INTRODUCTION

Military records identify individuals who served in the armed forces or who were eligible for service. This outline introduces strategies and records that can help you learn more about your ancestors who served in the United States military. Use this outline to set meaningful research goals, evaluate the likelihood that your ancestor is found in military records, and select the records that will help you achieve your goals.

This outline describes the content, use, and availability of major sets of records created mostly by the federal government. The Family History Library’s research outlines for the separate states have more information about state military records. This outline discusses only sources that identify personal information about individuals in the armed forces and their units. It does not discuss historical sources about military institutions, weapons, battles, or tactics.

Using this Outline

The “Basic Search Strategies” section of this outline suggests steps you should take to find your ancestors in military records. This section is especially valuable if you are just beginning your research.

The “Records Selection Table” on page 3 can help you choose types of records to search. The Family History Library’s collection of federal military records is described on page 5. It is followed by a section that explains how to use the Family History Library Catalog to find specific records.

Beginning on page 11, the outline discusses in chronological order records for each of the major wars in which Americans participated. Not all military record sources are mentioned. Records not specific to a particular war but to a branch of service begin on page 54. The outline does not include sources for the Coast Guard and Air Force. At the end of most sections is a short bibliography titled “For Further Reading.”

BASIC SEARCH STRATEGIES

Step 1. Identify an Ancestor You Wish to Find in Military Records

Begin your research with family and home sources. You may already know of ancestors who were in the military. You may find evidence that an ancestor served in the military from family traditions, census records, naturalization records, biographies, cemetery records, or records of veterans’ organizations.

You may find an ancestor in a federal military record if he:

- Served in a state volunteer unit that was mustered into federal service during wartime. Most men who served during pre-twentieth century wars enlisted in state volunteer units.

- Enlisted in the regular U.S. military forces during wartime or peacetime.
• Served in a local militia or national guard unit that was mustered for federal service during an emergency.

• Enrolled for the drafts for the Civil War, World War I, or a subsequent war and later enlisted or was drafted.

If you do not know if your ancestor served in the military, the year of birth may indicate the possibility. Most people who were in the military were between 18 and 30 years of age. Use the war chronology below to see if your ancestor could have served during wartime.

The major wars of the colonial period are:

• King William’s War (War of the League of Augsburg), 1689 to 1697

• Queen Anne’s War (War of the Spanish Succession), 1702 to 1713

• King George’s War (War of Austrian Succession), 1744 to 1748

• French and Indian (Seven Years) War, 1754 to 1763

The major wars of the national period are:

• Revolutionary War, 1775 to 1783

• War of 1812, 1812 to 1815

• Indian Wars, 1780s to 1890s

• Mexican War, 1846 to 1848

• Civil War, 1861 to 1865

• Spanish-American War, 1898

• Philippine Insurrection, 1899 to 1902

• World War I, 1917 to 1918

• World War II, 1941 to 1945

• Korean War, 1950 to 1953

• Vietnam War, 1965 to 1973

People who did not serve during a war may have served during peacetime. During the colonial period, most able-bodied men between the ages of 16 and 60 were expected to participate in a local militia unit. These units were organized either by town, county, or province. The militia’s main role was local defense.

After the Revolutionary War, each state retained some form of militia, though in the years before the Civil War, many of these organizations fell into disuse. These volunteer units were the forerunners of today’s National Guard.

Write down what you already know, including the following:

• War. It is important to know when an ancestor served in the military. First determine the war or time period in which he may have served. Remember that during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, Americans served on opposite sides of the conflicts.

• State. Your ancestor may have served in a local, state, or federal unit. You can best search military records if you know at least the state where he was living when he was of age to serve in the military.

• Branch of service and rank. It is helpful to know the branch of service (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard) he may have served in and whether he was an officer or an enlisted man.

• Regiment. Many service records are arranged by the military unit, such as regiment. Regiments and companies were often composed of people from the same community or county. Knowing the regiment can sometimes help you determine where an individual was from.

In most cases, you can learn the unit from sources at the Family History Library, such as service and pension indexes, regimental or unit histories, county histories, or tombstone inscriptions. Home sources, such as photographs, discharge papers, pension records, or records of membership in a veteran organization, may also provide clues.

Step 2. Decide What You Want to Learn

Decide what information you want to know about your ancestor, such as his or her birth date and place, spouse, marriage date, or burial place.

Step 3. Select a Record to Search

Several factors can affect your choice of which records to search. This outline can help you evaluate which specific military record would be most helpful. If you know the unit, it is usually best to begin with pension files, since they usually have the most information on the soldier’s family. If you do not know your ancestor’s military unit, you may need to first identify the ancestor in service records.
See the section “Types of Military Records,” page 6, to learn about the various military records used for family history research. The “Records Selection Table” below can also help you decide which records to search.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Records Selection Table</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Once you know in which war(s) your ancestor may have served, use this table to decide which records to search. Use this table as a guide only. The information listed here is generally found in pre-20th century records, but each item is rarely found in every individual record.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Look in &quot; If you need</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birth date</td>
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<tr>
<td>Birth place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Children</td>
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<tr>
<td>Death date</td>
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<td>Death place</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spouse, Marriage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Military Unit</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service history</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step 4. Find and Search the Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This section describes the major archives that have U.S. military records. When one of these institutions is referred to elsewhere in this outline, return to this section for the address.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you plan to visit one of these archives, contact them and ask for information about their collections, restrictions, hours, services, and fees.

**National Archives.** The National Archives has the following pre-World War I federal service, pension, bounty land, and draft records:

- Volunteer military service, 1775 to 1902
- U.S. Army enlisted personnel, 1789 to 31 October 1912, and officers, 1789 to 30 June 1917
- U.S. Navy enlisted personnel, 1798 to 1885, and officers, 1798 to 1902
- U.S. Marine Corps enlisted personnel, 1789 to 1904, and some officers, 1789 to 1895
- U.S. Coast Guard predecessor agencies, 1791 to 1919 (Revenue Cutter Service, Life-Saving Service, and Lighthouse Service)
Confederate (Civil War) service records and other records relating to Confederate armed forces, 1861 to 1865

Veterans’ pension files and claims, 1775 to 1916 (except for Confederates), and bounty land files, 1775 to 1855

Many of the records discussed in this outline are from the National Archives. Several major indexes and some collections are on microfilm and available for use at the National Archives regional centers and at other research libraries. Those available on microfilm are referred to by their title and publication number ("M" or "T" series number). Most of the original military records have not been microfilmed, however, and are available only at the National Archives. Those not on film are sometimes referred to in this outline by the record group number in which they are located. Record groups contain the records of a bureau, agency, or department of the federal government.

The National Archives does not perform research for patrons. When exact identifying information is given, the Archives can furnish photocopies of records for a fee. You can obtain photocopies of compiled service records, pension application files, and bounty land warrant application files by using NATF form 80, “National Archives Order for Copies of Veteran Records,” available from the National Archives. The address is:

General Reference Branch (NNRG)
National Archives and Records Administration
8th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.  20508
Telephone: 202-501-5400
Internet: http://www.nara.gov

The archives staff will copy only selected documents unless you request copies of all the documents in a file.

Some helpful guides to National Archives military records are listed below:

Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives. Rev. ed. National Archives and Records Administration, 1985. (FHL book 973 A3usn 1985; fiche 6051414; computer number 182191.) Contains specific chapters on federal military records that discuss regular, volunteer, and naval and Marine service records as well as pension and bounty land records.


Army Military History Institute. The institute is the central repository of Army historical source material. It has 240,000 books (including unit histories), 780,000 photographs, five million manuscripts, and other personal items such as letters and diaries. The archivists provide reference help concerning military units (not individual soldiers), and they have published a number of bibliographies of holdings. The address is:

U.S. Army Military History Institute
Carlisle Barracks, PA  17013-5008
Telephone: 717-245-3611

National Personnel Records Center. Federal military records for twentieth century service that are not available at the National Archives may be located at the National Personnel Records Center. The address is:

National Personnel Records Center
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, MO  63132

Army Reference Branch
Telephone: 314-538-4261

Air Force Reference Branch
Telephone: 314-538-4243

Navy Reference Branch
(includes Marine Corps and Coast Guard)
Telephone: 314-538-4141

The National Personnel Records Center is also available on the Internet at:

www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html

The web site describes facilities and services; upcoming events; and records, including official military personnel files, medical records, morning reports, and unit rosters. It also has blank Standard Form 180, “Request Pertaining to Military Records,” for nongenealogical requests. The center will provide to next of kin or authorized
representatives information such as birth date and place, death date and place, and burial place. Most other information, such as age; dates of service; marital status; names, sex, and age of dependents; rank; present and past duty assignments; educational level; decorations and awards; duty status (active, reserve, discharged, retired, deceased); photograph (if available); records of courts-martial; and service number can be made available to anyone under the Freedom of Information Act.

The National Personnel Records Center has records for:

- Army officers discharged after 30 June 1917 and enlisted men discharged after 31 October 1912
- Air Force officers and enlisted men completely discharged after September 1947 (Service prior to 1947 was in the Army Air Corps.)
- Marine Corps officers discharged after 1895 and enlisted men discharged after 1904
- Navy officers completely discharged after 1902 and enlisted men discharged after 1885
- Coast Guard officers discharged after 1928 and enlisted personnel discharged after 1914

In 1973, a fire destroyed about 80 percent of the records for Army officers and enlisted men discharged from 1912 to 1959. About 75 percent of the records of the Air Force from 1947 to 1963 (surnames Hubbard through Z) were destroyed. For more information on the available records contact:

Records Reconstruction Branch
Telephone: 314-538-4261

State and Local Archives. State archives, state adjutant general’s offices, historical societies, courthouses, and libraries may have records of citizens who served in militia and National Guard units. See the state research outlines for more information. The following book contains addresses of state adjutant general offices:

Johnson, Richard S. How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military. 7th ed. Ft. Sam Houston, Tex.: Military Information Enterprises, 1996. (FHL book 973 M27j 1996; computer number 799337.) Discusses various methods and addresses to locate and contact present and former members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and Reserve.

RECORDS AT THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, has thousands of microfilms of United States military records from the National Archives. Most of the library’s records have been obtained through an extensive and ongoing acquisition program. This includes indexes to service records, service and pension files, enlistment registers, bounty land warrants, prisoner of war records, soldier home records.

The Family History Library’s major collections of United States military records are described in this outline under the war headings. Most records are for the Revolutionary War through World War I. The library has few records for more recent wars. The state research outlines describe major collections or sources of military records for individual states.

If you find an ancestor listed in one of the National Archives military indexes and the Family History Library does not have the original record, you will usually need to contact the archive for a copy, as explained above.

The following set of books describes the contents, availability, and microfilm numbers of some of the federal military records on microfilm at the Family History Library:


The Family History Library Catalog. The best way to find records in the Family History Library’s collection is using the Family History Library Catalog. The catalog describes each of the library’s records and provides the call numbers. Microfiche copies of the catalog are at the Family History Library and at each Family History Center. You can also use the catalog on FamilySearch computers at the library, most Family History Centers, and some public libraries.
This outline provides the book, microfilm (if the microfilms are in a single numerical series), and microfiche call numbers for sources found at the Family History Library. The total number of microfilms is given if the numbers are nonsequential. The initials FHL precede the library call number. To find the film numbers for large sets of records, you will need to use the catalog to get specific film numbers for a surname or military unit.

On the compact disc version of the Family History Library Catalog, you can use either film number or computer number searches to find a record quickly. The computer numbers in this outline are preceded by the designation computer number. Computer numbers for National Archives sources are listed in the table on pages 57-58.

You can easily find National Archives sources in the Family History Library Catalog by knowing the microfilm publication number. Look in the Author/Title section of the microfiche catalog under National Archives Microfilm Publications. The publications are listed sequentially by the “M” and “T” numbers.

You can also do a locality search using the Family History Library catalog. Most large sets of microfilmed records mentioned in this outline are found under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - [WAR]

The wars are arranged chronologically. The catalog lists the Revolutionary War as “Revolution,” the Mexican War as “War with Mexico,” and the Spanish-American War as “War of 1898.”

Other variations found in the catalog include:

UNITED STATES - HISTORY - [WAR]
UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS
UNITED STATES - MILITARY HISTORY - [WAR]
UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - [WAR] - PENSIONS
UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - INDEXES
UNITED STATES - PENSION RECORDS
UNITED STATES, SOUTHERN STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865
[STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - [WAR]
[STATE] - [COUNTY] - MILITARY RECORDS

**TYPES OF MILITARY RECORDS**

The major types of military records kept by federal and state governments are:

- Service records (militia, volunteer, or regular forces)
- Pension records and Bounty Land Warrants
- Draft, conscription, or Selective Service records

Other records relating to military service include burial and cemetery records, unit histories, and records of veterans’ organizations.

**Service Records**

Service records document an individual’s involvement with the military and can provide your ancestor’s unit or organization. This information makes it easier to search the pension records. Service records seldom provide information about other members of a soldier’s family.

**Enlistment and Discharge Records.** Those who served in a military unit (company or regiment) were listed on muster rolls (similar to attendance rosters). These records generally give the soldier’s name and the date and place of enlistment and muster. You may also find descriptive rolls that provide the individual’s name, rank, age, physical description, marital status, occupation, place of birth, place of residence, and service information. The National Archives or the state’s adjutant general’s office may have these rolls. When an individual was discharged from military service, he or she was listed on muster-out rolls. Copies of the federal muster-out rolls were sent to the office of the state adjutant general. Discharge certificates, however, are not usually part of the service record. If a soldier served between 1865 and 1944, the discharge certificate may be in the family’s possession. Copies of the discharge were not kept in soldiers’ service files, but counties sometimes recorded discharges. The Family History Library has discharge records for some states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Iowa, North Carolina, and Ohio. Check the Family History Library Catalog for additional state records under:

[STATE] - [COUNTY] - MILITARY RECORDS

**Compiled Service Records.** The federal government has compiled military service records for soldiers serving in volunteer units in wars between 1775 and 1902. These records, on cards, have abstracts of information taken from unmicrofilmed original records at the National
Archives such as muster rolls, pay lists, hospital records, record books, orders, and correspondence found in Record Group 94, Records of the Adjutant General’s Office, 1780s–1917. For a description of the contents of this record group, see:


A card was made for each soldier and put in an envelope along with some original documents. These files are arranged by state, then by military unit, then alphabetically by the soldier’s name. The cards usually provide a soldier’s name, rank and unit, the state from which the soldier served, the date enlisted, and length of service. You may also find the age, residence, physical description, and date of discharge or death.

Other Service Records. Other original records that may have been created include pay rolls, order books, hospital records, prisoner of war records, promotions, desertion records, and records of courts-martial. Many of these are found at the National Archives.

State Records of Service. Each state keeps service records for its own militia, volunteer regiments, or national guard units. These are usually available at state archives, state historical societies, or state adjutant general’s offices. If a state unit was mustered into federal service, the federal government may have sent copies of records to the office of the state adjutant general.

The Family History Library has microfilmed state military records in many states, including Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia. Many early militia and state records have also been published and indexed. These are described in the state research outlines.

Pension Records

The federal government and some state governments granted pensions or bounty land to officers, disabled veterans, needy veterans, widows or orphans of veterans, and veterans who served a certain length of time. Pension records usually contain more genealogical information than service records. However, not every veteran received or applied for bounty land or a pension. Veterans who did not qualify under the pension laws may have received benefits by special acts of Congress. The appropriate federal or state agency maintained a pension file for each applicant. These files contain the application papers and any further correspondence or documents.

In a person’s pension application papers you may find his name (and sometimes his wife’s maiden name); rank; military unit; period of service; residence; age; date and place of birth, marriage, and death; and the nature of his disability or proof of need. To prove that he served in the military, he may have included documents such as discharge papers or affidavits from those with whom he served. Widows or heirs had to prove their relationship to the veteran with marriage records and other documents, and the file may list the names of dependent children under the age of 16.

