What to Look For

- **For Soldiers**
  - Men aged 18-39 around the beginning of the war in 1861 (*born 1822–1843*)
    - The window expands to males as young as 10 and as old as 70 as more were pressed into service over the duration of the war (*born 1791–1851*)
    - Although the minimum age to serve was 18, if a boy could pass for older and lied on his enlistment papers, he very well could have succeeded
    - Some accounts estimate that as many as 100,000 soldiers were under the age of 15
    - Boys as young as ten could serve as a drummer, musician, or messenger, among other support roles, but some of these boys literally “put down their drum and picked up a rifle”
  
- **For Women**
  - Married to, or the child of, a man who matches the information listed above (*for pension records*)
  - Participation in local aid societies, volunteering or paid work at soldiers’ homes, etc.

Determine a Location

- **1860 U.S. Federal Census**
  - Lists all family members individually, as well as names, ages, marital status, and nativity
  - Helps locate an ancestor directly before the start of the war

- **Income Tax Records, 1862-1872**
  - Emergency authorization by Congress to finance the Union Army
  - Tax Lists recorded individually, all persons, partnerships, associations, or corporations submitted to the assessor of a collection division
  - Can be used to place an individual in a location during and immediately after the war in the absence of other records
    - Physical copies are held in the National Archives at Atlanta

Example: **1860 Federal Census for Richland Township, Wapello County, Iowa**

- **Name:** Francis S. Comstock
- **Age:** 20 (born about 1840)
- **Birthplace:** Iowa
- **Occupation:** Farmer
Example: 1864 Internal Revenue Service Tax Assessment List, Division No. 5, District of Columbia

Name: Jacob Roth
Location: 347 1st East
Article or Occupation: Brewer of less than 500 barrels; Retail Liquor; Bagatelle Table [billiards] and associated tax
Tax Due: $60.00

Determine Which Side They Likely Supported
- Did they live in a Northern state or a Southern state?
  - Citizens of strongly pro-slavery southern states most likely served for the Confederacy; Northerners most likely served in the Union — however, there are always exceptions!
- Did they live in a border state where sympathies were mixed? (e.g. Missouri)
  - Families in these areas could have multiple family members serving on different sides
  - If they were guerilla fighters rather than enlisted soldiers, they would not have formal service records
- Individuals could have served in a state other than the one where they resided

Check State and Federal Censuses with a Civil War Service Question

1910 Federal Census

Whether a survivor of the Union or Confederate Army or Navy?
- This question is located third from the right on the 1910 Census form [seen in the examples below]
- Responses to this question include UA for Union Army, CA for Confederate Army, UN for Union Navy, and CN for Confederate Navy

Example: 1910 U.S. Federal Census, Aleppo Township, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania

Name: Jacob Richey
Age: 63 (born about 1847)
Birthplace: Pennsylvania
Civil War Service: UA (Union Army)

Note: On the 1910 Federal Census, enumerators wrote a four-digit internal code used for statistical calculation, often in the last three columns [see left, “15-5-9-8”]. These numbers are not responses to the questions asked at the top of those columns.
Example: 1910 Federal Census for Stonewall Magisterial District, Appomattox County, Virginia

Names:
William E. Isbell, 75
Robert B. Isbell, 74
Milton Isbell, 63

Civil War Service: CA (Confederate Army)

Example: 1895 Iowa State Census for Richland Township, Wapello County, Iowa

“Soldier, Sailors and Mariners in War of the Rebellion” columns

Name: Frank J. Comstock, Sr.
Age: 55 (born about 1840)
Birthplace: Van Buren County, Iowa
Occupation: Farmer
Civil War Service: Company D., 3rd Iowa Cavalry; Company B., 7th Iowa Cavalry

Additional Record Collections
- State-level censuses (separate from the State Census) specifically for the enumeration of surviving Civil War veterans
  - Alabama, Census of Confederate Soldiers, 1907, 1921 (Ancestry Library Edition)
- Army Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914 (Fold3)
- Army Registers, 1798-1969 (Fold3)
Example: 1907 Alabama Census of Confederate Soldiers for Colbert County

For Soldiers: Finding the Regiment and Company
The best source for this, and other basic service information, for beginners is the Compiled Military Service Record. It can also be found on some of the military service records outlined in the next section. Once you have determined the regiment and company of your soldier ancestor, you can then begin to determine which battles they fought in, where they might be buried or have war monuments in their honor, and who their commanding officer was, among other details.

