Public Service: Military & Civilian

NATIONAL ARCHIVES
2023 GENEALOGY SERIES

May 3–June 14 on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. ET

www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-series/2023
Welcome!

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is pleased to present this educational series of lectures on how to conduct family research.

As one of the nation’s premier genealogy institutions, it is our mission to inform the public about National Archives holdings that relate to family history and to make those records available to you.
About the Sessions

Our presentations will demonstrate how to use federal resources at the National Archives and Records Administration for genealogical research. This year we focus on individuals who have served our nation in military or civilian service. We also have a session on how to preserve your own family collections.

National Archives presenters are broadcasting from Washington, DC; College Park, MD; Denver, CO; and St. Louis, MO. Sessions are intended for beginners to experienced family historians—all are welcome!
Join the conversation!

Participate with the presenters and other family historians during a session’s premiere.

Live Chat on YouTube
Log in and type your questions and comments.

Follow us at @USNatArchives on Twitter and join the Genealogy Series conversation using #GenieSeries2023.
Show More

- captioning
- handout
- evaluation

Chat

- log in
- participate
- ask questions

Videos and presentation materials remain available after the premiere date.
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>May 3</td>
<td>1 p.m. ET</td>
<td>Welcome and Introductions</td>
</tr>
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<td>May 3</td>
<td>1:05 p.m. ET</td>
<td>Civilians at War: Records of Participation in U.S. Military Conflicts</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Claire Kluskens - Subject Matter Expert for Genealogy/Census Related Records and Digital Projects Archivist from the National Archives in Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 10</td>
<td>1 p.m. ET</td>
<td>Basic Military Records at the National Archives: Revolutionary War to 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>John Deeben – Archivist from the National Archives in Washington, DC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>1 p.m. ET</td>
<td>National Archives at St. Louis: Understanding the 1973 Fire and Its Impact on Genealogical Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Eric Kilgore - Archives Specialist from the National Archives at St. Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Session</td>
<td>Presenter/Expertise</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>Civilian Conservation Corps Indian Division on the Reservation</td>
<td>Cody White - Subject Matter Expert for Native American Related Records and an Archivist from the National Archives at Denver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>Accessing and Understanding Korean War Army Unit Records</td>
<td>Rachael Salyer - Subject Matter Expert in Modern Military Records and an Archivist from the National Archives at College Park, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Creating Your Own Preservation Survey and Plan for Family Collections</td>
<td>Sara Holmes - Conservator in Preservation Programs from the National Archives at St. Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 14</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Civilians at War: Records of Participation in U.S. Military Conflicts

This presentation discusses ways in which civilians supported a war or were directly affected by it, with a focus on the American Revolution to World War I. These wars provided opportunities for employment by civilian or military agencies to provide goods, services, or loans. Other individuals sought reimbursement after suffering property loss. We’ll show examples of online records that document these relationships with the federal government (ca. 1776–1918) and Confederate States government (1861–1865).
Claire Kluskens is the Subject Matter Expert for Genealogy/Census Related Records and Digital Projects Archivist from the National Archives in Washington, DC. She currently works on digital and description projects for the National Archives Catalog and Archives.gov website. She lectures frequently and has written extensively for many types of genealogical publications. Claire has been a genealogical researcher since 1976 and a National Archives staff member since 1992.
Civilians at War: Records of Participation in U.S. Military Conflicts

Claire Kluskens
May 2023
In this lecture, we will see examples of federal records that show:

- Civilian participation in war- or defense-related activities
- Effects of war upon civilians
- Noncombatants from the Revolutionary War to World War I
Civilian participation through

- Government employment
- Providing services
- Selling goods
- Making loans
- Other nongovernment activities
Overview

Effects upon civilians

- Death of family member may lead to pension claims (not discussed today) and possibly other records
- Property losses may lead to claims for reimbursement
Revolutionary War

Record Group 93, War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records

National Archives (NARA) Microfilm Publication M847, *Special Index to Numbered Records in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, 1775–1783* (39 rolls)


