



RESEARCHING WWI MILITARY RECORDS

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This is an overview of WWI military records and how to use various record types to reconstruct a Veteran's military service.

Beginning with the OMPF (Official Military Personnel File), you'll learn how to access and use alternate record sources to find more information on a veteran's service and rebuild information lost in the 1973 NPRC fire.

KEY FEDERAL RECORDS FOR WWI MILITARY RESEARCH

- ★ Official Military Personnel Files
- ★ VA Index cards
- ★ Burial Files
- ★ Morning Reports
- ★ Rosters and Muster Rolls
- ★ Reports of Changes
- ★ Award Cards
- ★ General and Special Orders
- ★ C and XC Pension Files
- ★ Operation, After Action, and Ground Unit reports and journals
- ★ Navy Deck Logs

TIPS FOR RESEARCH

- ★ Search your veteran's units to find privately maintained sites dedicated to specific units and their histories
- ★ Out of copyright/print memoirs and unit histories can be found on Google Books
- ★ Subscription based research sites can generally be accessed through your local library
- ★ Remember to check local sources, state specific records, and newspaper archives for mentions of your veteran

ONLINE RESEARCH SITES AND PORTALS – GENERAL

- ★ [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com)
- ★ [FamilySearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Military_Records](https://familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Military_Records)
- ★ [Fold3.com](https://www.fold3.com)
- ★ [DigitalCollections.NYPL.org/](https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/)
- ★ [ChroniclingAmerica.loc.gov/](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES USEFUL LINKS

- ★ NARA Research Tools [Archives.gov/research/start/online-tools](https://archives.gov/research/start/online-tools)
- ★ NARA Military Collections [Archives.gov/research/military](https://archives.gov/research/military)
- ★ NARA Archival OMPF [Archives.gov/veterans](https://archives.gov/veterans)
- ★ NARA Non-Archival OMPF [Archives.gov/personnel-records-center](https://archives.gov/personnel-records-center)
- ★ NARA Air Force Award Cards [Catalog.Archives.gov/id/4530002](https://catalog.archives.gov/id/4530002)

BRANCH SPECIFIC RESEARCH SITES

- ★ US Coast Guard [History.uscg.mil/](https://history.uscg.mil/)
- ★ US Army [History.army.mil/](https://history.army.mil/)
- ★ US Navy [History.navy.mil/](https://history.navy.mil/)
- ★ US Air Force [DAFHistory.af.mil/](https://dafhistory.af.mil/)
- ★ US Marine Corps [USMCU.edu/Research/History-Division/](https://usmcu.edu/Research/History-Division/)

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICES

- ★ NARA Researcher List [Archives.gov/research/hire-help](https://archives.gov/research/hire-help)
- ★ Golden Arrow Research goldenarrowresearch.com/

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Volunteering with the NYG&B—either in person or remotely—is a great way to actively support a community dedicated to researching New York ancestors. And there are so many ways to help, whether virtually wherever you may be, at one of our regional Digitization Centers, or at our bustling New York City headquarters. Volunteers can assist with scanning documents, indexing records, and editing images. We provide both remote and in-person training and guidance.

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Consider making a tax-deductible donation to advance our mission and support additional record and collection preservation efforts, educational programming, and landmark publications and resources. Learn more at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/get-involved/donate or call 212-755-8532, ext. 208.

STAY CONNECTED:

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