Resources
- Soldiers and Sailors Database (National Park Service) [Recommended]
  - www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm
- The Roster of Union Soldiers, 1861-1865, (Wilmington, NC: Broadfoot Publishing) - A thirty-three volume set that lists all of the men who served in the Union armies by state, regiment and company
- The Roster of Confederate Soldiers, 1861-1865 (Wilmington, NC: Broadfoot Publishing) - A sixteen volume set that lists all of the individuals who served in the southern armies during the war, by state and organization

Civil War Draft Records
- Information included on Draft Registration Lists: name, residence, county and state, congressional district, class, age, marital status, race, birthplace, occupation, previous military service, and any additional remarks
- On draft records, men were split into two classes
  - Class I was comprised of “all persons to do military duty between the ages of twenty and thirty-five years, and all unmarried persons subject to do military duty above the age of thirty-five and under the age of forty-five”
  - Class II was “all other persons subject to do military duty”
- There were four drafts between 1863 and 1865, which generated 3.175 million records

Name: William Braden
Born: 3 Feb 1840, Spring Valley, Franklin County, Alabama
Enlisted: as a Private, in April 1861, at Tuscumbia, Alabama
Served: 2nd Alabama Regiment, Company B.
Discharged: 8 Feb 1862
Re-enlisted twice, serving with 27th Alabama Regiment, Company G. (April 1862 to April 1863) and 33rd Mississippi Regiment, Company G. (June 1863 to parole in May 1865), respectively.
The 1863 draft was so contested among the white working-class of lower Manhattan that it resulted in the New York Draft Riot

- The rioters, mostly Irish immigrants, feared having to compete with free black people for work and resented wealthier men who could afford to pay the commutation fee to hire a substitute
- What had been a protest of the draft turned into a race riot with white rioters attacking black people across the city, leaving a death toll of 120
- Several buildings were destroyed, including many black homes and those of abolitionists and sympathizers – the Colored Orphan Asylum was burned to the ground

Example: 1863 Draft Registration for the Ninth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth Wards of New York City, NY

| Name: John McGrady |
| Residence: Eight Ave., Manhattan, New York |
| Age: 40 (born about 1822 in Ireland) |
| Occupation: Baker |

SERVICE RECORDS

Compiled Military Service Records (CMSR)
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

- CMSR contain basic information about the soldier's military career; these look like long rectangular cards
- Each soldier (Union and Confederate) should have a Compiled Military Service Record for each regiment in which they served, and these cards are stored in a labelled envelope (or “jacket”)
  - Indexes of these records are available through the Soldiers and Sailors Database or on microfilm at selected National Archives facilities
- Information contained may include:
  - Whether a soldier was present or absent during a certain period of time
  - Dates of enlistment and discharge, amount of bounty paid to him, any wounds sustained during battle or hospitalization for injury or illness
  - Place of birth (only the country for foreign born soldiers)
  - An additional internal jacket for a soldier’s “personal papers” such as enlistment papers, documents related to capture and release for prisoners of war, etc.
  - Note: CMSR rarely indicate in battles in which the soldier fought — use the soldier’s regiment and company information, duration of service, and regiment histories to help determine that
- Online Form to request copies of older military personnel records (prior to 1917):
  - NATF 86 Form [https://bitly/2Ibalpi](https://bitly/2Ibalpi)
- Physical copies are held at the Textual Archives Services Division in Washington, DC
Example: Various papers from the Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR) for Leander C. Twitchell

Prisoner of War Records for Leander C. Twitchell, detailing his rank, regiment, and company (Private, 10th Missouri Infantry, Co. H.), where and when he was captured (13 October 1864 in Tilton, Georgia), the location of his confinement but no date (Andersonville), and when and where he was paroled (28 April 1865 in Jacksonville, Florida).