Pension files for 1775 to 1916 are available at the National Archives in Record Group 15, Records of the Veterans Administration. Only those for the Revolutionary War have been microfilmed.

Lists of federal and state military pensioners have been published for the years 1792 to 1795, 1813, 1817, 1818, 1820, 1823, 1828, 1831, 1835, 1840, 1849, 1857, 1883, and 1899. Most of these lists are found in the U.S. Congressional Serial Set, available at federal repository libraries and major university libraries. The lists can provide the soldier’s name and his heirs, age, death date, and service information. Some have been reprinted including:

The Pension Roll of 1835. 4 vols. 1835. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1968, 1992. (FHL 973 M24ua; fiche 6046995; computer number 272015.) Entries contain name, rank, annual allowance, sum received, description of service, when placed on the pension roll, commencement of pension, age, and so on. Includes many death dates.

List of Pensioners on the Roll, January 1, 1883 . . . . 5 vols. 1883. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1970. (FHL book 973 M2LD; computer number 271776.) (FHL CD no. 58; computer number 805944.) Entries list name of pensioner, cause for which pensioned, post office address, and rate of pension per month.

The following pension material may also be helpful:

Index to Pension Application Files of Remarried Widows Based on Service in the War of 1812, Indian Wars, Mexican War, and Regular Army Before 1861. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1784.

Record of Invalid Pension Payments to Veterans of the Revolutionary War and Regular Army and

Index to Pension Application Files of Remarried Widows Based on Service in the Civil War and Later Wars in the Regular Army after the Civil War. National Archives Microfilm Publication. M1785.

Index to General Correspondence of the Record and Pension Office, 1889–1904. National Archives Microfilm Publication M686. (FHL films 1527667–8051; computer number 462186.) Cards arranged alphabetically with name of soldier, organization in which he served, and name of person who made inquiry.

Bounty Land Warrants

The federal government provided bounty land for those who served in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and Indian wars between 1790 and 1855. It was first offered as an incentive to serve in the military and later as a reward for service.

Bounty land could have been claimed by veterans or their heirs. The federal government reserved tracts of land in the public domain for this purpose. The states of New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia also set aside tracts of bounty land for their Revolutionary War veterans.

A veteran requested bounty land by filing an application at a local courthouse. The application papers and other supporting documents were placed in bounty land files kept by a federal or state agency. These documents contain information similar to the pension files and include the veteran’s age and place of residence at the time of the application. If the application was approved, the individual was given either a warrant to receive land or scrip which could be exchanged for a warrant. Later laws allowed for the sale or exchange of warrants. Only a few soldiers actually received title to the bounty land or settled on it; most veterans sold or exchanged their warrants.

Bounty land applications and warrants for the Revolutionary War and some warrants for the War of 1812 have been microfilmed. They are available at the Family History Library and are described in this outline in the sections for those wars. Bounty land files, including those not microfilmed, are available at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., in Record Group 15, Records of the Veterans Administration.

For more information about bounty land records, the following sources will be helpful:


Draft or Conscription Records

Since 1863, the federal government has registered millions of men who may have been eligible for military service. The Civil War enrollment records and World War I draft registration cards typically give the man’s name, residence, age, occupation, marital status, birthplace, physical description, and other information. More information about these records is found on pages 30–31 and 50-51 of this outline.

Unit Histories

Histories of military units may contain biographies of officers, rosters of soldiers in the unit, and clues to where the soldiers were living when they enlisted. They may also provide dates of death of veterans or their place of residence after their service. It is best to look in the Author/Title search of the Family History Library Catalog on microfiche under the name of the author.

Civil War unit histories are described in detail on pages 31 and 40 of this outline. The following sources are helpful for finding histories of regiments and divisions that participated in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War:

Controvich, John T., comp. United States Army Unit Histories: A Reference and Bibliography. Manhattan, Kansas: Military Affairs/Aerospace Historian, Eisenhower Hall, Kansas State University, 1983. (FHL book 973 M23cj; computer number 253277.) Also includes brief lineages, campaign participation credits, order of battles, and commanding generals.

Pappas, George S., et al., comp. United States Army Unit Histories. 2 vols. Rev. ed. Carlisle Barracks, Pa.: U.S. Army Military History Institute, 1971–78. (FHL book 973 B4ua no. 4; computer number 264586.) Bibliography of unit histories from 1914 to 1971 for regular Army, National Guard, and Reserve organizations. Regular Army histories of units active prior to 1914 are also included. Entries give title,
author, publication information, number of pages, and are arranged by military unit.

Census Records

The federal censuses of 1840, 1890, and 1910 specifically identify veterans and pensioners. Some state censuses also have information about soldiers and veterans. The federal censuses of 1900, 1910, and 1920 include special enumerations of personnel serving at military and naval installations, ships, and hospitals at home and overseas.

1900 census: see description under:

PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION - CENSUS RECORDS

1910 census: military and naval, 1910 federal census: population schedules. (FHL film 1375797; computer number 705355.)

1920 census: military and naval, 1920 federal census: soundex and population schedules. 20 rolls. (Soundex. FHL film 1831476–93; schedules film 1822040–41; computer number 665163.)

The military and naval schedule includes name of military or naval station or vessel, country, seaport, company or troop, regiment, arm of service, rank, residence in the United States (state, city or town, street and number), in addition to the information provided on the population schedules.

Cemetery Records

Soldiers and veterans were often buried in private, public, church, national, and military post cemeteries. Others were buried on the battlefield or in prison or hospital cemeteries. The first national military cemeteries were created in 1862 during the Civil War.

The National Cemetery System has a card index that identifies nearly all soldiers who were buried in national cemeteries and other cemeteries under federal jurisdiction from 1861 to the present. The address is:

National Cemetery System
Department of Veteran Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20422
Internet: www.cem.va.gov

This web site has administration news; national veterans cemetery addresses; information about burial, headstones, state veterans cemetery grant programs, and links to other sites for locating veterans; and military records.

To find microfilm numbers of cemetery records in the Family History Library Catalog, look in the Locality search under:

[STATE] - CEMETERIES
[STATE], [COUNTY], [CITY] - CEMETERIES

The National Archives also has applications for headstones for soldiers and veterans buried in private cemeteries between 1879–1964.

The following book provides descriptions of national cemeteries, state veterans’ cemeteries, soldiers’ lots, and abandoned military cemeteries:


Some states and counties have grave registration records that identify the graves of soldiers buried in local cemeteries. You can usually find these by contacting the state archives or state library or historical society. The Family History Library has statewide veteran grave registrations for the following states:

Florida ......... FHL computer number 427382
Illinois ........... FHL computer number 71011
Kentucky ....... FHL computer number 233600
Maine ... FHL computer numbers 175656, 175666
Ohio ............. FHL computer number 285034
Rhode Island .... FHL computer number 99957
South Dakota .... FHL computer number 447850
Utah ............. FHL computer number 709603

The American Battle Monuments Commission was created in 1923 to maintain memorials in the U.S. and foreign countries where American forces have served. They have the names of 124,913 World War I and II war dead and the names of 94,093 soldiers listed as missing in action or buried at sea from the World Wars, Korean War, and Vietnam War. For information you can contact:

American Battle Monuments Commission
Casimir Pulaski Building
20 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20314-0300
Telephone: 202-272-0533
202-272-0532
Internet: www.usabmc.com

This web site includes information about the purpose, composition, and history of the commission; details about individual ABMC
overseas cemeteries; and the names of persons buried at many of their cemeteries.

The following publications can help you find overseas cemeteries:


**National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers**

Congress established national homes for disabled veterans in 1866. Veterans were eligible for admittance if they were honorably discharged; had served in the regular, volunteer, or militia forces mustered into federal service; were disabled and without support; and were unable to earn a living. In 1930 the homes were combined with other agencies to form the Veterans Administration (now the Department of Veteran Affairs).

The registers are divided into four sections: military, domestic, home, and general remarks. The military section includes information such as enlistment, rank, company, regiment, and discharge. The domestic section includes the veteran’s birthplace, age, height, religion, occupation, residence, marital status, and name and address of nearest relative. The home section includes the veteran’s rate of pension, date of admission to the home, discharge, death date, and burial place.

Some reports published by the Board of Managers for the National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers contain alphabetical rosters of soldiers. The rosters provide name, rank, company, organization, length of service, war, pension rate, birthplace, admission date, age when admitted, and status (including death date).

The national homes were in:

- Bath, New York .......... Bath Branch
- Biloxi, Mississippi ....... Biloxi Home
- Danville, Illinois ....... Danville Branch
- Dayton, Ohio .......... Central Branch
- Hot Springs, S.D. ........ Battle Mountain Sanitarium
- Johnson City, Tennessee ........ Mountain Branch
- Kecoughton, Virginia .......... Southern Branch
- Leavenworth, Kansas .......... Western Branch
- Marion, Indiana .......... Marion Branch
- Roseburg, Oregon .......... Roseburg Branch
- St. Petersburg, Florida .... St. Petersburg Home
- Sawtelle, California .......... Pacific Branch
- Togus, Maine .......... Eastern Branch
- Tuskegee, Mississippi .... Tuskegee Home
- Wood, Wisconsin .......... Northwestern Branch

The Family History Library has microfilms of the following:

*Registers of Veterans at National Homes for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, 1866–1937.* (On 282 FHL films starting with 1546167; computer number 508537.) The registers are indexed individually by the name of the veteran for each home. Upon admission each veteran was given a number. The registers are arranged numerically by these numbers. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS.**

Many states also maintained soldier homes as well. The Family History Library also has records for some state homes, including:

- Georgia ........ FHL computer number 433159
- Louisiana ......... FHL computer number 673398
- Michigan .......... FHL computer numbers 215281, 322613
- Ohio ............. FHL computer number 227535
- Missouri .......... FHL computer number 195357
- Pennsylvania ...... FHL computer numbers 4576, 4583
- Tennessee .......... FHL computer number 777448
- Texas ............. FHL computer number 553885
- Virginia .......... FHL computer number 795108

**Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records**

Records of veterans’ organizations and lineage societies may be found at their national headquarters or at state archives, historical societies, and public libraries. Some societies require members to submit applications documenting their ancestry back to a soldier. The applications typically provide birth, marriage, and death information, as well as establish relationship through multiple generations from the applicant to...
the qualifying ancestor. They may publish membership lists and other records. For eligibility requirements, write to the society’s national headquarters. This outline gives addresses of some organizations that have significant material of use for family history research. Additional veteran and patriotic organizations can be located in:


**Biographies**

You can find biographical sketches of prominent military figures in published biographical dictionaries. The Family History Library has the following:


*Webster’s American Military Biographies*. Springfield, Mass.: G & C Merriam Company, 1978. (FHL book 973 D3wb; computer number 266232.) Contains sketches of over 1,000 individuals who have contributed to the military history of the United States, including frontier scouts, nurses, explorers, astronauts, and others.

**Awards and Decorations**

Sketches of soldiers who received the Medal of Honor can be located in:

*Medal of Honor Recipients, 1863–1978. No. 15 Committee on Veteran Affairs, U.S. Senate. 93rd Congress. 1st Session*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Gov’t Printing Office, 1979. (FHL film 1598044 item 1; computer number 372956.) Contains historical background about the Medal of Honor and descriptions of soldiers receiving the medal. Entries include name, rank, organization data and place, date entered service, birth date, date of issue, and citation.

**COLONIAL WARS, 1607 TO 1763**

Many colonists served in local militias and participated in King William’s War (1689–97), Queen Anne’s War (1702–13), King George’s War (1744–48), and the French and Indian War (1754–63). Because these were local units and not part of the British Army, any surviving records are in historical societies and state libraries and archives.

The Family History Library has copies of many of the records that have been published. These are found in the Family History Library Catalog under:

[STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS
[STATE], [COUNTY] - MILITARY RECORDS
[STATE], [COUNTY], [CITY] - MILITARY RECORDS

For historical information and sources for this period, see the following:

Lydon, James G. *Struggle For Empire, A Bibliography of the French and Indian War.* New York: Garland Publishing, 1986. (FHL book 973 M23b, vol. 7; computer number 521263.) This book is arranged by topics and is a bibliography with brief annotations of books and articles relating to the French and Indian War.

**Veterans' and Lineage Society Records**

*The General Society of Colonial Wars.* This society was established in 1893 and has no permanent headquarters. Check the current edition of the *Encyclopedia of Associations* described in “Veterans and Lineage Society Records,” page 11, in the “Types of Military Records” section of this outline.

The Family History Library has the following records of this society:

- Register of Members ........ FHL film 528676
- Lineage Papers ....... FHL films 515990–528428
- Supplemental Records  FHL films 528429–528675
- Index . . . . . . . . . . . . FHL films 528677–533974
  (FHL computer number 404247)

For the complete listing of film numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - SOCIETIES.

**REVOLUTIONARY WAR, 1775 TO 1783**

The Revolutionary War began with the confrontation between British troops and local militia at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, on 19 April 1775. Throughout the war, state troops and local militias supplemented the Continental (federal) Army. The total number of men who served is not known.

The original service records and the earliest pension records of the Revolutionary War were destroyed in fires in 1800 and 1814. Substitute records were used to make the compiled service records. These records are in Record Group 93 at the National Archives. A description of the holdings for this record group is:


**Service Records**

The following service records are available on microfilm at the Family History Library:

- **General Index to Compiled Military Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers, Sailors, and Members of Army Staff Departments.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M860. (FHL films 88284–98; computer number 280117.) Alphabetical index including soldiers, sailors, members of Army staff departments, and civilian employees of the Army and Navy, such as teamsters, carpenters, laundresses, and cooks. For each soldier or civilian, the index lists the name, rank, unit, and profession or office.

White, Virgil D. *Index to Revolutionary War Service Records.* 4 vols. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing Co., 1995. (FHL book 973 M22wv; computer number 755463.) This is a transcription from film M860 listed above. Entries include name, unit, and rank.

- **Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army during the Revolutionary War.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M881. (On 1,096 FHL films beginning with 1485281; computer number 432762.) Contains the service records of soldiers in the Continental Army and other units that fought with them.

- **Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775–1783.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M246. (FHL films 830281–417; computer number 70811.) These are original company rolls, muster rolls, payrolls, and strength returns of Continental Army, militia, and state volunteer units. They are arranged by unit in folders called “jackets.” Use the index to the compiled service records to find the name of the regimental commander, then use the index (FHL film 830280) to determine the jacket number.

- **Compiled Service Records of American Naval Personnel and Members of the Departments of the Quartermaster General and the Commissary General of Military Stores Who Served during the Revolutionary War.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M880. (FHL films 1025081–83; computer number 323504.) These abstracts, made from original records, are similar to the compiled service records of soldiers. The records are arranged by department and then alphabetically by name. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:
UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - REVOLUTION, 1775-1783

The Family History Library’s state research outlines describe published rosters of Revolutionary War soldiers from each colony. The following are additional books listing officers and others:

*American Chaplains of the Revolution.* Louisville, Ky.: National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, 1991. (FHL 973 AI no. 311; computer number 660884.) This is an alphabetical list of chaplains in the Continental Line, State Militia, and Continental Navy. It includes information such as birth, death, marriage, where lived, and service information, both ecclesiastical and military.


*Greene, Robert Ewell.* Black Courage, 1775–1783: Documentation of Black Participation in the American Revolution. Washington, D.C.: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 1984. (FHL 973 M2gb; computer number 379618.) Contains biographical sketches which include soldier’s military unit; physical description; when enlisted; battles fought; pensioned; birth, marriage, and death dates and places; names of wives and children; and if the soldier was free or slave. An additional list of soldiers, pensioners, and prisoners of war with military unit and state is included.

*Heitman, Francis B.* Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army during the War of the Revolution, April, 1775 to December, 1783. 1914. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1967. (FHL book 973 M23h; computer number 271260.) Lists 14,000 officers compiled from governmental and other sources. Includes militia and state troops. Some death dates are listed.

*Kaminkow, Marion, and Jack Kaminkow,* comps. Mariners of the American Revolution.

