

# GenSig News

Waccamaw Neck Computer Club

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## Researching Military Records

### How can Military Records help in my genealogy research?

Military records can often provide valuable information on the veteran, as well as on all members of the family. For example:

**Compiled Service Records:** Compiled service records consist of an envelope containing card abstracts taken from muster rolls, returns, pay vouchers, and other records. They will provide you with your ancestor's rank, unit, date mustered in and mustered out, basic biographical information, medical information, and military information.

### Pension Applications and Pension Pay-

**ment Records:** The National Archives also has pension applications and records of pension payments for veterans, their widows, and other heirs. The pension records in the National Archives Building in Washington, D.C. are based on service in the armed forces of the United States between 1775 and 1916. Pension application files usually provide the most genealogical information. These files often contain supporting documents such as: narratives of events during service, marriage certificates, birth records, death certificates, pages from family Bibles, family letters, depositions of witnesses, affidavits, discharge papers and other supporting papers.

**Bounty Land:** Bounty land warrant application files relate to claims based on wartime service between 1775 and March 3, 1855. If your ancestor served in the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, early Indian Wars, or the Mexican War, a search of these records may be worthwhile. Bounty land records often contain documents similar to those in pension files, with lots of genealogical information. Many of the bounty land application files relating to Revolutionary War and War of 1812 service have been combined with the pension files.

<http://www.archives.gov/research/military/genealogy.html>

**Websites:** [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/military\\_records/3186/civil\\_war/388406](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/military_records/3186/civil_war/388406)

<http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>

<http://www.archives.gov>

[http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United\\_States\\_Military\\_Records](http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/United_States_Military_Records)

### GenQuote:

"If you could see your ancestors  
All standing in a row,  
Would you be proud of them or not?  
Or don't you really know? ...

But here's another question  
Which requires a different view  
If you could meet your ancestors  
Would they be proud of you?"  
- Nellie Winslow Simmons Randall

**GenTips:** Research Tips and Solving Difficult Research Problems: If your research seems to hit a dead-end or poses a tough problem, you can often find other paths by learning how others solved their research problems. Here are some articles and online resources that may provide some ideas and answers. Articles:

- From the National Genealogical Society Quarterly, Vol. 83, No. 1 (March 1995), see: Thomas W. Jones, "The Children of Calvin Snell: Primary versus Secondary Evidence." Joy Reisinger, "Is Mother Genevieve a Greslon or a Fontaine?"
- From the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, Vol. 151, Whole No. 603 (July 1997), see: Vernon D. Turner, "Lydia Gaymer, the Wife of Humphrey Turner of Scituate." Steven E. Sullivan, "Joanna (Adams) Lunt Identified."
- From the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, Vol. 128, No. 2 (April 1997), see: Harry Macy Jr., "The Van Wicklen/Van Wickle Family: Including its Frisian Origin and Connections to Minnerly and Kranckheyt." Cynthia B. Biasca, "Jacques Hertel and the Indian Princesses." Frederick C. Hart Jr., "A Proposed Family for Thomas Jones of Fairfield, Connecticut, and Huntington, Long Island."

<http://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/start-research/tips.html>