Note: Union and Confederate CMSR look nearly identical — the only difference is that Confederate soldiers’ cards have the word “Confederate” printed at the top and on the outside of the jacket [right].
Alternative Sources of Military Service Records
- U.S., Union Service Records, 1861-1865 (Fold3)
- U.S., Confederate Service Records, 1861-1865 (Fold3)
- U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865 (Ancestry Library Edition)
  - Army Regulations stipulated that every post was to submit a return to the Adjutant General, usually at monthly intervals.
    - These returns showed: the units stationed at each post, the names and duties of the officers, and the number of officers present and absent

Example: 1863 Return from Military Post

Name: Francis J. Comstock
Post: Dakota City, Nebraska Territory
Commanding Officer: John Wilcox
Rank: 2nd Lieutenant
Regiment: 7th Iowa Calvary, Company B.

Resources for Navy and Marine Corps Records
- Confederate Navy Subject File (Fold3)

Example: 1862 U.S. Marine Corps Muster Roll for the month of January

Name: John Harty
Stationed: Boston Station
Rank: Private
Date of Enlistment: 5 Oct 1858
Remarks: “Died in Naval Hospital”
Prisoners of War
Not all soldiers who were captured were necessarily imprisoned, especially early in the war (1861-1863)

- Both sides lacked the means to handle large numbers of captured troops
- They relied on a system of mutual parole and exchange of captured prisoners
  - Those who were paroled had to swear not to take up arms against their captors until they were formally exchanged for an enemy captive of equal rank
  - Once returned to their own side through this exchange, soldiers could return to combat
  - This was supposed to occur within 10 days of capture
  - In the interim, some prisoners awaited their exchange at home or near their commands
- As the war continued, this system began to break down as war costs and the sheer amount of soldiers on both sides sky-rocketed
- Detention camps were established to house the increase in parolees, which after time became prison camps as indefinite imprisonment became a way to control and diminish troop levels among the enemy
  - Prisoners in these camps suffered malnutrition, poor sanitation, disease, overcrowding, and exposure to the elements
  - At Andersonville (also known as Camp Sumter), around 13,000 of the 45,000 Union soldiers imprisoned there died in the span of 14 months
- Information for a prisoner of war, including details of their capture, imprisonment, parole, and death at a prison camp, can often be found in the soldier’s Compiled Military Service Records

Union Prisons for Confederate Soldiers
Alton Prison (Alton, IL)  Camp Randall (Madison, WI)  Fort Jefferson (Dry Tortugas, FL)
Camp Chase (Columbus, OH)  Elmira (Elmira, NY)  Fort McHenry (Baltimore, MD)
Camp Douglas (Chicago, IL)  Fort Delaware (Delaware City, DE)  Gratiot Street (St. Louis, MO)

Confederate Prisons for Union Soldiers
Cahaba Prison (Cahawba, AL)  Belle Isle (near Richmond, Virginia)
Andersonville (Andersonville, GA)  Sultana Disaster* (April 27, 1865)  *not a prison camp, but did involve over 2,000 Union soldiers imprisoned at Andersonville and Cahaba
Salisbury Prison (Salisbury, NC)

Additional POW Resources
National Park Service Civil War P.O.W. Database: www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-prisoners.htm
- Records for prisoners held at Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland, (15,000 Confederate soldiers) and Andersonville prison camp in Andersonville, Georgia, (45,000 Union soldiers)

Example: 1863 Roll of Prisoners of War (Confederate Prisoners Captured at Vicksburg, July 4, 1863)

Name: O. H. Willis
Prisoner Number: 98
Rank: Private
Regiment: Waddell’s Alabama Battery
Casualty Records

- In 1889, after an exhaustive accounting of army documents and pension records, Union veterans William F. Fox and Thomas Leonard Livermore estimated that roughly 620,000 soldiers died during the Civil War
  - Around 360,000 from the North, around 258,000 from the South
- Lists, rather than individual death records are more likely to be found and narrative casualty reports from the field were handwritten by the commanding officer
- For more information about Civil War casualties, visit the American Battlefield Trust website: [www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/civil-war-casualties](http://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/civil-war-casualties)