*Baltimore: Magna Carta Book Co., 1967. (FHL book 973 M25k; computer number 271984.)* An alphabetical list of seamen who were captured and imprisoned in England.

*Neagles, James C.* Summer Soldiers. A Survey and Index of Revolutionary War Courts-Martial. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Inc., 1986. (FHL book 973 M2ns; computer number 406071.) An alphabetical list of 3,315 cases of soldiers who were court martialed that lists the offense, verdict, punishment, if applicable, and the source of information. Often provides military rank and unit.

*Toner, Joseph M.* The Medical Men of the Revolution, with a Brief History of the Medical Department of the Continental Army: Containing the Names of Nearly Twelve Hundred Physicians. Philadelphia: Collins, printer, 1876. (FHL film 1703658; computer number 507245.) Contains a list of physicians and surgeons with state and type of service rendered.


**Pension Records and Bounty Land Warrants**

The first pension law in 1776 granted half-pay for life to soldiers disabled in the service and unable to earn a living. The first pension law based on service was passed in 1818, but it was later amended to make eligible only those soldiers unable to earn a living. The pension act of 1832 allowed pensions again based on service and made widows of veterans also eligible to receive pension benefits. Fires in 1800 destroyed the earliest Revolutionary War pension application records. As a result, pension application papers on file at the National Archives begin after 1800. Certain pension records predating 1800 survive in the form of Congressional reports and other legislation. Reports available are arranged by state; they give name, rank, regiment, description of wounds, and disability; they also give information regarding pension, place of residence, and physical fitness. (FHL film 944495; computer number 277508.)

Post-1800 pension files are located on the following films:
Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files, 1800–1900.
National Archives Microfilm Publication M804. (On 2,670 FHL films beginning with 970001; computer number 178932.) The files are alphabetically arranged.

Following is an index to these files:

Index to Revolutionary War Pension Applications in the National Archives. Special Publication No. 40. Rev. and enl. Arlington, Va.: National Genealogical Society, 1976. (FHL book 973 M22ng; computer number 113808.) This index contains the name of the veteran and or the widow with the state and pension or bounty land warrant number.

Abstracts of the files are found in the following source:

White, Virgil D. Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files. 4 vols. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1990–92. (FHL book 973 M28g; computer number 534698.) Some entries in this work have cross-references to the Virginia half-pay claims, state pensions, and state bounty lands. Volume four indexes the abstracts. This includes an every-name index for 350,000 names.

The following are related manuscript collections:

Ledgers of Payments, 1818–1872, to U.S. Pensioners Under Acts of 1818 through 1858, from Records of the Third Auditor of the Treasury. National Archives Microfilm Publication T718. (FHL films 1319381–403; computer number 210398.) These pension payment volumes record payments to Revolutionary War veterans and others. The records are arranged by pension act, then by pension agency, and then alphabetically by the first letter of the veterans’ surnames. Entries list name, pension agency, record of payments made, death date, and the date of the final payment made to heirs. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS

U.S. Revolutionary War Bounty Land Warrants Used in the U.S. Military District of Ohio and Related Papers (Acts of 1788, 1803, 1806). National Archives Microfilm Publication M829. (FHL films 1025141–56; computer number 68938.) To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

OHIO - LAND AND PROPERTY


Virginia Half Pay and Other Related Revolutionary War Pension Application Files. National Archives Microfilm Publication M910. (FHL films 1024434–42; computer number 211911.) Records include the name; rank; amount of pension; death date; widow and children, if any; pension file number; some dates for wife and children, especially date of death of wife, and so on. Contains 279 pension application files.

Below are published lists of pensioners:

Clark, Murtie June, comp. The Pension Lists of 1792–1795. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1991. (FHL book 973 M2cmj; computer number 631594.) Contains transcriptions of congressional reports for 1792 to 1795. Some entries list name, rank, regiment or company, and residence, and include remarks. Other pre-1800 pension-related records are also included.


Unit Histories

Knowing the history of your ancestor’s military unit can help you find a place of residence at the time of enlistment or help you find a death place. The following sources are helpful in identifying Revolutionary War regiments:


Census Records

The following source lists living pensioners of the Revolutionary War and other military service:


These names are published in the following:

A Census of Pensioners for Revolutionary or Military Service, . . . 1841. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1967. (FHL book 973 X2pc 1967; film 816370; fiche 6046771; computer number 270766.) It lists the name, age, and residence of the pensioner and the name of the head of household with whom the pensioner lived.

The following is an index to the above source:

The Genealogical Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. A General Index to a Census of Pensioners For Revolutionary or Military Service. 1840. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1965. (FHL book 973 X2pc index 1965; film 899835; fiche 6046771; computer number 270948.) The index lists alphabetically both the veteran and the head of the family with whom the pensioner resided. Names with asterisks are heads of families. Page numbers refer to the published list.

Cemetery Records

The Daughters of the American Revolution has published the grave locations of Revolutionary War soldiers in the following source:

DAR Annual Report to the Smithsonian Institution, 1900–1974. These lists have been continued in the DAR Magazine. (FHL book 973 B2dar; computer number 74386) beginning with the October 1969 issue. The lists give name, birth date, death date, burial place, rank, and state and regiment of service if known. There are more than 58,500 identified graves.

The lists published in the DAR Magazine between 1974 and 1982 were reprinted as the following:


The following source indexes the DAR Annual Reports to the Smithsonian Institution for 1900 and 1915 through 1986:


A card file of located graves is maintained at the DAR Library in the Office of the Historian General. A similar card file abstracting burial and service information from the DAR reports is in the Harold B. Lee Library at Brigham Young University and at the Family History Library. It is called:

DAR Revolutionary War Burial Index. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Genealogical Society of Utah, 1993. (FHL films 1307675–83; computer number 782952.) Includes name; birth date; death date; burial place, including state, county, and town, and name of cemetery; service, and so on.
Also available from the Sons of the American Revolution are:

**War Graves Registration Forms.** Salt Lake City, Utah: The Genealogical Society of Utah, 1996. (On 8 FHL films beginning with 2032073; computer number 790299.) These records are alphabetically arranged, and contain forms received by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution up to mid-1993.

Listed below are additional sources of information on Revolutionary War deaths:

Brakebill, Clovis H., ed. and comp. *Revolutionary War Graves Register.* Louisville, Ky.: Wolfe City, Tex.: National Society Sons of the American Revolution; Henington Publishing, 1993. (FHL 973 V3br; computer number 683302.) Includes the name, birth and death year, cemetery, place where cemetery is located, rank, and state of service. This book is also available at some libraries on compact disc.

Peterson, Clarence Stewart. *Known Military Dead during the American Revolutionary War, 1775–1783.* 1959. Reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing, 1967. (FHL book 973 M23pb; fiche 6051226; computer number 246280.) Lists soldiers and sailors who were killed or died during the war, giving name, rank, unit, and death date.

Many states, associations, and individuals have compiled cemetery listings of Revolutionary War soldiers and veterans. The Family History Library has the following lists available:

Alabama ........ FHL computer number 248040
Georgia .......... FHL computer number 702837
Indiana .......... FHL computer number 29961
Illinois.......... FHL computer numbers 542318, 239532
Iowa .......... FHL computer number 242657
Maine .......... FHL computer numbers 474994, 752308, 752309
Massachusetts ... FHL computer number 641518
Missouri ....... FHL computer number 236815
New York ....... FHL computer number 635651
Ohio ........... FHL computer number 201734
Texas ......... FHL computer number 829231
Vermont ....... FHL computer numbers 349451, 698533
Wisconsin ....... FHL computer number 308734

**Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records**

*The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.* This society was organized in 1890. The following DAR sources are helpful to researchers:

**D.A.R. Patriot Index.** Centennial Edition. 3 parts. Washington, D. C.: National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, 1990 (FHL 973 C42da 1990; computer number 696544.) An alphabetical list of over 100,000 patriots whose service has been established by the Daughters of the American Revolution between October 1890 and October 1990. The information was compiled from extracted data of membership applications and other sources. Corrections to the Patriot Index have been published in the *DAR Magazine,* starting with the May 1983 issue.


An index to these is:


Copies of membership applications can be obtained for a fee from the national headquarters:

National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution
1776 D Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
Telephone: 202-628-1776
Fax: 202-879-3252
Internet: www.dar.org

This web site links to information about headquarters buildings, membership requirements, work of the society, state chapters, overseas units, their genealogy library (including an online library catalog search), museum, and news.

**National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.** This society was organized in 1889. For this society, the Family History Library has the following:
SAR Membership Information, 1776–1996; Catalog of Members; Index of Ancestors, Applications no 1-146101; and Membership Application Documentation. (On 1,087 FHL films; computer number 438790).

You can also obtain microfilm numbers for the above sources using the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under

UNITED STATES - SOCIETIES

The society’s address is:

National Society, Sons of the American Revolution
1000 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40203
Telephone: 502-589-1776
Internet: www.sar.org

This web site has information about the society’s patriotic, historical, and educational efforts, links to state chapter web sites, and their online genealogical library catalog search.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution published in 1998 a Patriot Index on compact disc with over 450,000 records. The 1999 edition will contain an additional 140,000 records.

The Society of the Cincinnati was organized in 1783 by officers of the Continental Army. Hereditary membership is through the eldest male and his posterity. Published lists of society members include:

Thomas, William Sturgis. Members of the Society of the Cincinnati. Original, Hereditary and Honorary: with a Brief Account of the Society’s History and Aims. New York: Tobias A. Wright, 1929. (FHL book 973 C4sct; computer number 265007.) Lists original hereditary and honorary members in the United States, with a separate list for members in France. Includes name, rank, whether or not an original member, and state society of the member.

Metcalf, Bryce. Original Members and Other Officers Eligible to the Society of the Cincinnati, 1783–1938. Strasburg, Va.: Shenandoah Publishing House, Inc., 1938. (FHL book 973 C44mb; computer number 474956.) A list of original members and the years they served in the society. It lists their descendants eligible for the society and includes rules of eligibility and admission and officers of state societies.

The society’s address is:

Society of the Cincinnati
2118 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008-2810
Telephone: 202-785-2040

Cincinnati Fourteen is the Society’s newsletter (FHL book 975.3 C45; computer number 523819.)

Daughters of the Cincinnati was established in 1894 by female descendants of Revolutionary War officers.

The society’s address is:

Daughters of the Cincinnati
122 East 58th Street
New York, NY 10022
Telephone: 212-319-6915

The following sources are available at the Family History Library:

• Ancestor index file, A–Z. (FHL film 915852; computer number 313034.) Index lists ancestor’s name, regiment and rank, with name of applicant.

• Eligible ancestors index, A–Z. (FHL film 915853 item 1; computer number 313036.)

• Membership list and ancestors roster. (FHL film 915853 item 2; computer number 313037.)

• Application packets. (FHL film 915854–67; computer number 313037.)

For details about records of American Loyalists (United Empire Loyalists), see the Canada Research Outline (34545). For records of German mercenary troops known as “Hessians,” many of whom settled in the United States, see the Germany Research Outline (34061). For records of British forces who served in the American Revolution, see the England Research Outline (34037), the Ireland Research Outline (34717), and the Scotland Research Outline (32960). For records of French forces who fought as United States allies, see the France Research Outline (34715).

Sources for Further Reading

over 3,000 entries with author, title, publication information, and a brief description.


**WAR OF 1812, 1812 TO 1815**

The War of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain involved about 60,000 U.S. Army forces supported by 470,000 militia and volunteer troops.

**Service Records**

The following source includes names, ranks, and units of soldiers compiled from original records. For complete call numbers and bibliographic information, see the Family History Library Catalog.

*Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during the War of 1812.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M602. (FHL films 882519–752; computer number 375084.)
Additional state indexes are available for:

- Louisiana. National Archives Microfilm Publication M229 (FHL films 880010–12; computer number 278533.)
- North Carolina. National Archives Microfilm Publication M250 (FHL films 880838–42; computer number 278441.)
- South Carolina. National Archives Microfilm Publication M652 (FHL films 882812–18; computer number 278993.)

The only service records that have been microfilmed are those for Mississippi. National Archives Microfilm Publication M678. (FHL films 882819–40; computer number 325956.) The compiled service records for other states are available only at the National Archives.

Pension Records

Pensions were first granted to soldiers who were disabled while in the service and to heirs of soldiers who died during the war. The first pension acts based on service was not passed until 1871 and a second was passed in 1878. The files have not been filmed and are available only at the National Archives. The following is an index to pension applications:

Index to War of 1812 Pension Application Files. National Archives Microfilm Publication M313. (FHL films 840431–500 and 847501–32; computer number 113898.) This index has the veteran’s name, widow’s name, rank, unit, dates of enlistment and discharge, application and certificate numbers, and bounty land warrant numbers.

The information from this index has been published in the following source:


Bounty Land Warrants

Veterans were offered a total of 6 million acres of bounty land in Arkansas, Illinois, Michigan, and later, Missouri. Starting in 1852 bounty land warrants were also awarded outside these assigned districts. Warrants for the acts of 1812, 1814, and 1842 (excluding the general bounty land acts of 1850, 1852, and 1855) are reproduced in the following:

War of 1812 Military Bounty Land Warrants, 1815–1858. National Archives Microfilm Publication M848. (FHL films 983163–77; computer number 174912.) The records usually contain the veteran’s name, rank, company, and regiment; the date the warrant was issued; and the date the warrant was exchanged for a specific parcel of land. The warrants are arranged numerically by warrant number and then chronologically.

The following sources are also helpful:

Christensen, Katheren, comp. Arkansas Military Bounty Grants (War of 1812). Hot Springs, Ark.: Arkansas Ancestors, 1971. (FHL book 976.7 R2c; computer number 244364.) Contains the name of the veteran, date, and warrant number.


War of 1812 Bounty Lands in Illinois. Thomson, Ill.: Heritage House, 1977. (FHL book 977.3 R2w; film 1035624 item 7; fiche 6051272; computer number 0007616.) A reprint of Lands in Illinois to Soldiers of Late War. (26th Congress, 1st Sess., 1840. House Doc. 262.) These records are arranged by date and include number of warrant, name of patentee, rank, description of the tract, and to whom delivered.

Prisoner of War Records

The following are general entry books for Americans incarcerated on ships and in prisons:

Records Relating to American Prisoners of War, 1812–1815, from the Public Record Office, London. (FHL films 1454583–93; computer number 414773.) The books give each prisoner’s name; ship; date and place of capture; rank; birthplace; age; physical description; and details of discharge, death, or escape.
A guide to this collection is listed below:


Additional prisoner of war records include:

**Index to War of 1812 Prisoner of War Records.** National Archives microfilm publication M1747.


**Cemetery Records**

Only about 2,000 soldiers and sailors were killed during the War of 1812. A list of those who died is in the following source:

Peterson, Clarence Stewart. *Known Military Dead during the War of 1812.* Baltimore: Clarence Stewart Peterson, 1955. (FHL book 973 M23p; fiche 6051255; computer number 271263.) Includes the name, rank, place where enlisted, whether the soldier died or was killed, and the date of capture, if he was taken prisoner.

Additional burial records include:

Finnell, Arthur Louis. *Known War of 1812 Veterans Buried in Minnesota.* Roseville, Minn.: Park Genealogical Books, 1997 (FHL book 973 C4sd; computer number 803593.) Includes the name, place of birth and death, name of spouse, and where married. Also includes the soldier’s service record with dates and his residence at time of death.

Miller, Alice Turner, comp. *Soldiers of the War of 1812 Who Died in Michigan.* Ithica, Mich.: A.T. Miller, 1962. (FHL book 977.4 M23m; film 844961 item 3; computer number 265879.) Each entry lists the soldier’s birth and death dates, his wife’s name, and the place where he is buried.

McCown, Mary Harbin, and Inez E. Burns. *Soldiers of the War of 1812 Buried in Tennessee.* Typescript, 1959. (FHL book 976.8 M23m; computer number 255484.) Alphabetically arranged. Name entries include birth and death dates or notations if the soldier was still living when the records were compiled.