- References to “manuscript number” lead to NARA Microfilm Publication M859, *Miscellaneous Numbered Records (the Manuscript File) in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, 1775–1790s*. 
M847 Index Card (left) leads to M853, Roll 4, Volume 28, pages 17-18 and 30-32, complaint by citizen Caleb Brokaw for bad treatment by the American Army near Middlebrooke, New Jersey. (Pages 30-31 below)
M847 Index Card (left) leads to M859, Roll 38, Manuscript 12121, request by Corporal Joseph Webb that his wages for four months be paid to Captain Henry Brewster. Witnessed by Martha Brewster, Ruth Halfey, and Colonel Frederick Weifenfels.
Revolutionary War

Papers of the Continental Congress


- Search by personal name for a quick focus on persons of interest.
- Search by geographic location to learn more about specific places affected by the war, even if your ancestor’s name is not listed.
- Search by military unit name or by regimental or company commander’s name.
Revolutionary War


**EAST WHITELAND, PA.**

**EAST WINDSOR, CONN.**

**EASTBURN, JOHN**

**EASTBURN, SAMUEL**

**EASTEN, JOHN**

**EASTER, JACOB**

**EASTER, MARK**

**EASTERBROOKS, ---**

**EASTERBROOKS, JOSEPH**
War of 1812

Civil War (Union)

Civilian Inquiries

“Requests for Information Relating to Missing Soldiers Which Were Received by Quartermaster James Moore, 1863–1867” (NAID 606207)

Mostly relates to soldiers who had been held by the Confederates at Andersonville prison: some known to be dead, others’ fates unknown.
Civil War (Union)

Civilian Inquiries

“Requests for Information Relating to Missing Soldiers Which Were Received by Quartermaster James Moore, 1863–1867”

George W. Collins, 60 Dedham St., Boston, May 26, 1865

(NAID 606207)

(NAID 12000693)
“Requests for Information Relating to Missing Soldiers Which Were Received by Quartermaster James Moore, 1863–1867” (NAID 606207)

George W. Collins, 60 Dedham St., Boston, May 26, 1865

“James H. Collins, taken a prisoner of war, November 3rd, 1863, a member of Co. A, 1st R.I. Cavalry, one T. O’Reilly, also a prisoner, had tented with him 2 months previous to being exchanged, had left James . . . March 25th 1865, he was then too weak to be removed for exchange . . . I wish you would be kind enough to enquire, as my anxiety concerning him is intense . . . I have lost all trace of him . . . Please tell him a sister’s and a brother’s blessing attend him always, we have no parents, there were only 3 of us, James being the youngest . . . ” (NAID 12000693)
**Civil War (Union)**

**Claims**

“List of Claims Filed with the Office of U.S. Military Railroads, 1864–1866” (NAID 148959243)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name of claimant</th>
<th>Date of claim filed</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>By whom presented</th>
<th>Date of presentation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Matthews &amp; Stengel</td>
<td>Jan 5, 1864</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td>C. E. L.</td>
<td>July 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>H. &amp; S.</td>
<td>Oct 1, 1864</td>
<td>$22.68</td>
<td>C. E. L.</td>
<td>August 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>J. &amp; S.</td>
<td>Dec 1, 1864</td>
<td>$16.75</td>
<td>C. E. L.</td>
<td>September 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>J. &amp; S.</td>
<td>Apr 15, 1865</td>
<td>$171.25</td>
<td>C. E. L.</td>
<td>October 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>J. &amp; S.</td>
<td>Sep 15, 1865</td>
<td>$122.75</td>
<td>C. E. L.</td>
<td>November 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>J. &amp; S.</td>
<td>Oct 15, 1865</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>C. E. L.</td>
<td>December 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>J. &amp; S.</td>
<td>Nov 15, 1865</td>
<td>$57.50</td>
<td>C. E. L.</td>
<td>January 1866</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Provost Marshal was responsible for:

- Running a fair draft
- Transporting volunteers and draftees to military officers
- Identifying and apprehending deserters

Records that exist for any particular Provost Marshal vary.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>On what Account</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 31</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Geo. P. Fales</td>
<td>For service as clerk in Oct.</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>J. M. Whalen</td>
<td></td>
<td>37.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Geo. C. Davis</td>
<td></td>
<td>37.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>William A. Atkinson</td>
<td>Wood (to be purchased)</td>
<td>8.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>J. B. Hadlin</td>
<td>Stones to (as)</td>
<td>61.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>P. Simonin</td>
<td>At: Inaug. in October</td>
<td>10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 30</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>J. L. Jackson</td>
<td>Special in November</td>
<td>85.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>B. M. Flint</td>
<td>Deficit</td>
<td>50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Christina Morrison</td>
<td>Rent</td>
<td>27.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Civil War (Union)

