Why do you think the currency and economic situations during the time period were important to the war itself?
- Look at the different symbols on the included images of bills from the Richmond Hoard. What are some of the symbols? What do you think they could represent to Southerners and the Confederacy? After listening to Mr. Doty, what other things do you notice about the bills?

### Related Resources—for continued instruction or resources for your students' research

National Museum of American History:

- The Price of Freedom: Americans at War  
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/militaryhistory/>
- Civil War 150  
<http://civilwar150.si.edu/>

Thinkfinity:

The American Civil War – from EDSITEment - <http://edsitement.neh.gov/feature/american-civil-war>

### National Standards—from the National Center for History in the Schools

- Era 5: Civil War and Reconstruction (1850-1877)  
2A: The student understands how the resources of the Union and Confederacy affected the course of the war.

**Have your students email their question, comments, and discoveries to [thinkfinity@si.edu](mailto:thinkfinity@si.edu)**

**Find this podcast and more at <http://americanhistory.si.edu/podcasts>**



Name:

Date:

Period:

Topic:

Listen to the podcast, take notes, and answer the questions.

1. How was the Richmond Hoard created? What was the purpose of creating the Hoard?
2. Why was the Hoard seized, and why do you think it was preserved?
3. What significance does Doty believe Southerners saw in their paper money?
4. Why do you think the currency and economic situations during the time period were important to the war itself?
5. Look at the different symbols on the included images of bills from the Richmond Hoard. What are some of the symbols? What do you think they could represent to Southerners and the Confederacy?

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