Miller, Phyllis Brown, ed. *Index to the Grave Records of Servicemen of the War of 1812, State of Ohio.* Brockville, Ohio: Dillon’s Princely, 1888. (FHL book 977.1 V22u 1988; film 496718 item 5; computer number 489088.) (1969 edition FHL film 496718 item 15; computer number 219441.) This index includes the name, rank, unit, birth and death dates of each soldier and his wife, sources of information, and year of entry of the graves registration form into Daughters of 1812 records. This source indexes 5,197 grave registration forms submitted between 1937 and 1987 by members of the United States Daughters of 1812 in the state of Ohio.

**Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records**

**National Society United States Daughters of 1812.** This society was organized in 1892. A list of 20,000 soldiers who rendered service between 1784 and 1815 is the following:

Galvin, Eleanor Stevens, comp. and ed. *1812 Ancestor Index: 1892–1970: National Society United States Daughters of 1812.* Norcross, Ga.: Harper Printing, 1970. (FHL book 973 C4sd; computer number 265008.) Lists approximately 20,000 soldiers whose service between 1784 and 1815 has been established by the society. Records include name, rank, state and type of service, and usually give state and date of birth and death, spouse, and the name of the child through whom the applicant is descended.

Trolinger, Patricia Scruggs, comp. *1812 Ancestor Index 1970–1992.* Marceline, Mo.: Walsworth Publishing, 1992. (FHL 973 C4sd 1970–92; computer number 687737.) Lists soldiers whose service between 1784 and 1815 has been established by the society. Records include name, rank, state and type of service, and usually give state and date of birth and death, spouse, and the name of the child through whom the applicant is descended.

For more information about the society, write to:

National Society, United States Daughters of 1812
1461 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: 202-745-1812

**General Society of the War of 1812.** This society was founded in 1894 and has no permanent headquarters. Check the current edition of the *Encyclopedia of Associations* described in the “Veterans and Lineage Society Records” within the “Types of Military Records” section, page 10, of this outline. The Family History Library has the following:
• A card index (FHL film 002069; computer number 382081).

• Applications for membership from 1877 to 1963 (FHL films 002070–82; films 330236–41; computer number 382081).

To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS

A published roster of members will be found in:

Blizard, Dennis F., comp. and ed. *The Roster of the General Society of the War of 1812. The Roster 1989.* Mendenhall, Penn.: The General Society of the War of 1812, 1989. (FHL book 973 C4bl; computer number 614803.) Contains the following information:

• A list of War of 1812 veterans, with a brief service history, who were members

• A list of society members admitted through April 1989 with their ancestors arranged by general society numbers

• Histories of state societies

• Archival sources of the general society

• Alphabetically arranged member and ancestor indexes

Sources for Further Reading


Fredriksen, John C., comp. *Free Trade and Sailors’ Rights: A Bibliography of the War of 1812.* Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1985. (FHL book 973 H23ft; computer number 397982.) Arranged by theater of operation and topic. This source identifies over 6,000 sources, such as text, articles, book chapters, dissertations, and manuscripts.


Schweitzer, George K. *War of 1812 Genealogy.* Knoxville, Tenn: George K. Schweitzer, 1983. (FHL book 973 Al no. 201; computer number 212971.) A bibliography to sources containing chapters on service records, postwar records, publications, local sources, and so on.


MEXICAN WAR, 1846 TO 1848

This conflict between the United States and Mexico resulted from the annexation of Texas by the United States in 1845. Thirty-five thousand U.S. Army troops and 73,000 state volunteers fought in this war. Most volunteer regiments were from southern states, such as Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri, and Texas.

Records for this war are listed in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - WAR WITH MEXICO

Service Records

Service records of volunteers are available at most state archives (see the state research outlines for more information) and at the National Archives.

The following is an index to service records available at the National Archives:

*Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during the Mexican War. National Archives Microfilm Publication M616.* (FHL films 1205336–57; computer number 328750.)

The Family History Library also has service records for the following states. (See the Family History Library Catalog for complete film numbers and bibliographic information.)

• Mississippi. National Archives Microfilm Publication M863. (FHL films 1205446–54; computer number 328757).

• Pennsylvania. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1028. (FHL films 1314139–51; computer number 110857).
- Texas. National Archives Microfilm Publication M278. (FHL films 471519–37; computer number 279718).
- Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during the Mexican War in Mormon Organizations. National Archives Microfilm Publication M351. (FHL films 471465, 471517–18; computer number 279699.) For additional information on this source, see the Tracing L.D.S Families Research Outline (34080).

The compiled service records of other states are available at the National Archives.

**Records of Officers**

Published rosters of officers can be located in the following sources:

- Butler, Steven R.. *A Complete Roster of Mexican War Officers, 1846–1848, both Army and Navy, with Alphabetical Indexes*. Richardson, Tex.: Descendants of Mexican War Veterans, 1994. (FHL book 973 M2mwb; computer number 727679.) Includes regular army officers arranged by department and regiment, volunteer officers arranged by state and regiment, and Navy and Marine officers arranged by fleet and vessel.

- Gardner, Charles K. *A Dictionary of All Officers . . . in the Army of the United States. . .*. New York: G.P. Putnam and Co., 1853. (FHL book 973 M2g; film 496461 item 1, pp. 527–63; computer number 0271151.) Arranged by unit and rank. It provides the name of the soldier. Some entries contain death dates, wounded dates, and date resigned.

**Pension Records**

Pensions were first granted to widows and minor children whose husbands or fathers had died in the service and to veterans who were disabled. Pensions based on 60 days of service were first granted to veterans or unremarried widows in 1887. The following are the only pension records that have been microfilmed:

- Selected Pension Application Files for Members of the Mormon [sic] Battalion, Mexican War, 1846–48. National Archives Microfilm Publication T1196. (FHL films 480129–49; computer number 110863.)

Pension files are available at the National Archives. Below is an index to the names of veterans and widows who applied for or received pensions:

- Mexican War Index to Pension Files, 1887–1926. National Archives Microfilm Publication T317. (FHL films 537000–13; computer number 345826.) Alphabetically arranged and includes the veteran’s name, rank, and unit; names of dependents; date of filing and application; certificate numbers; act filed under; and state from which application was made.

Published versions of the above index are listed below:

- Troxel, Navena Hembree, and Susan Merrill Warner. *Mexican War Index to Pension Files, 1886–1926*. 13 vols. Plano, Tex.: N.H. Troxel and S.M. Warner, 1983–92. (FHL book 973 M2mw; computer number 213936.) Entries list either the name of the veteran or widow’s application number or both, state or country, unit served, date of application, and residence at the time of application.

- White, Virgil D. *Index to Mexican War Pension Files*. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1989. (FHL book 973 M22mw; computer number 556666.) Entries include the name of the veteran and widow, certificate number, date of application, and unit served.

- Wolfe, Barbara Schull. *An Index to Mexican War Pension Applications*. Indianapolis, Ind.: Heritage House, 1985. (FHL book 973 M22w; computer number 423727.) Entries include the name, state where the veteran was living at the time of application, date of application, and application or certificate number.

**Cemetery Records**

The following is a list of those who died in the Mexican War:

- Peterson, Clarence Stewart. *Known Military Dead during the Mexican War, 1846–48*. Baltimore: Clarence Stewart Peterson, 1957. (FHL book 973 M23pa; film 873756 item 4; fiche 6051240; computer number 271264.) An alphabetical list including the soldier’s rank, company, regiment, and death date.

**Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records**

Veterans of the Mexican War organized the National Association of Veterans of the Mexican War in the 1870s.
The Aztec Club of 1847 was organized by officers in Mexico City during the war. The following book provides information on this society.


**Descendants of Mexican War Veterans.** This society, established in 1989, publishes the following newsletter and journal:


The address for the Mexican War Veterans organization is:

Descendants of Mexican War Veterans National Office
P.O. Box 830402
Richardson, Texas 75081-0482
Internet: www.dmwv.org
This web site includes information about the organization, how to find your Mexican War veteran ancestor, history of the war, historic sites, graves registry, and links to other organizations and museums.

**Sources for Further Reading**


Frazier, Donald S., ed. *The United States and Mexico at War.* New York: Simon and Schuster Macmillian, 1998. (FHL book 973 M26f; computer number 812740.) Contains short essays with bibliographies of notable persons, places and events between 1821 and 1854. Topics include veteran organizations, pensions, and army life. Appendices include both regular and volunteer U.S. units that fought in the war.


**CIVIL WAR, 1861 TO 1865**

The Civil War was fought between the Northern and Southern (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia) states, beginning on 12 April 1861 when troops in South Carolina fired upon the garrison at Fort Sumter in Charleston Harbor. Approximately 3.5 million soldiers fought in the war. The war resulted in almost 600,000 deaths and affected nearly every family in those regions of the country.

There are several sites on the World Wide Web that offer important information about the Civil War. Two of them are:
This web site introduces basic research sources, how to compile a soldier’s history, where to find records, war photographs and maps, and other records.

Cyndi’s List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet

This web site provides links to American Civil War genealogical sites, including: African-Americans, battles, forts, general resources, state-by-state resources, hospitals, libraries and archives, military units, pension records, prisoners, publications, researchers, regimental rosters and histories, and societies.

General Reference Sources

U.S. War Department. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.* 70 vols. in 127 parts. 1880–1900. Reprint, Gettysburg, Pa.: The National Historical Society, 1985. National Archives Microfilm Publication M262. (FHL book 973 M29u; films 845306–426; computer number 207767.) This is an FHL filming of the original volumes. (Also available on CD #51, computer number 792286, and #52, computer number 789693.) The four series of this compilation, known as the OR (Official Records), contain correspondence, battle reports of officers, information on prisoners, and activities of the war departments of both governments. To find specific volumes, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865**

A supplement to the official records is also available:

Hewitt, Janet B., et. al., ed. *Supplement to the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. Part I Reports, Part II the Record of Events.* Wilmington, N.C.: Broadfoot Publishing, 1994–. (FHL book 973 M29u; computer number 760268.) *Part II the Record of Events* is a transcription of the National Archive Microfilm Publication M594 (Union) and M861 (Confederate) *Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Volunteer Organizations.* For more information see the unit histories sections for Union and Confederate military units.

The following is an index to this set:

Ainsworth, Fred C., and Joseph W. Kirkley. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. . . . General Index and Additions and Corrections.* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1901. (FHL book 973 M29u index; film 430054; computer number 459646.) Contains names of officers who submitted reports and the names of military units. The names of individual soldiers who were killed, captured, wounded, missing, drafted, and pensioned and the names of political prisoners are not found in the index. You must search the index under the names of battles, regiments, prisons, government agencies, and bureaus for such lists. References to the OR series number (a Roman numeral) are followed by the number of the volume (an Arabic number). You must then refer to the index in that volume to get the page number.


**UNITED STATES - HISTORY - CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865 - NAVAL OPERATIONS**

The following is an index to this set:

A reference aid to the Official Records is:


Other Civil War sources are listed below:


Bibliography of State Participation in the Civil War. 3d ed. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1913. (FHL film 1465569; computer number 400980.) Lists veterans’ organizations; regimental histories; and state, county, and town histories (Northern and Southern) that have rosters of soldiers.


Sifakis, Stewart. *Who Was Who in the Civil War.* New York: Facts on File, 1988. (FHL book 973 H2sif; computer number 461907.) This biographical compendium has histories of 2,500 civilian and military notables of the North and South, including 1,008 generals.


**Civil War Soldiers System**

The National Park Service, the National Archives, the Federation of Genealogical Societies, the Genealogical Society of Utah, and numerous volunteers are working together to make a computerized index to Union and Confederate soldiers. When completed, this index will be available at National Park Service Civil War sites. The database will have 5.5 million names (some names will duplicated because of spelling variations and multiple enlistments). They will also tell whether the soldier was Union or Confederate and will give regiment and rank.

As completed, the National Park Service will be posting the entries on their Internet web site. The address for the site is: www.itd.nps.gov/cwss

This site also contains basic facts about soldiers on both sides of the Civil War, a list of regiments, identifications and descriptions of 384 significant battles, references that identify the sources of the information in the database, and suggestions for where to find additional information. It also includes a search of the 235,000 name “U.S. Colored Troops” database.
Union Sources

Union Army soldiers may have served in the U.S. Army, local militia units mustered into federal service, or volunteer regiments raised by the individual states. The length of service varied from 90 days to three years. Many soldiers also reenlisted, serving in more than one regiment. The Union Army and Navy enlisted over 2.3 million men, of which nearly 359,000 died in combat or from wounds and disease.

Service Records

Service Records of Soldiers. There is currently no master index to the names of soldiers who served in Union volunteer regiments. Individual indexes to state volunteer regiments are available on microfilm for every Northern state and every Southern state except South Carolina. A transcription of the National Archives indexes to compiled Military Service records of Volunteer Union soldiers is:


Most service records have not been microfilmed and are available only at the National Archives. The following service records and indexes are available on microfilm at the National Archives. Most of the filmed records and indexes are also available at the Family History Library. See the Family History Library Catalog for complete bibliographic information:

- Arizona. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M532. (FHL film 881608; computer number 278751.)
- California. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M533. (FHL films 881609–15; computer number 278708.)
- Colorado. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M534. (FHL films 821998–2000; computer number 279913.)
- Delaware. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M537. (FHL films 881617–20; computer number 278683.)
- District of Columbia. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M538. (FHL films 881964–66; computer number 279137.)
- Florida. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M400. (FHL films 1299987–97; computer number 110835.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M264. (FHL film 821767; computer number 280547.)
- Georgia. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M403. (FHL film 1276608.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M385. (FHL film 881394; computer number 278207.)
- Illinois. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M539. (FHL films 881621–72; computer number 324400.)
- Indiana. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M540. (FHL films 881722–807; computer number 323049.)
- Iowa. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M541. (FHL films 881808–36; computer number 279543.)
- Kansas. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M542. (FHL films 881837–46; computer number 278711.)
- Kentucky. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M397. (FHL films 1487066–275; films 1489753–90057; computer number 437572.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M386. (FHL films 881492–521; computer number 279582.)
• Louisiana. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M396. (FHL films 1380930–79; computer number 437574.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M387. (FHL films 821926–29; computer number 280581.)

• Maine. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M543. (FHL films 881847–69; computer number 175675.)

• Maryland. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M384. (FHL films 1477976–8213; computer number 426411.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M388. (FHL films 881522–34; computer number 278722.)

• Massachusetts. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M544. (FHL films 881870–913; computer number 281057.)

• Michigan. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M545. (FHL films 881914–61; computer number 326002.)

• Minnesota. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M546. (FHL films 821930–38 and 882902; computer number 280590.)

• Mississippi. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M404. (FHL films 1292659–62; computer number 110838.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M389. (FHL film 881535; computer number 278663.)

• Missouri. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M405. (FHL films 1500223–1501075; computer number 437579.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M390. (FHL films 881536–89; computer number 279938.)

• Nebraska. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M547. (FHL films 821905–06; computer number 279839.) Also available at the National Archives, Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the Territory of Nebraska. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1787.

• Nevada. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M548. (FHL film 821939 computer number 279861.) Also available at the National Archives, Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the Territory and State of Nevada. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1789.

• New Hampshire. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M549. (FHL films 882018–30; computer number 100690.)

• New Jersey. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M550. (FHL films 882031–56; computer number 280728.)

• New Mexico. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M427. (FHL films 471538–83; computer number 420836.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M242. (FHL films 821883–86; computer number 475736.)

• New York. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M551. (FHL films 882057–213; computer number 377673.)

• North Carolina. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M401 (FHL films 1473248–72; computer number 437573) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M391. (FHL films 881590–91; computer number 278987.)

• Ohio. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M552. (FHL films 882214–335; computer number 288133.)

• Oregon. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M553. (FHL film 821947; computer number 279892.) Also available at the National Archives, Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Oregon. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1816.

• Pennsylvania. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M554. (FHL films 882336–472; computer number 324020.)

• Rhode Island. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M555. (FHL films 821940–46; computer number 90189.)