Surplus Government Property

“List of Horses Sold,” February 1864, at Frederick, Maryland, and Reading, Pennsylvania” (NAID 68141923)
Civil War (Union) and Later

NARA’s 2021 Genealogy Series
Session Video and Handout

Civil War Union Noncombatant Personnel:
Teamsters, Laundresses, Nurses, Sutlers, and More
Claire Kluskens
June 8, 2021
### Civil War (Confederate)

#### “Confederate Slave Payrolls” (NAID 719477)

Enslaved persons provided in the District of Cape Fear, North Carolina (Payroll 1767)

![Payroll Image]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From Which Hired</th>
<th>Name and Occupation</th>
<th>Time Employed</th>
<th>Rate of Wages</th>
<th>Amount for Each Slave</th>
<th>Amount Received</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John L. Jones</td>
<td>Mt. Labor</td>
<td>11 Days</td>
<td>3/4 month</td>
<td>7 85</td>
<td>8 85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Smith</td>
<td>PIh</td>
<td>10 Days</td>
<td>3/4 month</td>
<td>11 10</td>
<td>12 60</td>
<td>J. E. Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John McCall</td>
<td>Dbm</td>
<td>20 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>10 66</td>
<td>12 00</td>
<td>M. H. B.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alex McRae</td>
<td>John</td>
<td>29 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29 33</td>
<td>30 84</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Sin</td>
<td>26 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20 34</td>
<td>21 50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>29 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20 34</td>
<td>21 50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Ben</td>
<td>29 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20 34</td>
<td>21 50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>29 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>20 34</td>
<td>21 50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Westbrook</td>
<td>Millower</td>
<td>18 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13 20</td>
<td>15 30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. L. Campbell</td>
<td>Hale</td>
<td>13 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11 00</td>
<td>13 20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. L.</td>
<td>Thewsbury</td>
<td>3 Days</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1 36</td>
<td>1 36</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Civil War (Confederate)

“Record Books of Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Offices of the Confederate Government” (“Confederate Chapter Books”) (NAID 596501)

- Military personnel
- Loans from civilians
- Passport records (names, not much more)
- Post office mail contracts, dead letters, etc.
- More!
Civil War (Confederate)

“Record Books of Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Offices of the Confederate Government” (“Confederate Chapter Books”) (NAID 596501)

File Unit
Chapter X, Volume 148 - Treasury Department - Registers of Subscriptions at Rome, Georgia, to the Loan Authorized by Act of Congress, February 28, 1861 (NAID 178453696)
# Loan for Defence of the Confederate States

**Authorised by Act of Congress. Approved 28th February, 1861.**

**The Subscribers severally agree to pay to the Confederate States of America, the amount set down to their respective names, in consideration of the agreement of said States, to deliver inscribed Stock or Bonds for that amount; five per cent. whereof is to be paid in cash, and the balance on or before the 1st May ensuing; interest to be allowed from the time of such payment, and Bonds or Stock to be delivered accordingly. The five per cent. payment to be forfeited in case of failure to comply with this agreement.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount in Coupon Bonds</th>
<th>Amount in Transferable Stock</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One thousand dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alfred Shorter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One thousand dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mr. Martha B. Shorter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One thousand dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Martha M. Coatsy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>J. D. Islander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>E. M. Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>J. M. Blount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>W. J. Russell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One hundred dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>James M. Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>John J. Hawkins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>John J. Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fifty dollars</td>
<td></td>
<td>John J. Parmer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chapter X, Volume 148 - Treasury Department - Registers of Subscriptions at Rome, Georgia, to the Loan Authorized by Act of Congress, February 28, 1861 (NAID 178453696)
"Record Books of Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Offices of the Confederate Government" ("Confederate Chapter Books") (NAID 596501)

File Unit
Chapter IX, Volume 110 - Secretary of War - Orders to Arrest Persons Applying for Passports, Passport Office, Richmond, Virginia, 1864 (NAID 166051836)

