

Co. B, Metropolitan Light Infantry; Co. F, Wilson's Battery. The term of enlistment was three years. The first encampment of Florida State Troops was at "Camp Pablo", Pablo Beach, August 23-30, 1887.

At the end of the three-year enlistment, in 1890, some of the companies of the First Battalion refused to re-enlist, among them Jacksonville Light Infantry and Metropolitan Light Infantry. These, however, though disorganized, were not officially disbanded and continued to exist under the old volunteer enlistment act. Wilson's Battery re-enlisted in July, 1890.

In 1891, another military law was passed, increasing the military companies of the State to twenty, divided into five battalions. Under this law all other military organizations in the State were required to disband. The First Battalion as thus created, comprised Co. A, Jacksonville Light Infantry; Co. C, Metropolitan Light Infantry; and Co. F, Wilson's Battery, and two companies of St. Augustine troops.

In August, 1899, soon after the Spanish-American war, the Florida State troops were re-organized with two regiments of infantry and a battalion of artillery. The Jacksonville infantry companies were assigned to the First Battalion, First Regiment, as Co. A, Jacksonville Light Infantry; Co. C, Jacksonville Rifles; two St. Augustine companies completed the battalion. Wilson's Battery became Co. A, Battalion of Light Artillery, Co. B being at Pensacola. The designation of Jacksonville Rifles was soon afterward changed to Co. F, that being its official letter in the Spanish-American war, and it wished to retain it.

May 18, 1903, a brigade was formed of the Florida State Troops and the State was divided into regimental and battalion military districts.

The designation Florida State Troops was changed to National Guard of Florida June 7, 1909.

The local battalion first appeared in olive-drab uniforms in November, 1909.

The National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, required military companies to recruit to a minimum strength of 65 men. An earnest effort was made by the five local companies to meet these requirements, but without success, and in order to save some of them, it was decided to merge the personnel of the Dixie Guards (Co. B) and the Jacksonville Blues (Co. E)