• Tennessee. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M395. (FHL films 1482042–261; computer number 437576.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M392. (FHL films 821889–904; computer number 279747.)

• Texas. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M402. (FHL films 1292646–58; computer number 110840.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M393. (FHL films 881592–93; computer number 278973.)
• Utah. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M692. (FHL film 821588; computer number 279682.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M556. (FHL film 1292645; computer number 110832.)

• Vermont. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M557. (FHL films 882472–85; computer number 278651.)

• Virginia. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M398. (FHL films 1292638–44; computer number 110844.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M394. (FHL film 881594; computer number 278963.)

• Washington. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M558. (FHL film 821948; computer number 279908.)

• West Virginia. Compiled Service Records. National Archives Microfilm Publication M508. (FHL films 1478231–475 and 1482026–041; computer number 432766.) Also, Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M507. (FHL films 881595–607; computer number 278717.)

• Wisconsin. Index. National Archives Microfilm Publication M559. (FHL films 882486–518; computer number 279932.)

The indexes include the soldier’s name, rank, and unit. To find specific microfilm numbers for indexes, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

[STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865 - INDEXES

For service records, look under:

[STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865

Additional service indexes for Union soldiers are:

- Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in the Veteran Reserve Corps. National Archives Microfilm Publication M636. (FHL films 1205358–83; computer number 328746.) Indexes the names of soldiers who were no longer able to serve combat duty but who could still perform limited duty, such as being prison guards and hospital stewards.

- Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served with United States Colored Troops. National Archives Microfilm Publication M589. (FHL films 1266617–43 and 1266546–616; computer number 34182.) Covers many former slaves from the South as well as free African-Americans who served in the Union Army between 1863 and 1865.

- Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Not Raised by States and Territories. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1290. (FHL films 1604884–920; computer number 467348.) Indexes records of special units not raised by the states, such as the U.S. Sharpshooters, Indian Home Guard, and former Confederates.

The following related records are available on microfilm at the National Archives:


Listed below are the service records of former Confederates or “galvanized Yankees” who enlisted from prison camps:

- Compiled Service Records of Former Confederate Soldiers Who Served in the First through Sixth U.S. Volunteer Infantry Regiments, 1864–66. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1017. (FHL films 1315687–751; computer number 122843.) To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

  UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865
Copies of compiled service records can be requested from the National Archives by using NATF Form 80. These service records were made from muster rolls, pay lists, hospital records, and record books that have not been filmed. Some of these sources, such as the hospital registers, often give detailed information, such as birthplace. If a compiled service record notes a Bookmark File number, this refers to a separate set of records that must be asked for specifically when requesting copies. The records are found in Record Group 94, Records of the Adjutant General’s Office, 1780s–1917.

Service Records of Sailors. For records of sailors who served in the Union Navy, contact the National Archives. The weekly returns of enlistments, 1855 to 1891, are the records of most value for sailors, particularly those who served between 1855 and 1865. Entries list the sailor’s name, enlistment date, birthplace, age, occupation, personal description, date of or return of enlistment, and record of previous naval service. The records have not been filmed and are available only at the National Archives in Record Group 24, Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel.

See the following for more information:


An index to sailors who enlisted between 1861 and 1865 is listed below:

*Index to Rendezvous Reports, Civil War, 1861–65*. National Archives Microfilm Publication T1099. (FHL films 1570558–88; computer number 462166.) Entries contain the sailor’s name, ship or place of rendezvous, and date of enlistment.

Records of Officers. For biographical sketches of officers (both Army and Navy) and other information, see the following:


Pension Records

The pension law governing claims based on death or disability from military service was passed
14 July 1862. Later pension laws were based on length of service and disability not necessarily incurred in the service. Beginning in 1892 women who were employed as nurses by the government were also eligible for pensions. An index to pension claims is listed below:

General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934.
National Archives Microfilm Publication T288. (FHL films 540757–1300; computer number 245945.) The index is arranged by the veteran’s or widow’s name and his unit, rank, date and application number, certificate number if accepted, and state of filing. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS - INDEXES

The pension files have not been filmed and are only available at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. You can obtain photocopies of pension files by using NATF Form 80, available from the National Archives. The archives staff will copy only selected documents unless you request copies of all the documents in a file.

Veterans Administration Pension Payment Cards, 1907–1933. National Archives Microfilm Publication M850. (FHL films 1634036–6574; computer number 500541.) This index is useful for veterans who were on the pension rolls between 1907 and 1933, except World War I pensioners. About two million cards record payment to veterans and widows. The veteran’s name, unit or branch of service, certificate number, law under which pensioned, rate of pension, pension date, date of certificate, place of residence, death date, former roll number, and widow’s name may be included on the cards. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS

Organization Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served between 1861 and 1900. National Archives Microfilm Publication T289. (FHL 765 films; computer number 462116.) This index is similar in content to the general index and the pension payment cards, but it may provide death information. The index is alphabetical by state, branch of service, regiment, company, and name of the veteran. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS

Prisoner of War Records

Prisoner of war records of Union prisoners are described in:


Records of the Commissary General of Prisoners are described on pages 247–59.

Prisoner of war records at the Family History Library include:


Contains a register of about 30,000 departures from the prison; indexes and registers of prisoners admitted to the prison hospital; registers of prisoner deaths and burials as well as monthly reports of prisoners; and so on.

Draft Records

By 1863 it became necessary for the federal government to enroll and draft men into the Army. The Conscription Act declared that men between the ages of 20 and 45 were eligible for duty. Aliens who had filed their declaration of intention to become citizens were also eligible. Records relating to the draft are at the National Archives in Record Group 110, Records of the Provost Marshal General’s Bureau, and have not yet been microfilmed. They include the following:

• Consolidated Lists. These are arranged by state, then by congressional district, and then alphabetically by the first letter of the surname. The lists give name; place of residence; age as of 1 July 1863; occupation; marital status; state, territory, or country of birth; and military service (if any).

• Descriptive Rolls. These are arranged the same as the Consolidated Lists and include a physical description of the enrollee, birthplace, and whether accepted or rejected for service.

To find a name in the records, you must first determine the congressional district in which your
ancestor lived. Congressional district numbers are listed in the following:

*United States Congress. Congressional Directory for the Second Session of the Thirty-eighth Congress of the United States of America.* Washington, D.C.: Philip & Solomons, 1865. (FHL book 973 E4uc 1865; film 1425543 item 6; computer number 234670.) This is arranged alphabetically by state, then by Congressional district. The counties are included in each district.

There are also some case files on drafted aliens in National Archives Record Group 59, *General Records of the Department of State.* These are arranged alphabetically and include name, age, district from which drafted, country of citizenship, and length of residence in the United States.

Civil War draft or enrollment records are discussed in:


**Unit Histories**

Many state volunteer regiments had published histories. The histories have biographical data on officers and unit rosters of members, and they often provide clues to the town or county where the soldiers were living when they enlisted.

The following sources contain organizational unit names and brief service histories of Union Army regiments:


**Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Volunteer Union Organizations.**

National Archives Microfilm Publication M594. (FHL films 1488453–677; computer number 437590.) Transcribed as *Part II Record of Events to Supplement to the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.* For additional information, look under “General Reference Sources” in this section on page 24.

Fallon, John T. *List of Synonyms of Organizations in the Volunteer Service of the United States during the Years 1861, ’62, ’63, ’64, and ’65.* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1885. (FHL film 195490; computer number 283860.) Arranged by state, then alphabetical by synonym, with references to its regular or final designation. An additional arrangement of the synonyms alphabetically is included.

**The Union Army, a History of Military Affairs in the Loyal States 1861–1865; Records of the Regiments in the Union Army, Encyclopedia of Battles, Memoirs of Commanders and Soldiers.*


The Family History Library has a large collection of regimental histories. To find specific microfilm numbers look in the Author/Title search of the Family History Library Catalog on microfiche under the name of the author. The library is also in the process of acquiring *Civil War Unit Histories: Regimental Histories and Personal Narratives* on microfiche from University Publications of America. This collection will include the state adjutant general’s office reports and the unit histories and personal narratives published from 1861 to 1920 that are listed in Charles E. Dornbusch’s previously mentioned *Military Bibliography of the Civil War.*

The collection is divided into five parts: the Union is covered in parts 2–5; Part 2, New England; Part 3, Mid-Atlantic; Part 4, Midwest and West; Part 5, higher and independent commands and naval forces. A published inventory for each part is available in:


For additional information look under “General Reference Sources” in the “Civil War” section of this outline.

**Census Records**

As part of the regular enumeration of the population in 1890, a special enumeration was also done of Union veterans and widows. The returns are available on the following microfilm:
Schedules Enumerating Union Veterans and Widows of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1890. National Archives Microfilm Publication M123. (FHL 118 films; computer number 59376.) The schedules for the states alphabetically from Kentucky through Wyoming are available. They give name, rank, company, regiment or vessel, dates of enlistment and discharge, length of service, residence, disability, and remarks. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - CENSUS - 1890

State indexes to the 1890 census are listed under:

[STATE] - CENSUS - 1890

The Thirteenth Population Census of the United States, 1910. National Archives Microfilm Publication T624. (FHL 1,784 films; computer number 176588), asked whether an individual was a survivor of the Union Army (UA) or the Union Navy (UN). Some state censuses also identified Union veterans. Examples on microfilm at the Family History Library include the New York census of 1865 and the Wisconsin census of 1885.

Cemetery Records

Nearly 359,000 soldiers in the Union forces lost their lives during the war. The following is the best source to begin searching for a Union soldier’s burial place:


Hughes, Mark. Bivouac of the Dead. Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1995. (FHL book 973 M24h; computer number 758871.) Contains a history of the National Cemetery system and burial procedures of the Union army, an index to the original burial site along with final burial site of soldiers (1860–90), and a brief description of each cemetery.

Card Records of Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, ca. 1879–1903. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1845. Contains 166,000 records of veterans buried in private cemeteries. Cards are arranged alphabetically and contain the name of the veteran, rank, company, regiment, place of burial, name and location of cemetery, grave number, date of death, and supplier of headstones.

Additional statewide burial records of Union soldiers and veterans available at the Family History Library include:

Civil War Graves Registration Index Cards, 1861–1930. Salt Lake City: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1994. (FHL 22 films, beginning with 1955405; computer number 739131.) This index for the state of Michigan includes name, county of burial, and military unit.

Civil War Veterans Buried in Nebraska. Lincoln, Neb.: State Historical Society, 1970. (FHL films 833155–56; computer number 353242.) Entries contain name, GAR post number; place of burial, including city and county; cemetery name; grave lot and section; date and place of death; place of birth; date of birth; company; regiment; rank; and enlistment and discharge dates.

Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). This was the major veterans’ organization after the war. It reached its largest membership in the 1890s with about 400,000 members. Below is a published history of the organization with biographical sketches of national and state officials:

By 1890, about 40 percent of Union veterans were members of the Grand Army of the Republic. The descriptive books of each GAR post usually indicate each member’s name, age, birthplace, residence, occupation, and enlistment and discharge information. Records of GAR posts and of other veterans’ organizations may be found in historical societies, state archives, and state libraries. The Family History Library has records for:

- Iowa (FHL 69 films; computer number 238654).
- Michigan (FHL 76 films; computer number 277155).
- Nebraska (FHL 2 films; computer number 527157).
- Oregon (FHL film 2167206).
- South Dakota (FHL film 1598224, item 1; computer number 0302643.)
- Utah (FHL 2 films; computer number 631463).

To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog search the Locality section under:

[STATE] - SOCIETIES

The following publications contain deaths of GAR members:

Concannon, Marie. *Grand Army of the Republic, Missouri Division, Index to Death Rolls 1882–1940: Taken from the Proceedings of the Annual Encampments*. Columbia, Mo.: State Historical Society of Missouri, 1995. (FHL book 977.8 M22c; computer number 811250.) Entries list name, post number and location, age at death, and the year and page numbers in which the death was reported.


*Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1861–65*. This organization was established in 1885. The address of their library and museum is:

Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War
503 South Walnut Street
Springfield, IL 62704
Telephone: 217-544-0616

*Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*. Established in 1881, this society has no permanent headquarters. The society has a grave registration committee. Check the current edition of the *Encyclopedia of Associations* described in the “Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records,” pages 10-11, within the “Types of Military Records” section of this outline.

The society’s Internet web site is found at: http://suvcw.org

This site includes a history of the organization, membership information, coming events, a Civil War ancestor registration project, grave registration project, state department (chapter) web sites, and links to other related genealogical web sites.

The society publishes the following:

*The Banner: The Journal of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War*. Dwight, Ill.: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, 1897–. (FHL book 973 H25ba; computer number 531276.)

For a published history of the society and a roster of some current members see:


*Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States*. This society was organized by officers of the Union Army in 1865. Their address is:

MOLLUS
1805 Pine Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
Telephone: 215-546-2425
Internet: http://suv cw.org/mollus.htm

This web site has announcements, membership requirements, and national and state organization information.

A roster of the society members are located in:

Aubin, Joshua Harris. *Register of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States*. Boston: Commandry of the State of Mass., 1906. (FHL book 973 C4a; 908066 item 4; computer number 264873.) Arranged alphabetically by name of officer, rank, unit of service, state, commandery or relationship to officer if heredity member.
**Additional Union Sources**


Lord, Francis A. *They Fought for the Union*. New York: Bonanza Books, 1960. (FHL Book 973 M2lf; computer number 542212.) Discusses the various aspect of army life for the common soldier and organization.


**Confederate Sources**

Records of the Confederate Army are located in the National Archives Record Group (RG109). They are described in:


Additional Confederate records are at state archives and historical societies. For state service records, see the state research outlines.

The following archive may also be helpful in researching your Confederate ancestor:

Confederate Research Center
P.O. Box 619
Hillsboro, TX 76645
Telephone: 817-582-2555, ext. 242

**Service Records**

*Service Records of Soldiers*. The compiled service records for Confederate soldiers have been indexed and microfilmed. The following is a master index to the compiled service records of Confederate enlisted soldiers and officers:
The records have also been indexed by state. The records and indexes available at the National Archives and Family History Library are:

- **Alabama. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M311. (FHL films 880330–837; computer number 379341.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M374. (FHL films 821949–97; computer number 328758.)

- **Arkansas. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M317. (FHL films 880849–1104; computer number 378694.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M376. (FHL films 821811–36; computer number 378694.)

- **Arizona. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M318. (FHL film 536241; computer number 26193.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M375. (FHL film 821837; computer number 445487.)

- **Florida. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M251. (FHL films 880103–206; computer number 374150.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M225. (FHL films 880001–9; computer number 374150.)

- **Georgia. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M266. (FHL films 1499064–670; computer number 437571.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M226. (FHL films 821700–66; computer number 381928.)

- **Kentucky. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M319. (FHL films 1447468–603; computer number 395864.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M377. (FHL films 881380–93; computer number 278163.)

- **Louisiana. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M320. (FHL films 1447604–975; 1473206–47; computer number 432698.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M378. (FHL films 881457–87; computer number 279612.)

- **Maryland. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M321. (FHL films 1292663–84; computer number 110847.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M379. (FHL films 821887–88; computer number 279723.)

- **Mississippi. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M269. (FHL films 1488026–452; computer number 437580.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M232. (FHL films 821838–82; computer number 382179.)

- **Missouri. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M322. (FHL films 1500030–222; computer number 437578.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M380. (FHL films 882002–17; computer number 279180.)

- **North Carolina. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M270. (FHL films 1381001–500; 1447001–80; computer number 438816.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M230. (FHL films 821768–810; computer number 326013.)

- **South Carolina. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M267. (FHL films 1380691–95; 1447081–467; computer number 442957.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M381. (FHL films 881967–2001; computer number 281240.)

- **Tennessee. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M268. (FHL films 1499671–854, 120547, 1499856–1500028, 1527065; computer number 437575.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M231. (FHL films 880055–102; computer number 280131.)

- **Texas. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M323. (FHL films 1501077–521; computer number 437577.) Also, *Index.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M227. (FHL films 880014–54; computer number 325994.)

