



Researching Military Records

Nov 22, 2025

LCGS

--Today's Agenda

- How to determine if you might have a military ancestor?
- On-line Website sources for researching.
- Website research demonstration.

--Evidence of Military Service

- Photo in Uniform
- Family stories
- Paperwork i.e., DD-214
- Service Age match?
- Marker on headstone
- 1930 & 1940 Census
 - 1940 only for supplemental people

--War Timeframes

- | | |
|---------------------|---------|
| --Revolutionary War | 1775-83 |
| --War of 1812 | 1812-15 |
| --Mexican War | 1846-48 |
| --Civil War | 1861-65 |
| --Spanish American | 1898 |
| --WW I | 1914-18 |
| --WW II | 1938-45 |
| --Korean War | 1950-57 |
| --Vietnam War | 1965-72 |

--National Military Gravesites

- <https://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/ngl/index.jsp>

--Ancestry.com Featured Collection

- WW I Draft Registration Cards 1917-1918
- U.S. WW II Draft Registration Cards 1942
- U.S. Civil War Soldiers 1861-1865
- U.S. Marine Corps Muster Rolls 1798-1940
- British Army WW I Service Records 1914-1920



- Family Search: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/>
 - Search<Records<United States of America<Military
 - U.S. Military Research Guide
 - Can access military records by state as well as USA.
- Online Military Indexes and Records: <https://www.militaryindexes.com/>.
 - Revolutionary War
 - War of 1812
 - Mexican War
 - Civil War Records
 - Spanish American War
 - World War I
 - World War II
 - Korean War
 - Vietnam War
- Fold3: <https://www.fold3.com/>
 - 7-day Free Trial; Monthly \$11.95; Annual \$79.95
 - Included in Ancestry.com “all-access” subscription.
 - Explore by War
 - Revolutionary
 - War of 1812
 - Mexican & Indian War
 - WW I
 - WW II
 - Vietnam War
 - Other Collections
- World Vital Records/MyHeritage
 - <https://www.myheritage.com/>
 - Purchased by My Heritage
 - Free 3-day Trial
 - Annual \$89.99 + Family Tree Builder CD
 - Service Records of Confederate Soldiers
 - revolutionary War Pension Records
 - WW II Army Enlistment



- Air Force Register Extracts
- Revised Register of the Soldiers & Sailors of New Hampshire in the War of the Rebellion 1861-66
- Navy Registers of Commissioned & Warrant Officers

- NARA
 - Search Online
 - www.archives.gov; Veterans' Service Records
 - Request by the Veteran or Next of kin of *deceased* military member.
 - Records are accessioned into the Archives and become archival (accessible to the public) 62 years after the service member's separation from the military.
 - Currently: 1962 or sooner discharge date.
 - Request forms available on following web site:
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/>
- BIRLS: <https://www.birls.org/>
 - Veterans death file
 - Can access through both Ancestry.com and Fold3; however, no available through any other means.
- Cyndi's List: <https://www.cyndislist.com/us/military/>.
 - Category: U.S. Military
- Gopher Records: <https://gopherrecords.com/>.
 - Primarily Civil War Records
 - A "for fee" service to obtain military records from NARA—some free services.
 - DAR: Use the GRS Ancestor Search: -----
https://services.dar.org/Public/DAR_Research/search/?Tab_ID=1
 - Can purchase associated application records for \$10 (electronic), \$20 (Hard Copy) or \$30 (hard copy with supporting documentation).
- SAR: Use the PRS to identify verified Patriots
 - <https://www.sar.org/patriot-research-system/>
 - Can purchase associated application records for \$10 (electronic) or \$15 (hard copy).