Example: *Casualty Report, by Maj. Horace Rice, commanding officer of the 29th TN Infantry, February 2, 1862*


Additional Record Collections Available Online

- U.S., Confederate Army Casualty Lists and Reports, 1861-1865 (Ancestry Library Edition)
- Missouri Confederate Death Records (Ancestry Library Edition)
- U.S., Register of Colored Troop Deaths During the Civil War, 1861-1865 (Ancestry Library Edition)
- Confederate Casualty Reports (Fold3)

Awards and Decorations

- Medal of Honor
  - Over 1,500 Medals of Honor were awarded to soldiers and sailors who “distinguish[ed] themselves by their gallantry”
    - e.g. Captured a Confederate flag, recovered abandoned artillery from the field of battle to prevent it from falling into enemy hands, “swam the partly frozen creek, under fire, in an attempt to capture a crossing”
- State-Issued Medals
  - Some states issued medals of service to soldiers, especially for those who enlisted to fight as soon as the war broke out, often called “First Call” or “First Defense” medals, e.g. Massachusetts Minutemen Medal and New Jersey First Defenders Medal
- Civil War Campaign Medal (issued in 1909 to Union soldiers)
- Citation Star (established in 1919 for “gallantry in action,” retroactive to 1861)
- Confederate Roll of Honor, 1863-1864

Online Resources

- Medal of Honor Recipients, 1863-2013 (Fold3)

Resources for Regimental Histories

National Park Service Regimental History Online Database: [www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units.htm](http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units.htm)
VETERAN RECORDS

Veteran Pensions

- Pension records for Union soldiers can be requested from the National Archives in the same way that Compiled Military Service Records are requested
  - Unlike the CMSRs, the Civil War pension records have never been microfilmed and are currently in the process of being digitized
  - An index for these records is available on Ancestry Library Edition and FamilySearch (with digitized images of the index cards) and it can be used to make a copy request from the National Archives
  - Online Form to request copies of older military personnel records (prior to 1917) from NARA:
- Confederate pension records are held at the state-level by the state where the veteran (or widow) filed
  - Many of these records have been digitized and are available online

Example: 1890 Union Pension Record Index Card

Pension Record Collections Online

- Missouri, Confederate Pension Applications and Soldiers Home Applications (Ancestry Library Edition)
- United States Civil War and Later Pension Index, 1861-1917 (FamilySearch)
- Civil War Pensions Index (Fold3)

Widow’s Pensions

- From the beginning of the war, the US government granted pensions to widows of men who died in service to the Union Army
  - In 1890, benefits were extended to widows of honorably discharged veterans of the Union Army who had served at least 90 days
  - In order to qualify, an applicant had to provide proof of the soldier’s death (unless it was the result of military service), could not have any means of financial support other than her day labor, and the marriage had to have occurred prior to 17 Jun 1890

Online Resources

- United States Civil War Widows and Other Dependents Pension Files, 1861-1934 (Index Only) (FamilySearch)
Example: 1920 Mississippi Confederate Veterans and Widows Pension Application

Name: Bettie Davidson  
Residence: Oak Ridge, Warren County, Mississippi  
Husband’s Name: Tyra M. Davidson  
Married: 1892 in Oak Ridge, Mississippi  
Enlistment: 1861 in Oak Ridge, Warren County, Mississippi  
Service: Co. A 21st Miss Reg., under Capt. E. S. Butts, Capt. George Hebron

1890 Veterans Schedule  
This schedule of surviving Civil War veterans (soldiers, sailors, and marines) can serve as a partial substitute for the missing 1890 Federal Census that was destroyed by a fire in 1921. It can be can also be used as an incomplete list of all heads of household for all who were old enough to have served during the war. Both veterans and the surviving widows of veterans were enumerated.