- **Virginia. Compiled Service Records.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M324. (FHL films 1488678–9752; computer number 437570.) Also, *Index.* National Archives...
To find specific microfilm numbers of indexes, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

[STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861–1865 - INDEXES

To find specific microfilm numbers for the service records, look in the Locality search under:

[STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861–1865

The following is another important index to service records:

*Index to Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Raised Directly by the Confederate Government and of Confederate General and Staff Officers and Nonregimental Enlisted Men.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M818. (FHL films 1205310–35; computer number 328740.)

The above source indexes the following two collections:

*Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in Organizations Raised Directly by the Confederate Government.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M258. (FHL films 880207–329; computer number 278791.) This series of records includes those units not raised by the individual states.

*Compiled Service Records of Confederate General and Staff Officers and Nonregimental Enlisted Men.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M331. (FHL films 881105–379; computer number 375792.) The records include those men performing staff duties. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861–1865

Below is an alphabetical collection of records that were never indexed nor interfiled with the compiled service records:

*Unfiled Papers and Slips Belonging to Confederate Compiled Service Records.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M347. (FHL films 1402001–442; computer number 210198.)

*Service Records of Sailors.* The source below is a guide to Confederate naval sources:


The following card collection has information about sailors and Marines abstracted from original documents, such as hospital, prison, and parole records:

*Confederate Naval and Marine Personnel Records.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M260. (FHL films 191662–8; computer number 327273.)

Published muster rolls and statistical data on ships are in *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies,* Vol. 1, Series II. The muster rolls list name, grade, and ship. For additional information look under “General Reference Sources” in this section on page 24.

For information about Marines see the following:


*Records of Officers.* For biographical sketches and other information about officers in addition to the service records, see the following:


Crute, Joseph H. *Confederate Staff Officers, 1861–1865.* Powhatan, Va.: Derwent Books, 1982. (FHL book 973 M2cru; computer number 460015.) Arranged alphabetically by general. Includes birth and death year; rank, commands, or positions held; and their staff by name, rank, staff assignment, and date of appointment.

Dudley, William S. Going South: U.S. Navy Officer Resignations and Dismissals On the Eve of the Civil War. Washington, D.C.: Naval Historical Foundation, 1981. (FHL book 973 M2du; computer number 364963.) The appendix contains information about officers and is arranged by rank. It includes the following: name, date resignation was tendered, date resignation was accepted or dismissed, state of birth, state appointed, state citizenship, date of Confederate states name appointment, Confederate states navy rank.


Pension Records. Pensions were granted to Confederate veterans, widows, and orphans by the former Confederate states. The Family History Library has an excellent collection of available Confederate pension records. Those for the following states are available on film at the Family History Library:

- Alabama (FHL 276 films; computer number 482000).
- Arkansas (FHL films 1722443–563; computer number 588054.) The following are indexes to these films:

Ingmire, Francis T. Arkansas Confederate Veterans and Widows Pension Applications. (St. Louis, Mo.: F.T. Ingmire, 1985. (FHL book 976.7 M28f; computer number 433863.) Entries include the following information for the veteran or widow or both: name, application number, military unit of service, application date, county, and death date.

Allen, Desmond W. Arkansas Confederate Pension Applications . . . , 2 vols. Conway, Ark.: Arkansas Research, 1991. (FHL book 976.7 M22adl; film 1697962 item 2; computer number 694665.) Contains the name of the veteran or widow or both, company, regiment, year of application, and death date.

- Florida (FHL films 006717-006885; computer number 377657). These records are indexed in:

White, Virgil D. Register of Florida CSA Pension Applications. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1989. (FHL book 975.9 M2w; computer number 556671.) Entries are listed alphabetically and include unit of service; widow’s name including maiden name; county of residence, and number of pages in file.

- Georgia (FHL 634 films; computer number 374852). Index. (FHL films 1493047–85; computer number 374852.) These records are indexed in:

White, Virgil D. Index to Georgia Civil War Confederate Pension Files. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1996. (FHL 975.8 M22w; computer number 807239.) Arranged alphabetically and contain name of veteran, military unit, widow’s name or witnesses, and county of residence. Covers pensions paid to veterans and widows from 1879 to 1960.

- Kentucky (FHL films 1670795–844; computer number 569186). These records are indexed in:

Simpson, Alicia Simpson, comp. Index of Confederate Pension Applications, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Frankfurt, Ky.: Division of Archives and Records, 1981. (FHL book 976.9 M2k; computer number 313653.) Arranged alphabetically by the name of applicant, veteran, or widow, county of residence, date application was received, and application number.
• Louisiana. Application Record for Pensions, 1898–1944 (FHL films 1412743–44); Record of Pensioners of the State of Louisiana, 1898–1940. (FHL films 1412742–43); and Louisiana Confederate Veterans Pensions, 1912–1936. (FHL film 1704156 item 17; computer number 248616.)

• Mississippi (FHL 94 films; computer number 277157).

• Missouri (FHL films 1021101–27; computer number 195357). These records are indexed in:
  Fox, Peggy Barnes, comp. and ed. Missouri Confederate Pensions and Confederate Home Applications Index. Hillsboro, Tex.: Hill College Press, 1996. (FHL book 977.8 M2fp; computer number 783758.) Arranged alphabetically and includes the name of the veteran and the county of residence.

• North Carolina (FHL 105 films; computer number 494409).

• Oklahoma (FHL films 1001529–48; computer number 197031). These records are indexed in:
  Index to Applications for Pensions from the State of Oklahoma. . . Oklahoma City, Okla.: Oklahoma Genealogical Society, 1969. (FHL book 976.6 M24o; fiche 6046932; computer number 237716.) Alphabetical by name with application and reel number.

• South Carolina. The Family History Library has pension-related material for veterans residing in the following counties: Abbeville, Anderson, Charleston, Cherokee, Chester, Edgefield, Fairfield, Lancaster, Laurens, Lexington, Pickens, Spartanburg, Union, Williamsburg, and York. For film numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:
  SOUTH CAROLINA - [COUNTY] - PENSIONS
  SOUTH CAROLINA - MILITARY RECORDS- CIVIL WAR-PENSIONS

Some veterans received artificial limbs. The following publication provides information on available records.

McCawley, Patrick. Artificial Limbs for Confederate Soldiers. Columbia, S.C.: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 1992. (FHL book 975.7 AI no. 109; computer number 697450.) Contains an index to artificial limbs vouchers and applications. The entries include name, county, year, folder number, and item number.

• Tennessee (FHL 181 films; computer number 250899). These records are indexed in:
  Index to Tennessee Confederate Pension Applications (n.p.), 1964. (FHL book 976.8 M24t; film 873919; fiche 6051232; computer number 257582.) Arranged in three parts: veteran, widow, and colored applications. The entries contain the name of applicant, county of residence, unit served, and application number.

  Sistler, Samuel, ed. Index to Tennessee Confederate Pension Applications. Nashville, Tenn.: Byron Sistler and Associates, 1994. (FHL 976.8 M22s index; fiche 6125500; computer number 743133.) Arranged alphabetically, and includes the name of applicant, application number, county, and unit.

  Wiefering, Edna and Charles A. Sherrill, ed. Tennessee’s Confederate Widows and Their Families: Abstracts of 11,190 Confederate Widows’ Pension Applications. Cleveland, Tenn.: Cleveland Public Staff and Volunteers, 1992. (FHL 976.8 M28w; computer number 688952.) Indexed. Entries include pension file number, widow’s name, widow’s maiden name, county of residence at time of application, year and place of widow’s birth, name of veteran and year and place of birth, year and place of marriage, and year and place of veteran’s death.

• Texas (FHL 700 films; computer number 318535). These records have the following indexes:
  Kinney, John M., comp. Index to Applications for Texas Confederate Pensions. Rev. by Peggy Oakley. Austin, Tex.: Texas State Library, 1977. (FHL book 976.4 M22k; fiche 6019976; computer number 113924.) (1975 edition is on FHL film 928040 item 3; computer number 247198.) This index is arranged in three parts: approved applications, rejected applications, and residence of the Confederate home. Entries contain name of applicant, county of residence, application number, and book number.
Confederate Pension Index for Texas, 1870–1930. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Genealogical Society of Utah, 1996. (FHL film 2031526; computer number 787601.)

White, Virgil. Index to Texas C.S.A. Pension Files. Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Pub., 1989. (FHL book 976.4 M22W; computer number 556670.) Arranged alphabetically by the name of the veteran or widow. A are application numbers; P are pension numbers.


To find specific microfilm numbers for Confederate pensions with the Family History Library Catalog, select computer number search from the main menu. You can also find information on the Internet site of the National Archives and Records Administration at: www.nara.gov/genealogy/confed.html This site provides a state-by-state list of (and links to) Southern state archives with pension records. There is a brief history of pensions from each state, as well as key reference books or indexes. Keep in mind that the veteran was eligible to apply for a pension to the state in which he lived, even if he served in a unit from a different state.

Pensions may also be obtained from the states. Below is a guide for writing to obtain Confederate pension records:

Allen, Desmond Wall. Where to Write for Confederate Pension Records. Bryant, Ark.: Research Associates, 1991. (FHL book 973 A1 no. 307; fiche 6104915; computer number 669028.) This pamphlet briefly describes pension files with photocopy cost, date of earliest pension legislation, available indexes, addresses of where files are located in each of the Southern states, and other sources of information on veterans.

**Soldier Homes, Confederate**

Many Southern states maintained soldier homes for needy Confederate veterans. Records of these homes available at the Family History Library include:

- Arkansas
  Pickett, Connie. Old Soldiers Home, Arkansas Confederate and Widows. St. Louis: Ingmire Publications, 1985. (FHL book 976.7 M28i; computer number 448681.) Arranged alphabetically by name of veteran or widow and includes the county and date.

- Georgia
  Wight, Willard E. Index to Registers of Inmates of the Confederate Soldiers Home of Georgia. Atlanta: Georgia Dept. of Archives and History, 1964. (Vol. 1 1901–1913 FHL film 1445835; Vol. 2 1913–1927 film 1445836; computer number 433159.) Contents include name, occupation, county of residence, date of birth, date and place entered military service, rank, company, regiment, when and where wounded, when and where taken prisoner, when and where put on specific detail, when and where separated from service, commanding officers, branch of service, age upon admission to home, date entered home, relatives, date of death or discharge, and date and place of burial.

- Louisiana
  Soldiers Home of Louisiana (New Orleans). Register Books, 1884–1934; index, 1905–1944. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Genealogical Society of Utah, 1990. (FHL film 1685399 items 5–8; film 1685400 items 1–2; film 1703673 item 2; film 1703674; film 1704156 item 1; computer number 673398.) Entries include date of admission, name, birth date and place, company, regiment, state, cause of admission, by whom sent, date of leaving, and cause of discharge.

- Missouri
  Missouri Adjutant General’s Office. Confederate Pension Applications and Soldiers’ Home Admission Applications. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Genealogical Society of Utah, 1977. (FHL films 1021119–27; computer number 195357.) Contents include name, birth date, birthplace, residence, length of residence in Missouri, date of enlistment, rank, unit of service, death date, and burial place.

- Tennessee
  Strange, Judith A. The Tennessee Confederate Soldier’s Home: Marching Out of the Mist Into the Light . . . Goodlettsville, Tenn.: Tennessee Tracers, 1996. (FHL book 976.8 M2s; computer number 777448.) Contains rosters of veterans at the home from 1890 to 1934. Entries typically include date and place of birth, enlistment date, unit served, current residence, occupation, and death date or discharge date from the home. Also contains an index to applications to the home listing name, county of residence, and unit served, as well as cemetery lists for the home cemetery.
• Texas
  
  *Roster of the Residents of the Texas Confederate Old Soldiers Home in Austin, TX.* Austin, Tex.: Texas State Library, 1990. (FHL film 1689628; computer number 553885.)

• Virginia
  

**Prisoner of War Records**

Below is a set of 429 volumes naming Confederate-held prisoners:

*Selected Records of the War Department Relating to Confederate Prisoners of War, 1861–1865.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M598. Washington, D.C.: The National Archives, 1965–66. (FHL films 1303301–445; computer number 110849.) Consists mainly of registers and lists of captured soldiers and civilians. The records may provide such information as names, rank, unit or residence, dates of capture, deaths, prisoners released, and so on.

**Unit Histories**

Some Confederate military units have published histories. These explain the unit’s role in the war, give biographical data on officers, and usually provide a unit roster of its members. The Family History Library has the following:


*Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Confederate Organizations.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M861. (FHL films 1380856–929; computer number 437582.) These records are being transcribed as Part II: Record of Events to Supplement the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies. For additional information, look under “General Reference Sources” in this section, on page 24.

*Census Records**

The following federal and state censuses recorded specific information on Confederate soldiers. See the Family History Library Catalog for complete film numbers.

• Federal Censuses
  
  *The Thirteenth Population Census of the United States, 1910.* National Archives Microfilm Publication T624. (On 1,784 FHL films beginning with 1374014; computer number 176588.) This census recorded whether an individual was a...
survivor of the Confederate Army (CA) or the Confederate Navy (CN). Some Southern states took special censuses of Confederate veterans. Those at the Family History Library include:

- **Alabama**
  1907 *state census.* (FHL films 1533727–30; computer number 482535.) Includes the name, address, birth date and place, rank, date of entry into service, unit, date and place of discharge.

  1921 *state census.* (FHL films 1533719–23; film 1533730; computer number 482535.) Includes name, date and place of birth, length of residency, wife’s age and place of birth, date and place of marriage, living children, place of residence, and occupation.

  1927 *state census.* (FHL films 1533723 item 2 and 1533724; computer number 482535.) Includes the veteran’s name, widow’s name, age, birth date, and marriage date.

- **Arkansas**
  1911 *state census.* McLane, Bobbie Jones, and Capitola Glazner, comps. *Arkansas 1911 Census of Confederate Veterans.* 3 vols. (S.L.; S.N.), 1977–1981. (FHL book 976.7 X2m; fiche 6019335; computer number 211485.) Arranged alphabetically by name of veteran with brief biographical sketches which may contain the following: residence, birth date and place, parents, wife’s maiden name and parents, military service, and children.

- **Louisiana**
  1911 *state census.* (FHL film 483489 and 1704157 item 14; computer number 320439.)

  Jenks, Houston C. *An Index to the Census of 1911 of Confederate Veterans or Their Widows: Pursuant to Act 71 of 1908.* Jenks: Baton Rouge, La.; H.C. Jenks, 1989. (FHL book 976.3 M22j; film 1822969 item 12; computer number 551615.) Contains name of veteran or widow, parish, age, state where enlisted, regiment and company, property valuation, livelihood (including some relationships), infirmities, date of marriage, and reel number where information is found.

**Cemetery Records**

About 250,000 Confederate soldiers died in the war. Most died of disease, but others were killed during battle or died in prison camps or hospitals. Raymond W. Watkins copied Confederate burial records throughout the South, in prison camps, and in some Northern cemeteries.

The following sources are helpful in locating death and burial information:


Many of his unpublished manuscripts are on microfilm at the Family History Library and are listed under his name in the Author/Title section of the library catalog.

Other important sources of information about Confederate burials include the following:

Office of the Commissioner for Marking the Graves of Confederate Dead. *Register of Confederate Soldiers, Sailors, and Citizens Who Died in Federal Prisons and Military Hospitals in the North, 1861–1865.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M918. (FHL film 1024456; computer number 323503.) (CD #9, part 119; computer number 805919.) These are lists arranged alphabetically by the location of death, then by the name of the soldier.

*Register of the Confederate Dead, Interred in Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Va.* Richmond, Va.: Gary, Clemmitt & Jones, Printers, 1869. (FHL book 975.5451 V3r; film 033625; computer number 236006.) Richmond was a major burial site during the war. About 18,000 soldiers are interred there in the Hollywood Cemetery. The register lists the soldier’s name, company, regiment, state, death date, section, and grave number.