Image 7 of 16
May 15, 1863, Tolbert S. Morgan, Jacob Geiger, and Archibald Davis, agree to be sureties for Tolbert S. Morgan, route carrier, Kings Ferry, Nassau County, Florida, to carry mail from July 1, 1863, to June 30, 1867, for $1200/year. Postmaster & others named.
Civil War (Confederate)

Chapter XI, Volume 52 – Post Office Department – Register of Dead Letters, 1864 (NAID 7349302)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>TOWhom Addressed</th>
<th>FROM Addressed</th>
<th>NAME OF Writer</th>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th>DOLLAR</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>G. H. L. Stahl</td>
<td>S. P. R. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. Smith</td>
<td>1 change note</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>A. H. S. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>J. S. N. Smith</td>
<td>Return</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Civil War (Confederate)

List of Subscribers to the Produce Loan Who Offered to Sell Cotton as Recorded by the Confederate Treasury Office in Jackson, Mississippi, September 1862 (NAID 235113675)

Small volume with few entries

Financial records, such as these, add contextual details about an ancestor’s life.
Indian Wars (Conflicts with Indigenous Peoples)

“Register of Contracts with Civilian Surgeons, 1871–1885” (NAID 143509448)
World War I

Chronology

June 28, 1914 – Austrian Archduke Franz Ferdinand assassinated

July–August 1914 – major European powers declared war; U.S. remained neutral

1914–1917 – American civilians assisted foreign war efforts overseas

April 6, 1917 – U.S. declared war on Germany
Examples of American civilian participation overseas, 1914–1917, can be found in applications for U.S. passports.

Passport Applications information page – archives.gov/research/passport
William Victor Prechtel
Passport Application

Pages 1 and 2

Identifying information; countries he intended to visit; purpose in going abroad

From Passport Applications, Passport Applications, January 6, 1906–March 31, 1925 (NAID 583830) images online at Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org
William Victor Prechtel
Passport Application

Pages 3 and 4

Letter from Congressman

Letter from American Field Service

From Passport Applications, Passport Applications, January 6, 1906–March 31, 1925 (NAID 583830) images online at Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org
Conclusion

- Examined some ways in which civilians participated in war efforts or were affected by war
- Viewed examples of the types of records that exist
- No comprehensive index
- When was your person of interest alive?
- What were their life circumstances that might have enabled them to “do something” or be affected as a civilian during wartime?
- What government agencies might have created records for that activity at that time and place?
Thank You!

Session Handout

archives.gov

Ask questions at

historyhub.history.gov
After the broadcast . . .

Email questions to inquire@nara.gov

Video recordings of lectures and downloadable handouts will remain online at

www.archives.gov/calendar/genealogy-series/2023
Feedback

We value your opinion.

Please take a minute to complete a short evaluation. Your comments help us maintain the quality of our services and plan future programs.

Thank you!

Event Evaluation:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/KYREventEval
Thank You
Genealogy
Series Team!

Presenters
Claire Kluskens
Cody White
Eric Kilgore
John Deeben
Rachael Salyer
Sara Holmes

Production
Alexis Van Dyke
Amber Forrester
Andréa Matney
Erin Townsend
Jamie Atkinson
Jason Winston
Julie Reid
Miriam Kleiman
Rudregus Davis
Sasa Simic
Vernon Smith

Communication
Cara Lebonick
Hilary Parkinson
Laura Sheehan
Mary Ryan
Victoria Macchi
Educational resources on how to access and conduct research using U.S. federal government records held at the National Archives and Records Administration.

Know Your Records

www.archives.gov/calendar/know-your-records

Videos and Handouts on YouTube

Playlists: Civilian Service and U.S Veterans
Know Your Records in Autumn 2023

Thursday
August 10
1 p.m. ET

**Sound Recordings of the World War II Era**

Ashley Behringer – Archivist from the National Archives at College Park, MD

Wednesday
September 13
1 p.m. ET

**The Records of the Provost Marshal General and Enemy Prisoners of War Held in the United States during World War II**

Rachael Salyer - Subject Matter Expert in Modern Military Records and an Archivist from the National Archives at College Park, MD
Questions & Answers in Chat

Please stay if you have questions.

Although this concludes the video portion of the broadcast, we will continue to take your questions in chat for another 10 minutes.