Information recorded by this schedule includes:
- Name of veteran or widow  
- Rank, name of regiment or vessel  
- Date of enlistment, date of discharge, length of service  
- Post office address  
- Disability incurred during or due to service  
- Any additional remarks

Records for this schedule are available for the following states:
- District of Columbia  
- Kentucky  
- Louisiana  
- Maine  
- Maryland  
- Massachusetts  
- Michigan  
- Minnesota  
- Mississippi  
- Missouri  
- Montana  
- Nebraska  
- Nevada  
- New Hampshire  
- New Jersey  
- New Mexico  
- New York  
- North Carolina  
- North Dakota  
- Ohio  
- Oklahoma/Indian Territory  
- Oregon  
- Pennsylvania  
- Rhode Island  
- South Carolina  
- South Dakota  
- Tennessee  
- Texas  
- Utah  
- Vermont  
- Virginia  
- Washington  
- West Virginia  
- Wisconsin  
- Wyoming
Using the Veterans Schedule with Existing 1890 Census Fragments

If you are lucky enough to have an ancestor who was enumerated on one of the very few surviving pages from the 1890 Federal Census, you can compare the two records. Keep in mind, only 6,160 of the 62,979,766 total records survived, and not all that did are without significant fire damage.

Example: Gilbert Broom, River Bend Township, Gaston County, North Carolina

The name, location, and house and family numbers were used to find this record and confirm that it is for the same man enumerated on the Veterans Schedule.

We see that on the 1890 Federal Census the second question asked was whether the individual was a "soldier, sailor, or marine during the civil war (U.S. or Conf.) or widow of such person." Their answer to this question would have determined whether the enumerator would have also recorded them on the Veterans Schedule.
Soldiers and Sailors Homes

- Over the course of the Civil War, soldiers’ homes were established the federal, state, and city level all across the county, North and South, to house wounded and resting soldiers
  - Many closed once the war ended or transitioned into veterans’ homes
- *National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers*, established by President Lincoln in March 1865
  - Because of the sheer number of soldiers disabled in service or expected to soon age into one, the institution was established to accommodate the needs of roughly 300,000 people

Resources

- *Illinois Soldier’s and Sailor’s Home at Quincy*, Indexed by Lowell M. Volkel (At the CCPL Genealogy Branch)

WOMEN’S RECORDS

Types of Records

*Much of the information for women’s participation in the Civil War can be found in book format or in newspapers rather than record collections*

Active Roles

- Some women dressed as men and served in the Union and Confederate armies as soldiers and therefore may have service records
- Hundreds of women also served as spies on both sides, e.g. *Rose O’Neal Greenhow and Isabelle “Belle” Boyd for the Confederacy; Harriet Tubman and Elizabeth Van Lew for the Union*
  - Evidence of this is typically found in news articles when they’ve been caught — *but if they were good, there may not be any records of their spying*
  - Intelligence records may have been destroyed, but some are still sealed and held at the National Archives

Support Roles

Health-Related Positions

- Battlefield Nurses
- U.S. Sanitary Commission
  - Documents donated to the New York Public Library
  - *Available through their Digital Collection:* [https://on.nypl.org/2r0yhUd](https://on.nypl.org/2r0yhUd)
- Hospital Transport Service (Hospital Ships)
- Western Sanitary Commission (operated west of the Mississippi)
  - Digitized reports and documents available online at HathiTrust: [https://bit.ly/2XR5b1G](https://bit.ly/2XR5b1G)

Aid Societies

- Raised funds, gathered and organized supplies, arranged the logistics of distributing food, medicine, and other goods to soldiers
  - New England Women’s Auxiliary Association
  - Women’s Central Association of Relief
  - Soldier’s Aid Society of Northern Ohio
  - Michigan Soldier’s Aid Society
  - St. Louis Ladies’ Union Aid Society
  - Colored Ladies Soldiers’ Aid Society of St. Louis

Soldiers’ Homes

- *Sanitary Commission Homes*
  - By 1865, the Commission operated 18 “soldiers’ homes,” 11 “lodges,” and 1 “rest” across 15 states – most of these were closed once the war ended
• In conjunction with the Commission, more than 25 additional homes opened up in cities like Boston and Milwaukee for disabled veterans