Additional burial records available at the Family History Library include:


*Register of Confederate Soldiers Who Died in Camp Douglas 1862–1865 and Lie Buried in Oakwoods Cemetery*. Chicago Il.: 1892. (FHL film 1710607 item 4; computer number 674133.) Includes the name, company, regiment, and state for over 4,300 soldiers buried at Camp Douglas. This item was microfilmed as a part of the following:

*Deaths and Burials of Confederate Soldiers in New Orleans, Louisiana*. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Genealogical Society of Utah, 1990. (FHL film 1704156 item 2; computer number 674133.)

**Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records**

*United Daughters of the Confederacy*. This society was established in 1894. Their address is:

United Daughters of the Confederacy
Memorial Building
328 North Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23220
Telephone: 804-355-1536
Fax: 804-359-1325
Internet: www.hqudc.org
This website has information about the society’s objectives, membership, library facilities, magazine, and conventions.

The society’s national publication is:

*United Daughters of the Confederacy Magazine*. Richmond, Va.: United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1937. (FHL book 973 B2ud; computer number 316310.) The Family History Library has volumes 54 to the present.

The following state division publications will also be helpful:

Georgia Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy. *Ancestor Roster*. 10 vols. Atlanta: United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1992–94. (FHL book 975.8 D24g; computer number 686982.) Includes name and rank, birth and death dates and places, spouses birth and death, marriage dates and places, UDC member’s name, and her relationship to the soldier.


Texas Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy, *Texas Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy Ancestor Roster*. 4 vols. Texas United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1994–96. (FHL book 976.4 D2u; computer number 798741.) Includes the soldier’s name, unit, and UDC descendant. The Family History Library has volumes 2 through 4.

*Sons of Confederate Veterans*. This society was established in 1896. Members who are also descendants of Confederate officers or governmental officials are eligible to join the Military Order of the Stars and Bars.

The address of both organizations is:

Sons of Confederate Veterans
Elm Springs
Box 59
Columbia, TN 38401-0059
Telephone: 615-380-1844
Internet: www.scv.org/
This website includes genealogical researcher addresses, a Confederate genealogical research guide, news, organization purposes, membership information, and links to related sites.
A published history of the society is:


From 1893 to 1932, the official publication of The United Confederate Veterans and lineage organizations was:


Below is an index to the first 40 volumes:


*United Confederate Veterans.* This organization was established in New Orleans in June of 1889 by veterans of the Confederate Army. The Family History Library has the following records for their organization:

Rosters, 1895–1899

- Alabama-Mississippi (FHL film 1710607, item 10–20; computer number 676726.)

- Missouri-West Virginia (FHL film 1710608; computer number 676726.)

These are arranged by state and camp. The contents include name, company or rank, number of regiment, state and service, rank of officers and their camps, and remarks.

Rosters and Applications, 1892–1896. (FHL films 1685778 item 3, 1685779–80, 1703671–73 item 1; computer number 674019.) The rosters include name, company or rank, regiment, state and remarks, and name and location of the camp.

**Additional Confederate Sources**

Brock, R.A. *The Appomattox Roster: A List of the Paroles of the Army of Northern Virginia Issued at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865.* 1887. Reprint, New York: Antiquarian Press, 1962. (FHL book 975.5 M23br; film 896966 item 2; computer number 217902.) This is indexed and lists the names, ranks, and units of the soldiers.

Clemmer, Gregg S. *Valor in Gray. The Recipients of the Confederate Medal of Honor.* Staunton, Va.: Hearthside Publishing, 1996. (FHL book 973 M2cv; computer number 183876.) The appendices include information on miscellaneous war decorations of the Confederacy and a roster of the soldiers on the roll of honor.


This book describes the army life of the Confederate soldier.

Sources for Further Reading


INDIAN WARS

The United States military protected the expanding western frontier from the 1780s to the 1890s. Military personnel surveyed land; enforced government policy; protected settlers; and guarded stage, mail, and telegraph routes. Expanding settlement led to conflicts with the many Indian
nations. Military conflicts with Indians are listed in the following:

Peters, Joseph P., comp. *Indian Battles and Skirmishes on the American Frontier, 1790–1898*, Comprising Record of Engagements with Hostile Indians within the Military Division of the Missouri from 1868 to 1882; Chronological List of Actions, etc. with Indians from January 1, 1866 to January 1891; and a Compilation of Indian Engagements from January 1837 to January 1866. New York: Argonaut Press, 1966. (FHL film 1686002; computer number 523418.) A chronological list which includes dates, places, and units involved; number of killed and wounded; and remarks that may include names of officers.

Webb, George W. *Chronological List of Engagements between the Regular Army of the United States and Various Tribes of Hostiles Which Occurred during the Years 1790 to 1898, Inclusive.* 1939. Reprint, New York: AMS Press, 1976. (FHL book 973 M2ww; computer number 540206.) Identifies place; military unit involved; and number of soldiers and American Indians killed, wounded, and captured.

### Service Records

Service records for the Indian conflicts are available at the National Archives. They consist of abstracts from original muster rolls, pay rolls, and medical records. Microfilm indexes are available at the Family History Library:

**Index to Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during Indian Wars and Disturbances, 1815–58.** National Archives Microfilm Publication M629. (FHL films 882753–94; computer number 325963.) This index includes the soldier’s name, rank, and unit along with the name of the war or disturbance. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - INDEXES**

*Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served from 1784 to 1811.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M905. (FHL films 1205385–401; computer number 325325.)

These records are indexed in:

**Index to Compiled Service Records. . . .**
National Archives Microfilm Publication M694 (FHL CD #9, part 146; films 1205437–45; computer number 555931.)

To find specific microfilm numbers for both sets, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS**

This microfilm index has been transcribed and the information partially abstracted in the following two books:


Listed below are the only service records for Indian wars after 1811 that have been filmed:

*Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Florida during the Florida Indian Wars, 1835–1858.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M1086. (FHL films 1638617–19; computer number 511859.) To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**FLORIDA - MILITARY RECORDS**

*Compiled Service Records of Michigan and Illinois Volunteers Who Served during the Winnebago Indian Disturbances, 1827.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M1505. (FHL films 1638617–19; computer number 511859.) To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**MICHIGAN - MILITARY RECORDS**

In addition to volunteer soldiers, many soldiers involved in the Indian wars enlisted in the regular Army. For information on regular Army soldiers, see:

*The Registers of Enlistments in the U.S. Army, 1798–1914.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M233. (FHL 47 films; computer number 210761.)

For information about forts where soldiers were garrisoned, see the following:

*Historical Information Relating to Military Posts and Other Installations, ca. 1700–1900.* National Archives Microfilm Publication
National Archives Microfilm Publication M617. (FHL films 1663081–4630; computer number 467703.) This source contains extensive rolls and reports listing soldiers stationed at forts and posts.

To find specific microfilm numbers for the above sources, look in the Locality section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS

Cherokee Disturbances and Removal, 1836 to 1839. Individual state indexes are available for:

- Alabama. National Archives Microfilm Publication M243 (FHL film 368685; computer number 388837.)
- Georgia. National Archives Microfilm Publication M907 (FHL film 1205402; computer number 325343.)
- North Carolina. National Archives Microfilm Publication M256 (FHL film 368686; computer number 374269.)
- Tennessee, including field and staff of the Army of the Cherokee Nation. National Archives Microfilm Publication M908 (FHL film 1205384; computer number 78347.)

The records to which these indexes refer have not been microfilmed.

Creek War, 1836 to 1837. For this war, the National Archives and Family History Library have the following:

Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during the Creek War in Organizations from the State of Alabama. National Archives Microfilm Publication M244. (FHL films 880845–46; computer number 278523.) The records to which the index refers have not been microfilmed.

Second Seminole War, 1836 to 1843. Indexes for soldiers who served from Alabama, National Archives Microfilm Publication M245 (FHL film 880847, computer number 432754 ) and Louisiana, National Archives Microfilm Publication M239 (FHL film 880843, computer number 278501) are available on microfilm.

Only the service records for soldiers from the state of Florida have been microfilmed:

Compiled Service Records, Volunteer Soldiers, Florida Indian Wars, 1835–1858. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1086. (FHL 63 films; computer number 110859.) To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FLORIDA - MILITARY RECORDS

The records are indexed by National Archives Microfilm Publication M629, which is described on page 45.

War of 1837 to 1838 (Second Florida Campaign). Below is an index to records from this campaign:

Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during the War of 1837–1838 in Organizations from the State of Louisiana. National Archives Microfilm Publication M241. (FHL film 880844; computer number 278508.) The records to which the index refers have not been microfilmed.

Pension Records

The pension files in the National Archives relate to service performed between 1817 and 1898. Soldiers killed or disabled during the Indian wars were initially covered by existing pension laws. The first pensions based on Indian war service were granted in 1892, but they were limited to specifically named wars. By 1902 pensions were extended to cover all service between 1817 and 1858. Later acts continued extending coverage for service to 1898. The files are alphabetically arranged by the veteran’s name.

The index to these records is the following:

Index to Indian Wars Pension Files, 1892–1926. National Archives Microfilm Publication T318. (FHL films 821610–21; computer number 326152.) The index gives name, names of dependents, rank, dates of enlistment and discharge, military unit, application and certificate numbers, date and state of filing, and the pension act it was filed under. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS - INDEXES
A published version of this same index is listed below:

White, Virgil D. *Index to Pension Applications for Indian Wars Service between 1817 and 1898.* Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Publishing, 1997. (FHL book 973 M22whv; computer number 818034.) Includes name of veteran or widow or both, applicant pension number, date of filing, name of conflict, date of service, and military unit. Some entries have death date and place. This is a revision of the 1987 edition.

Pensioners of the Indian Wars are also included in *Old Wars Index to Pension Files, 1815–1926.* For more information, see National Archive Microfilm Publication T316 on page 56.

**Sources For Further Reading**

The following sources may also be helpful:


Frazer, Robert W. *Forts of the West.* Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1965, 1972. (FHL book 973 M2fr; computer number 0005400.) Contains brief histories with the date the forts were established, location, and date of abandonment.

Hammer, Kenneth. *Men with Custer: Biographies of the Seventh Cavalry, 25 June 1876.* Fort Collins, Colo.: The Old Army Press, 1972. (FHL book 973 M25hk; computer number 271982.) The sketches list the name and rank, birthplace, enlistment date and age, previous occupation, and physical description. The book also identifies those killed and wounded.

Hardorff, Richard G. *Custer Battle Casualties: Burials, Exhumations and Re-internments.* El Sugundo, Calif.: Upton and Sons, 1991. (FHL book 978.638 M2h; computer number 641578.) Contains a history of the burials and exhumations from 1876 to 1881. It also lists the dead from Custer’s and Reno’s commands.


Prucha, Francis Paul. *A Guide to the Military Posts of the United States, 1789 to 1895.* Madison, Wisc.: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1964. (FHL book 973 M2pf; fiche 6088252; computer number 28997.) The alphabetically arranged entries list the state where the post was located, its years of operation, and a brief history of its operation.


Rickey, Don, Jr. *Forty Miles a Day on Beans and Hay: The Enlisted Soldier fighting the Indian Wars.* Norman, Okla.: University of Oklahoma Press, 1963 (FHL book 973 M2ri; computer number 424808.) Contains portraits of the frontier military experience of the common soldier from 1865 to 1890.


**SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR, 1898**

The war between the United States and Spain was largely fought in Cuba and the Philippines. The conflict lasted from April to August 1898. As a result, the United States acquired Puerto Rico and Guam and bought the Philippines. Cuba became independent.

The war was fought by U.S. regular forces and state volunteers. About 250,000 enlisted men and 11,000 officers served in this conflict. Most
volunteers came from the states of New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Ohio. Records for this war are listed in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - WAR OF 1898

Service Records

Below is an index to service records:

*General Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during the War with Spain.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M871. (FHL films 1002433–558; computer number 288680.)

Individual state indexes are also available for:

- Louisiana. National Archives Microfilm Publication M240 (FHL film 880013; computer number 278540.)
- North Carolina. National Archives Microfilm Publication M413 (FHL films 821907–8; computer number 279844.)

The indexes list the soldier’s name, rank, and unit. Entries that refer to miscellaneous personal papers have no corresponding compiled service records. The papers themselves follow the jacket envelopes for most units. See the Family History Library Catalog for complete information on film numbers.

The service records of Florida have been microfilmed:

*Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served in the Florida Infantry during the War With Spain.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M1087. (FHL films 1314126–38; computer number 110861.) See the Family History Library Catalog for complete film numbers.

Other service records are available at the National Archives. You may also find military records at state archives, historical societies, and county courthouses. Some are on microfilm at the Family History Library. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

[STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - WAR OF 1898

Records of Officers

A list of volunteer officers is in the following:


Pension Records

For pension files of Spanish-American War veterans, use *General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934,* National Archives Microfilm Publication T288. The index covers veterans of the Civil War, Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, Boxer Rebellion (1900 to 1901), and the regular Army, Navy, and Marine forces. The pension records are not on microfilm at the Family History Library. To obtain copies you must request copies from the National Archives using NATF Form 80. For additional information, see “Pension Records” in the “Civil War” section of this outline on pages 29–30.

For Spanish-American War nurses who applied for pensions, see the source below:

*Organization Index to Pension Files of Veterans Who Served between 1861 and 1900.* National Archives Microfilm Publication T289 765 rolls (FHL films 1570402–03; computer number 462116.)

Veterans’ and Lineage Society Records

The United Spanish War Veterans was established in 1899. Its membership includes veterans with service in the war with Spain and the Philippine Insurrection to 4 July 1902. The following sources with information on their members who were veterans of these wars are available at the Family History Library:

Michigan. *United Spanish War Veterans Camp Index, ca. 1890–1984.* (FHL film 1765853; computer number 645392.) An alphabetical card index arranged by camp. It may list name, age, residence, and rank.

Michigan. *United Spanish War Veterans Master Index, ca. 1890–1984.* (FHL film 1765850–52; computer number 645357.) This index is similar to the one described above.
Utah. United Spanish War Veterans, Department of Utah. Muster Rolls of Members, 1929–1957. (FHL film 1666085; computer number 631541.) Lists the veteran’s name, age, residence, final discharge date, and unit. Some entries may contain additional data.

See the Family History Library Catalog for complete information on film numbers.

Cemetery Records

Peterson, Clarence Stewart. Known Military Dead during the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection, 1898–1901. Baltimore: Clarence Stewart Peterson, 1958. (FHL book 973 M23pc; fiche 6051242; computer number 266561.) This work includes name, rank, company, regiment, and death date and place.

Sources for Further Reading


Kelly, Thomas E., III. The U.S. Army and the Spanish-American Era, 1895–1910. Special Bibliography 9 in 2 parts. Carlisle Barracks, Pa.: U.S. Army Military History Research Collection, 1974. (FHL book 973 B4ua no. 9; computer number 264595.) An inventory of the manuscript and published holdings of the U.S. Army Military History Research Institute. The collection has material gathered from veterans and widows, including questionnaires completed by veterans in 1968 as part of the Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, and Boxer Rebellion research project.


PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION, 1899 TO 1902

More than 125,000 American soldiers were sent to the Philippines, and over 4,000 deaths occurred during this conflict.

Service Records

An index to service records for the Philippine Insurrection is listed below:

Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served during the Philippine Insurrection. National Archives Microfilm Publication M872. (FHL films 1002559–82; computer number 290106.) The index lists each volunteer’s name, rank, and unit.

The service records have not been filmed and are only available at the National Archives.


Pension Records

Pensions were first granted in 1922 to veterans of the Philippine Insurrection. The index to the records is General Index to Pension Files, 1861–1934. National Archives Microfilm Publication T288. The pension files have not been filmed and are available at the National Archives. For additional information, see “Pension Records” in the “Civil War” section of this outline on pages 29–30.

Census Records

The Twelfth Population Census of the United States, 1900. National Archives Microfilm Publication T623. (FHL films 1241838–42; computer number 706386), enumerated military personnel stationed overseas in places such as Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines. The census gives the soldier’s name, rank, place of residence in the United States, birth date and place, company, regiment, and branch of service.
These returns have been indexed as Index (Soundex) to the 1900 Population Schedules, National Archives Microfilm Publication T1081 (FHL films 1249622–52; computer number 706386.)

