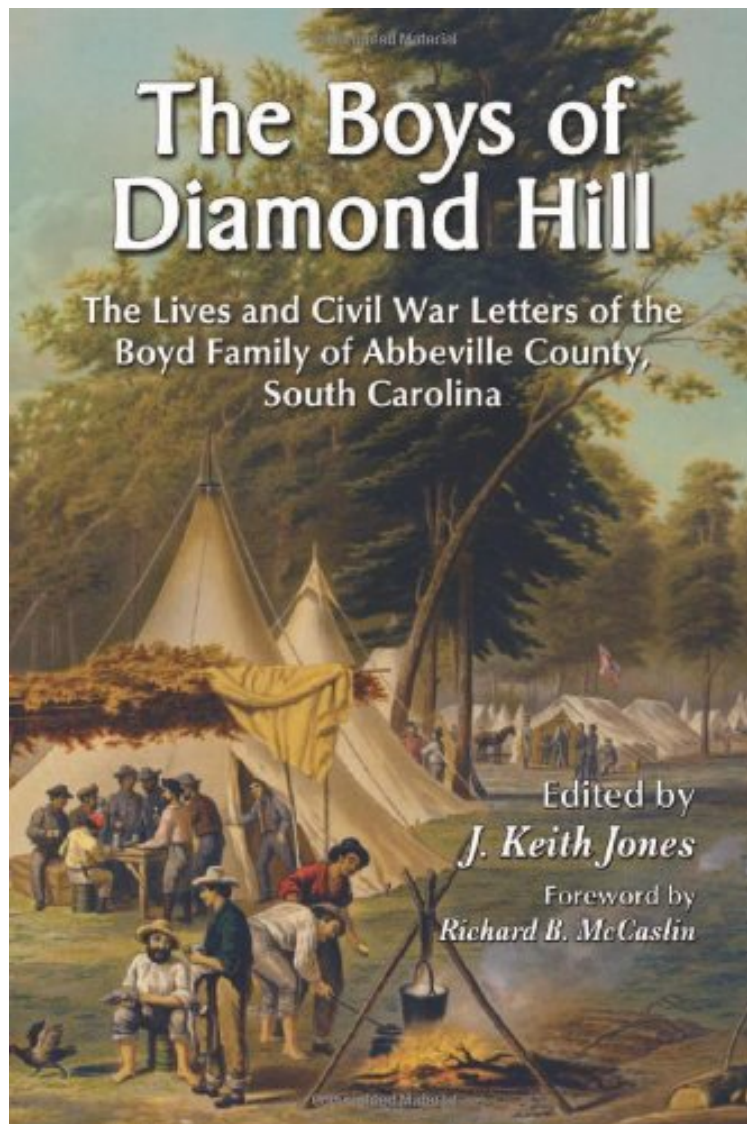


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## Boys of Diamond Hill: The Lives and Civil War Letters of the Boyd Family of Abbeville County, South Carolina

*From McFarland*

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**From McFarland : Boys of Diamond Hill: The Lives and Civil War Letters of the Boyd Family of Abbeville County, South Carolina** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Boys of Diamond Hill: The Lives and Civil War Letters of the Boyd Family of Abbeville County, South Carolina:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. For those of us fortunate enough to escape going to warBy Christian J. StreckFor those of us fortunate enough to escape going to war, this book provides a glimpse into the horror and tragedy that is always a part of war. The letters to home from members of the Boyd family of Abbeville, SC bring home the personal losses suffered by one family, losses that were seen on both sides of this war.I picked up this book because my grandparents lived in the Diamond Hill District in the late 1870s thru about 1915. While none of my known relatives are mentioned, nevertheless, my grandparents had to have been familiar with the stories of this and other nearby families. Most historical accounts of wars are somewhat impersonal, say the view from 20,000 feet. This,however, is the ground level account. It's easy to become attached to the characters, worry with them about how their families are doing, and grieve when they are lost in battle. Accounts such as this are the only way, short of actually participating, to learn what war is really like. For that reason, I think it provides an invaluable lesson.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. ... to me as it offers an insight to my great grand father's life a member of Kershaw's BrigadeBy Darla B.This book was very meaningful to me as it offers an insight to my great grand father's life a member of Kershaw's Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia during the War Between the States, 1861-1865.I am grateful to Keith Jones and his associates for putting together this document. I means so much to me and to my family, the successors of Daniel Boyd, the only son to survive the war.Sincerely,William Daniel Boyd, Jr.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Must read for anyone interested in real persons enduring the civil war and it's aftermath for the Confederacy .By Dorothy E MartinThe format used explains what is happening, then gives reader the pertinent letters from these heroic men. Made me want to read more about the civil war. The letters are simple and straight forward--heart-breaking as you begin to realize these men will not be returning home to the families they are writing to. Heart-breaking as you think about the anxiety the families must have felt...as they waited for news from their "boys".

Gold Medal from Military Writers Society of America for History In April 1861, brothers Daniel and Pressley Boyd left their farm in Abbeville County, South Carolina, to join the Confederate army. The Civil War soon swept their other brothers, William, Thomas and Andrew, as well as brother-in-law Fenton Hall into service. By the war's end, only Daniel survived. The extensive collection of letters the Boyds left behind, assembled for the first time, details their experiences across almost every theater of the war and offers commentary on many aspects of soldier life--from illness, death, and religion to friendly fire, desertion, and politics. Few families sacrificed so much to the Confederate cause as the Boyds.

If you are a Civil War buff, this is an excellent piece of historical documentation to add to your collection.  
[dewbookreviews.blogspot.com/2011/05/boys-of-diamond-hill.html](http://dewbookreviews.blogspot.com/2011/05/boys-of-diamond-hill.html) --Dew on the KudzuThe addition of letters from family friends and military associates of the brothers expands the perspective to include more events in the eastern and western theaters, at the front lines, and on the home front. --Research Book News, June, 2011About the AuthorJ. Keith Jones is a native of Georgia now living in Graham, North Carolina. A University of South Carolina graduate and a computer industry veteran, he is the author of the novel *In Due Time*. He maintains a website at [jkjones-author.com](http://jkjones-author.com).