• The Refreshment Saloons of Philadelphia
  • These establishments bathed, clothed, and fed soldiers and also provided letter writing services for Union soldiers
  • The staff was said to provide “warmth and compassion” and “a home away from home” as many of the volunteers were married women who had sons serving in the army as well
  • The saloons later added a private, non-military hospital facility to tend to an overflow of sick and wounded soldiers
    - Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon and Hospital
    - Cooper Shop Saloon

Example: Certificate for $20 Donation by Master George Morton Moore to the Union Volunteer Refreshment Saloon and Hospital in Philadelphia

Female Committee Members Listed Here:

Mrs. M. Grover        Mrs. M. Green
Mrs. H. P. Smith      Mrs. E. Mason
Mrs. P. Grover        Miss M. B. Keider
Mrs. M. Boyer         Miss S. L. Holland
Mrs. E. J. Smith      Miss A. M. Lee
Mrs. M. A. Cassady    Miss C. Bailey
Mrs. E. Horton        Miss A. L. Field
Miss A. B. Grover     Mrs. E. J. Lowry
Miss M. D. Grover     Mrs. S. J. Femington
Mrs. E. B. Barrows    Mrs. K. B. Anderson
Mrs. M. I. Field      Mrs. E. G. Plummer
Mrs. A. A. Elkinton   Mrs. H. F. Baily
Mrs. M. N. R. Ward    Mrs. M. Lee
Mrs. E. A. Helmbold

Additional Resources for Researching Female Civil War Ancestors

Woman’s Work in the Civil War: A Record of Heroism, Patriotism, and Patience, by L. P. Brockett
Available for search and view on Ancestry Library Edition

• Biographical sketches of individual women who worked as nurses as well as those working at “desks, corresponding with auxiliary aid societies, taking account of goods received for sanitary supplies, re-packing and shipping them to the points where they were needed, inditing (sic) and sending out circulars appealing for aid” (Union)
  • Ladies who Ministered to the Sick and Wounded in Camp, Field, and General Hospitals
  • Ladies who Organized Aid Societies
  • Ladies Distinguished for Services Among the Freedmen
  • Ladies Distinguished for Service in Soldier's Homes

Resources in Book Format

• Women in the American Civil War, by Lisa Tendrich Frank
  • Partially digitized on Google Books: https://bit.ly/2LEeQM8

• They Fought Like Demons : Women Soldiers in the American Civil War, by DeAnne Blanton and Lauren M. Cook

• She Went to the Field : Women Soldiers of the Civil War, by Bonnie Tsui
Reconstruction Era Records, 1865-1877

- Once the war was over, the country began rebuilding and reorganizing, especially in southern states
  - In 1867, the South was divided into five military districts each overseen by a major general
    - **District No. 1:** Virginia; **District No. 2:** North Carolina, South Carolina; **District No. 3:** Alabama, Florida, Georgia; **District No. 4:** Arkansas, Mississippi; **District No. 5:** Louisiana, Texas
  - Some of the records generated during this time includes restitution claims for loss of or damage to personal property, pardons for former Confederates, and oaths of allegiance.

**United States Southern Claims Commission Records**

- Created by the U.S. government in 1871 to provide a process through which Southerners could file for reimbursement of personal property losses and damage due to the Civil War
  - **Claims could be filed by residents of:** Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia
- Application packets include sworn testimonies, inventories of lost or damaged property, and witness testimonies with over 80 questions
  - Many witnesses were emancipated slaves whose names and personal information rarely appear on other legal documentation from the Civil War era
    - You may also find that they provided names and dates for family members, including those who lived on other plantations
- The full application packet is available in digital format on Ancestry Library Edition
  - **U.S., Southern Claims Commission Allowed Claims, 1871-1880**
  - **U.S. Southern Claims Commission, Disallowed and Barred Claims, 1871-1880**
- Be sure to check the **Barred and Disallowed Claims** as well for ancestors who applied and were rejected
- In order to receive reimbursement, claimants had to prove:
  - The loss of property (and its related cause)
  - That they had supported the Union during the war
  - That they had not provided any assistance to the Confederates

**Similar Record Collections:**

- **Pennsylvania, Civil War Border Claims, 1868-1879** (Ancestry Library Edition)
- **Union Citizens File** (Fold3) & **Confederate Citizens File** (Fold3)