To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

- UNITED STATES - CENSUS - 1900
- UNITED STATES - CENSUS - 1900 - INDEXES

WORLD WAR I, 1917 TO 1918

The United States entered World War I in April 1917. Over 4.7 million men and women served in the regular U.S. forces, national guard units, and draft units. There were 53,402 killed in action, 63,114 deaths from disease and other causes, and about 205,000 wounded. New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Ohio furnished the most soldiers.

Service Records

Many records may no longer be available because of a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center. For more information on the center, see pages 4 and 5 of this outline. You can also contact the state archives in the state where your ancestor lived.

Indexes mentioning some sailors are the following:

- Index to Rendezvous Reports, Naval Auxiliary Service, 1917–1918. National Archives Microfilm Publication T1100. (FHL film 1380690; computer number 432725.) Lists the name, enlistment date, date of assignment, and place.
- Index to Rendezvous Reports, Armed Guard Personnel, 1917–1920. National Archives Microfilm Publication T1101. (FHL films 1380696–98; computer number 432736.) Lists the name, enlistment date, rank, dates of service, and name of vessel served on.

Pension Records

The Department of Veteran Affairs has benefit claims files. Veteran files are located at the regional office closest to the residence of the veteran at the time of application. To find phone numbers and addresses look in the following source:

- Johnson, Richard S. How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military. 7th ed.

Draft Records

Twenty-four million men who were born between 13 September 1873 and 12 September 1900 (between the ages of 18 and 45) registered for the draft. Draft registration records are available for a fee by sending a “World War I Registration Card Request” form to:

National Archives Southeast Region
1557 St. Joseph Avenue
East Point, GA 30344
Telephone: 404-763-7477

The Family History Library has acquired this collection as well.

World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1509. (FHL 4,383 films; computer number 504818.) To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

- UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - WORLD WAR, 1914–1918
- [STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - WORLD WAR, 1914–1918 - REGISTERS

To find an individual’s draft card, you must know his name and residence at the time of registration. The records are arranged by state, county, and surname (alphabetically within each draft board). Most counties had only one board; large cities had more. Finding your ancestor’s street address in a city directory will help you determine the board number if he lived in a large city. To find board numbers for Chicago, New York, and 35 other major cities, see:


A typical card has the man’s full name and signature, home address, age, birth date, citizenship status, occupation, employer’s name and address, race, dependents or nearest relative, and physical description. For registrants born between 6 June 1886 and 28 August 1897 (45
percent of the total), the cards also give city or town, state, and nation of birth; previous military service; and marital status.

**Census Records**

The 1930 and 1940 federal population censuses identify veterans. Microfilm copies are not available. Authorized representatives or heirs can request a search by using form BC-600, “Application for Search of Census Records.” It is available from:

Bureau of the Census  
P.O. Box 1545  
Jeffersonville, IN 47131  
Telephone: 812-285-5314

**State Records**

The Family History Library has some indexes and records from county courthouses, state archives, and state offices of the adjutant general. For example, the library has the following:

Michigan. State Library. *World War I Card Index*. (FHL films 1001930–66; computer number 197371.) Contains name, address, and county; some have the soldier’s parents’ names and residence if the soldier is deceased. This is a card file at the Michigan State Archives. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**MICHIGAN - MILITARY RECORDS**

Similar collections are described in the military sections of the research outlines for the various states.

**Cemetery and Death Records**

Sources about soldiers who died in the war include the following:


**Pilgrimage for the Mothers and Widows of Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines of the American Forces Now Interred in the Cemeteries of Europe.** Washington, D.C.: Government Printing, 1930. (FHL book 973 M23uw; computer number 272313.) This book lists the widow’s or mother’s name, relationship, name of deceased, rank, organization, and cemetery. It is arranged by state and county.

**Sources for Further Reading**


**WORLD WAR II, 1941 TO 1945**

Over 16.5 million men and women served in the armed forces during World War II, of whom 291,557 died in battle, 113,842 died from other causes, and 670,846 were wounded. The Family History Library has few World War II military records.
Service Records

Because of privacy restrictions and loss of records, it is usually best to document World War II service by finding home sources, or by writing to the Adjutant General’s Office of the state from which a soldier served. Discharges may also have been recorded at local county courthouses.

Many records may no longer be available because of a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center. For more information on the center, see pages 4 and 5 of this outline.

Pension Records

The Department of Veteran Affairs has benefit claims files. Veteran files are located at the regional office closest to the residence of the veteran at the time of application. To find phone numbers and addresses look in the following source:


Cemetery Records

At the National Personnel Records Center, the American Battle Monument Commission has a microfiche register of the names of 134,548 veterans who died and were buried in American military cemeteries overseas. The list provides such information as: name, service number, last organization, some awards, last rank, and burial place.

Sailors who were killed or wounded in the war are named in the following:

U.S. Navy Department. Casualty Section, Office of Public Information. Combat Connected Naval Casualties World War II by States. 2 vols. n.p., n.d. (FHL book 973 M23un; computer number 272022.) The names are arranged by state according to the address of the next of kin at notification. The entries contain the name of the sailor, rank, name of parents or wife, and address.

Casualty Lists, Pacific Naval Operations, 1941–1946. Washington, D.C.: NPPSO Naval District Washington Microfilm Section, 1979. (FHL film 485330; computer number 159609.) These lists are alphabetically arranged by operation and ship name. They contain service number, rank, service specialty number, and date of death.

To find a state-by-state World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing Army and Army Air Forces Personnel from [State], 1946 you can use the: NARA Archival Information Locator (NAIL). It is available on the National Archives and Records Administration web site at www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html. Click Search Archival Holdings, click NAIL Standard Search, Enter Keywords World War II Honor List, click Submit Search, click Display Results, find the state where the soldier lived, click Full next to the state, click Links to digital copies, and click the county where soldier lived. You will view a facsimile of a county-by-county alphabetical list of deceased soldiers, their serial number, rank, and type of death.

Draft Records

On 16 September 1940, President Roosevelt signed into law the first peacetime Selective Service Act. It required all 16 million men between the ages of 21 and 35 to register. Some Selective Service records are at the National Archives regional centers.

Unit Histories

The bibliographies on page 8 of this outline list published unit histories. For brief organizational and service histories of Army combat units see the following:

Maurer, Maurer, ed. Combat Squadrons of the Air Force, World War II. Department of the Air Force, USAF Historical Division, Air University, 1969.


Prisoner of War Records

A valuable source when searching for prisoners of war is the Records of the Prisoner of War Information Division in the Records of the Office of the Provost Marshal General, 1941–, Record Group 389. It contains 31 volumes of rosters of P.O.W.s held by Germany, Japan, and neutral countries.
Additional records and information on prisoners of war held by the German military are also located in Record Group 242, National Archives Collection of Foreign Records Seized.

The following guide will also be helpful in locating prisoner records:


**Sources for Further Reading**


**KOREAN WAR, 1950 TO 1953, AND VIETNAM WAR, 1964 TO 1972**

About 54 thousand of the 5 million American service men and women who served in the Korean War were killed. About 58 thousand of the 7 million Americans who served in Vietnam died.

Most of these casualties are documented in the Military Index, a FamilySearch™ file. This index includes those who died or were declared dead from 1950 to 1957 in Korea and from 1957 to 1975 in Southeast Asia. The index gives birth and death dates, country of death, cause of death (air, ground, or sea), town and state of residence at time of enlistment, race, religious affiliation, marital status (Vietnam only), service number, rank, and branch of service. The Military Index is available at the Family History Library and at most Family History Centers. For more information on this index on FamilySearch™, see the publication *Military Index*, Third Edition, January 1995. Series FS, No.2. The following are additional records that contain information on deaths and casualties:

Vietnam Veterans Memorial. *Directory of Names*. Washington, D.C.: Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, 1984. (FHL book 973 M2vv; computer number 0142646.) Arranged chronologically by the date the death was reported. The directory gives name, rank, branch of service, birth date, death date, city and state of residence, whether missing in action, and the panel and line numbers where the name is inscribed on the memorial.


Check with the National Personnel Records Center, described on pages 4 and 5, for available service records.

**Unit Histories**

For brief organizational and service histories of army combat units of the Vietnam War see:


**U.S. ARMY**

The United States Army was created when Congress created a permanent military under the
Act of 29 September 1789. The Army has participated in every war the United States has entered.

The following books discuss the Army’s history and development.


**Service Records**

Compiled service records were never created for enlisted personnel, but enlistment papers and other records are available at the National Archives. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the following:

*Registers of Enlistments in the U.S. Army, 1798–1914.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M233. (On 81 FHL films beginning with 350307; computer number 210761.) These give the soldier’s name, rank, regiment, company commander, height, weight, eye color, hair, complexion, age, occupation, county and state of birth, and enlistment date and place. The registers from 1798 to 30 June 1821 are arranged in alphabetical order. Those for later years are arranged by the initial letter of the soldier’s surname, then chronologically by month and year of enlistment.

A helpful source for African-American soldiers is:

Schubert, Frank N. *On the Trail of the Buffalo Soldier: Biographies of African Americans in the U.S. Army, 1866–1917.* Wilmington, Del.: Scholarly Resources, 1995. (FHL book 973 Sch78o; computer number 755302.) Contains short biographical sketches listing rank and unit served with; few contain birth and other personal data. The source of the original information is cited.

Many records may no longer be available because of a 1973 fire at the National Personnel Records Center. For more information on the center, see pages 4 and 5 of this outline.

**Pension Records**

Pension files are available for Army enlisted men and officers. Check for evidence of a pension application in the previously described microfilm indexes for the War of 1812 through the Philippine Insurrection. In this outline, refer to the specific war served, then look under the heading “Pension Records.”

An index to pensions awarded to soldiers based on army service between 1783 and 1861, including the Indian wars, is listed below:

*Old Wars Index to Pension Files, 1815–1926.* National Archives Microfilm Publication T316. (FHL films 821603–9; computer number 326186.) The index gives name; name and class of dependents (if any); service unit; application, file, and certificate file numbers; and state from which the claim was made. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS - INDEXES**

The following is a published version of the same index:


**Sources for Further Reading**


commissioned officers; the second has lists of battles and skirmishes, forts, military hospitals, and national cemeteries, as well as brief organizational chronologies of U.S. Army units.

**U.S. MARINE CORPS**

The Marine Corps was created in 1798. It was part of the Navy Department from 1834 until 1952, when it became a distinct branch of the military. Records of Marine Corps soldiers and officers are available at the National Archives in Record Group 127 for the years 1798 to 1904.

Muster rolls of the Marine Corps have been filmed for the years 1789 to 1892 and are available at the Family History Library:

*Muster Rolls of the United States Marine Corps, 1798–1892.* National Archives Microfilm Publication T1118. (FHL 123 films; computer number 110864.) The records are arranged chronologically; and they give name, rank, enlistment date, date of death or discharge, and name of ship or station.

Check with the National Personnel Records Center, described on pages 4 and 5, for available service records.

**U.S. NAVY**

Records of sailors can be found at state and local archives, the National Archives, and the National Personnel Records Center.

**Service Records**

Of particular value to the researcher are the following:

**Muster and Payrolls.** Muster rolls usually provide the sailor’s name, ship, and service dates. Post-1860 records often give a personal description and data concerning discharge, desertion, or death. Payrolls give the sailor’s name, rank, enlistment date, and term of service. Muster and payrolls, 1798 to 1859, are arranged alphabetically by name of ship and then chronologically. These are found in Record Group 45, *Naval Records Collection of the Office of Naval Records and Library* at the National Archives.

Muster rolls of vessels, 1860 to 1900, are arranged chronologically in three separate series and then alphabetically by name of vessel. They are found in Record Group 24, *Records of Naval Personnel* at the National Archives.

**Enlistment Records.** Enlistment records usually give the sailor’s name, enlistment date and place, birthplace, age, occupation, and personal description. Enlistment records have not been microfilmed, but they are available at the National Archives. They include:

- *Registers of Enlistments, 1845–54.*
- *Weekly Returns of Enlistments at Naval Rendezvous, 1855–91.*

The Family History Library has an index to the above records:

*Rendezvous Reports, before and after the Civil War, 1846–1861, 1865–1884.* National Archives Microfilm Publication T1098. (FHL films 1570526–57; computer number 462164.) Reports include the name, rendezvous, date of return or enlistment page, and record of service.

The weekly returns are also indexed in the following:

*Index to Rendezvous Reports, Civil War, 1861–65.* National Archives Microfilm Publication T1099. (FHL films 1570558–88; computer number 462166.) The entries contain the sailor’s name, ship or place of rendezvous, and the date of enlistment.

To find specific microfilm numbers for the above two sources, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

**UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS**

**Records of Officers**

*Abstracts of Service of Naval Officers* ("*Records of Officers*")*, 1798–1803.* National Archives Microfilm Publication M330. (FHL films 1445969–87; computer number 432711.) Alphabetically arranged by the first letter of the surname, then date of appointment. Entries list name, rank, date of naval assignments, and where assigned.

*Abstracts of Service Records of Naval Officers* ("*Records of Officers*") and Related Name Index, 1829–1924 National Archives Microfilm Publication M1328. (FHL films 1579079–96; computer number 467317.) These abstracts are indexed by the first letter of surname available on the first roll with volume and page references. The information
includes birth date and place and chronological listing of naval service and death information.

Callahan, Edward W., ed. *List of Officers of the Navy of the United States and of the Marine Corps from 1775 to 1900*. 1901. Reprint, New York: Haskell House Publishers, 1969. (FHL book 973 M2ca; film 1036121 item 4 computer number 270891.) Contains the names of officers of the Navy and Marine Corps from 1789 to January 1901 and lists name; assignment; date; and retirement date, if known. The document also contains a list of midshipman, acting midshipman, and naval cadets at the Naval Academy, 1840–1900, arranged alphabetically in annual classes by name, date, and status. It also contains an alphabetical list of vessels from 1797 to 1901.


*Index to Officers’ Jackets, 1913–1925 (Officers Directory)*. National Archives Microfilm Publication T1102. (FHL films 1578411–12; computer number 462253.) Location registers for personnel files. They are arranged by file number; name, rank, classification, location of files (as of 1948), and file number.

**Pension Records**

*Case Files of Disapproved Pension Applications of Widows and Other Dependents of Civil War and Later Navy Veterans (Navy Widows Originals), 1861–1910*. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1274. (FHL fiche 6333626–802; computer number 423822.) These records are arranged by application number. Use the index below to get the application number. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS

*Lists of Navy Veterans for Whom There are Navy Widows’ and Other Dependents’ Disapproved Pension Files (Navy Widows’ Originals, 1861–1910)*. National Archives Microfilm Publication M1391. (FHL fiche 6333805–19; computer number 423823.) An alphabetical index to veterans and more pension files for sailors and officers of the Navy who were involved in the War of 1812, Mexican War, Civil War, and later conflicts. To find specific microfilm numbers, look in the Locality search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

UNITED STATES - MILITARY RECORDS - PENSIONS - INDEXES

**Sources for Further Reading**


[www.uss-salem.org/danfs/](http://www.uss-salem.org/danfs/)


**FOR FURTHER READING**

For more information on U.S. military records, see the following:

Horowitz, Lois A. *Bibliography of Military Name Lists from Pre–1675 to 1900: A Guide to Genealogical Sources*. Metuchen, N.J.:
Archives numbers are in bold. Currently available at the Family History Library also list their corresponding computer numbers. The National Microfilm Publications

COMPUTER NUMBERS FOR SELECTED NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS

Following is a list of the National Archives Microfilm Publication Numbers mentioned in this outline. Those currently available at the Family History Library also list their corresponding computer numbers. The National Archives numbers are in bold.

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COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

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We appreciate the genealogists, librarians, and others who have reviewed this outline and shared helpful information.