



Military Service during the Mexican War, 1846–1848

The United States declared war on Mexico on May 13, 1846, less than six months after Texas was admitted to the Union. The war ended two years later with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, on February 2, 1848. It not only fixed the Rio Grande River as the boundary of Texas, but required Mexico to cede to the United States all the territory that today makes up the states of California, Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, and parts of Colorado and Wyoming in return for \$15 million.

Compiled Military Service Records (CMSRs)

In the 1890s, the Department of War used numerous sources, such as muster rolls, descriptive rolls, and pay rolls to create compiled military service records. These records generally show when a soldier joined a unit and if he was present when the unit was mustered. There is a consolidated index to compiled service records of volunteer soldiers who served during the Mexican War. There are no service records on microfilm, except for soldiers serving in organizations from Arkansas, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Texas, and volunteer soldiers serving in Mormon organizations (see list below).

Index to Compiled Service Records

___M616, *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the Mexican War*. 41 rolls. DP. Arranged alphabetically by surname.

___M629, *Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During Indian Wars and Disturbances, 1815–1858*. 42 rolls. DP. Arranged alphabetically by surname.

Compiled Service Records

The following microfilm publications are arranged by unit and then alphabetically by the soldier's surname:

- ___M1970 *Arkansas*. 12 rolls. DP.
- ___M863 *Mississippi*. 9 rolls. DP.
- ___M1028 *Pennsylvania*. 13 rolls. DP.
- ___M638 *Tennessee*. 15 rolls. DP.
- ___M278 *Texas*. 19 rolls. DP.
- ___M351 *Mormon Units*. 3 rolls. DP.

Service in the Regular Army, Navy, and Marine Corps

For more information, see the following reference reports:

- *Officers in the Regular Army, 1789–1916*
- *Enlisted Service in the Regular Army, 1789–1914*
- *Sailors in the U.S. Navy, 1789–1885*
- *Officers in the U.S. Navy, 1789–1925*

Pensions

A veteran's pension file can include his rank, place of residence, age or date of birth, and time of service. A widow's application can also include her place of residence, her maiden name, the date and place of marriage, the date and place of her husband's death, and the names of children under 16. A child's or heir's file contains information about both the veteran and the widow, as well as the child's place of residence, date of birth, and the date and place of the widow's death.

Volunteer Soldiers

___T317, *Index to Mexican War Pension Files, 1887–1926*. 14 rolls. Arranged alphabetically by surname.

___T1196, *Selected Pension Application Files Relating to the Mormon Battalion, Mexican War, 1846–1848*. 21 rolls. Arranged alphabetically by surname. A complete list of names is reproduced at the beginning of each roll.

Regular Army, Navy, and Marine Corps

___T316, *Old War Index to Pension Files, 1815–1926*. 7 rolls. Arranged alphabetically by the claimant's surname. This series indexes claims based on disability or death for primarily regular army, navy, and marine corps service. The cards show the name of veteran; the name and type of dependent, if any; unit; application numbers, certificate numbers and in some cases file numbers; and the state from which the claim was made.

Remarried Widows

___M1784, *Index to Pension Files of Remarried Widows Based on Service in the War of 1812, Indian Wars, Mexican War, and Regular Army Before 1861*. 1 roll. Arranged alphabetically by the surname of the most recent husband, and includes the pension application or certificate number. Widows could draw pensions for the service of two or more soldiers.

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