**Example: Summary Report of a 32-page Southern Claims Commission Barred and Disallowed Application**

**Claimant’s Name and Residence:** Drury Mauldin, DeKalb County, Georgia

**Remarks:** “This claimant judging from the testimony did not remain loyal to the Federal Union throughout the war. He lived in DeKalb Co., Ga was probably opposed to decision in the beginning. He and his son both went into the state troops and went to Andersonville to guard the prison... Smith [a witness in the claim] says ‘he went to Andersonville before he was conscripted or forced to go.’”
Example: Application for Restitution, James J. Shannon, Editor of the Meridian Daily Claim, September 2, 1865

Excerpt from Petition: “Meridian Sep 2nd 1865 General, I have the honor to apply for the restitution of a small card job press now used near your Head Quarters in Vicksburg which was taken from my office at Meridian in Feb 1864 when Genl Sherman was at Meridian. I am a loyal citizen, not excluded from the President’s proclamation of amnesty and have taken the oath required.”

Pardons
- During and after the war, Presidents Lincoln and Johnson officially pardoned individuals who had served the Confederate military in a high-ranking position or held an office in the Confederate government
  - In 1865, President Johnson issued a general pardon, but with over a dozen exceptions
    - Others had to petition for a pardon
  - On Christmas Day 1868, President Johnson pardoned all Confederate soldiers
- These records are often handwritten petitions requesting a pardon and the subsequent form of the oath of allegiance

Record Collections Online
- Confederate Amnesty Papers (Fold3)

Example: 1865 Petition for a special application for pardon written to President Andrew Johnson on behalf of Edwin A. Keeble of Rutherford County, Tennessee, for his service as a member of the Second Confederate Congress (elected in August 1863) and the resulting oath of allegiance
Newspapers
- During the war, newspapers were often the only way civilians could keep up with news from the war
- The types of articles of most interest to civilians are the same types that are most helpful to genealogists:
  - e.g. Notices of soldiers reported wounded, missing, imprisoned, and dead, details of regiment movements, biographical sketches of notable individuals, elected officials for the Confederate Convention and Provisional Congress, etc.
- Many papers at this time in history were very political and staunchly aligned with political parties, often with that party in the newspaper’s name, e.g. The Cass County Democrat in Harrisonville, Missouri; The Smoky Hill and Republican Union in Junction City, Kansas
  - By 1860, over 80% of the nation’s newspapers were small-circulation partisan journals that promoted the interests of a given political party and in turn were sustained by the subscriptions of party members and government patronage. (Penn State University Libraries, Newspapers and Journals During the Civil War Era; https://bit.ly/2G82N6m)

Resources for Civil War Newspaper Research
- The New York Times Complete Civil War (Available at the CCPL Genealogy Branch)

Example: Articles from “The Daily Dispatch” in Richmond, Virginia, published on July 26, 1862

Abolitionist Records
- These records are typically digitized in book or pamphlet format, such as abolition organization membership documents, literature, annual meeting proceedings, and more (e.g. Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, The Pennsylvania Abolition Society)
  - You might also find opinion articles written in newspapers, published speeches, and books
  - The Library of Congress provides access to many of these types of records via links to digitized collections on HathiTrust and The Internet Archive – try searching those databases directly

Pro-Slavery Organization Records
- Similar records exist for pro-slavery organizations (sometimes referred to as “anti-abolitionist”) such as the Pro-Slavery Convention of Missouri held in Lexington, Missouri in 1855
Proceedings for this meeting were published, detailing members’ names, ranking members, committee members, any correspondence received by the organization, resolutions and more.

This document and other like it can be found on HathiTrust: https://bit.ly/2YOHV1a

Online Resources

- City University of New York’s Index of Advocates and Abolitionists: https://nyslavery.commons.gc.cuny.edu/advocates-and-abolitionists
- The Abolitionist (a publication of the New-England Anti-Slavery Society)
- Pennsylvania Anti Slavery Society Papers Digital Exhibit (Historical Society of Pennsylvania)

Example: [Left] The Abolitionist, February 1833, Excerpts from the 1833 Annual Meeting of the New-England Anti-Slavery Society listing the officers for the next year

Example: [Right] Proceedings and Resolutions of the Pro-Slavery Convention of Missouri, Held at Lexington, July 1855, listing all present delegates by county
Cemetery Records

- **Roll of Honor**
  - Lists the names of Union soldiers who died and were interred in National cemeteries
  - The Roll may contain:
    - Name and age of soldier
    - Death date
    - Burial place and cemetery
    - Rank and regiment
  - Volumes 1-27 are available at the Genealogy Branch and are also viewable online on the HathiTrust Digital Book Database: [https://bit.ly/328zJEU](https://bit.ly/328zJEU)

- **National Park Service Civil War Cemetery Database**: [www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-cemeteries.htm](http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-cemeteries.htm)
- **NPS Civil War Monuments**: [www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-monuments.htm](http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-monuments.htm)

Other Civil War Cemetery Record Collections Online

- **U.S., Civil War Roll of Honor, 1861-1865** (Ancestry Subscription)
- **Missouri Confederate Death Records** (Ancestry Library Edition)
- **Foreign Burial of American War Dead** (Fold3)

**Example:** Roll of Honor, Burials in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga, Tennessee (Soldiers from Pennsylvania)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Hezekiah Allen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Original Place of Interment:</strong></td>
<td>Chattanooga, Tennessee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rank:</strong></td>
<td>Corporal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Company:</strong></td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Regiment:</strong></td>
<td>46th Pennsylvania Infantry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of Death:</strong></td>
<td>1 July 1864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Burial:</strong></td>
<td>Section E, Grave Number 348</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LOCAL CIVIL WAR HISTORY RESOURCES**

**Stern Visitation of War Exhibit** *(Cass County Civil War History)*
[www.casscolibrary.org/casscountyhistory](http://www.casscolibrary.org/casscountyhistory)

"Exploring the story of the Civil War in Cass County, Missouri, this 18-panel exhibit was a joint project between the Cass County Public Library, the Cass County Historical Society, and Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area (FFNHA). Panel topics cover the full breadth of what it was like to live in Cass County and the surrounding area."

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area through the harrowing gauntlet of war. Discover the stories of women and slaves, aggression along the border, Order Number 11 and the exodus it caused along with many other events before, during, and after the war. These topics can be explored in detail by viewing the page dedicated to each panel, which can be accessed through the links provided at the top of this page or by scanning the QR code located on the panel or display card.”

**Missouri Digital Heritage Civil War Resources**
[www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/CivilWar/Resources](http://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/CivilWar/Resources)

“Missouri Digital Heritage provides instant access to more than 500,000 digitized Civil War records, accompanied by research guides, lesson plans and other tools designed to help Missourians learn more about this tumultuous and violent period in their state’s history. **Resources include state and federal government records held by the Missouri State Archives, as well as dozens of unique and varied collections held by local institutions around the state.** These resources can help scholars, students, and family historians to explore the war and its aftermath.”

**Missouri State Archives “Divided Loyalties” Exhibit**
[www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/CivilWar/DividedLoyalties](http://www.sos.mo.gov/mdh/CivilWar/DividedLoyalties)

“**Drawing on more than nine million pages of documents and court cases, Divided Loyalties examines the upheaval and uncertainty that characterized Missouri during the Civil War era.** The exhibit goes beyond the stories of battles and military strategy to consider the social conflict that permeated the state for the two decades that followed the Kansas Border Wars of the mid-1850s.”

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Visit the library’s locations page ([www.casscolibrary.org/locations](http://www.casscolibrary.org/locations)) for CCPL Genealogy’s location, contact information, and hours of operation.

Information regarding our digital collections, access to online databases, submitting inquiries, and more, can be found on Cass County Public Library’s Genealogy Resources page, located here: [www.casscolibrary.org/genealogy](http://www.casscolibrary.org/genealogy)

Send Research Inquiries to:  
[askgenealogy@casscolibrary.org](mailto:askgenealogy@casscolibrary.org)  
Cass County Public Library – Genealogy Branch  
400 E. Mechanic St. Harrisonville, MO – 816.884.6285