

World War I Military Research Guide

Easy Step-By-Step Checklist for Locating Resources and Records

Soldier/Nurse Name: _____

Date and Place of Birth: _____

County & State of Residence Before 1917: _____

County & State of Residence in 1920: _____

Does Individual Have a Draft Card? Yes No

Why Not? Enlisted Underage Female

Family Record Collections

Documents You Have at Home or Family Records With Other Relatives

Military Service Record Discharge Papers Personal Letters
Personal Diary Newspaper Clippings Obituary Photographs

Military Record Collections

Listed as WWI Veteran in 1930 US Federal Census? Yes No

Do you Have a Military Service Record?

Yes, Full File Sort of - Final Payment Voucher No

Do you Have a Military Discharge Record?

Yes (Original) Yes (Copy from County) No

If No, Are You Blocked From Accessing County Discharge Papers?

Yes No I Don't Know

If Yes or I Don't Know - Check County Discharges on FamilySearch or Seek Help From County Veterans Affairs Office

Then Look For These Resources:

- Muster Rolls and Roster Rolls on Microfilm at the National Archives Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis
- County Honor Roll Book (Online/Library/Society)
- County Wartime History Book (Online/Library/Society)

Naturalization Records

Was the Individual a US Citizen upon America's Entry into the Great War?

Yes No I Don't Know

No or I Don't Know, Narrow Down Individual's Naturalization Time Frame

Was your Ancestor Naturalized During, or After Military Service?

During After I Don't Know

Look for the Military Training Camp Where Naturalization Occurred:

- Muster Rolls and Roster Rolls on Microfilm at the Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis
- County Honor Roll Book (Online/Library/Society)
- Alien Naturalizations on Ancestry.com
- County Wartime History Book (Online/Library/Society)

When The Camp Name Is Found, Consult These Resources for Naturalization Information:

- National Archives 'Alien Papers' (Correspondence Relating to Foreign Born Soldiers, 1919 - 1920)
- Military (Naturalization) Petitions on FamilySearch <https://goo.gl/gLx3en>

Veteran's Bonus Claim Records

What is Veteran's State of Residence in 1923-1926? _____

Does that State Provide Access to Veteran's Bonus Claim Records such as:
Service Cards Bonus Register Veteran's Census No Records Survive

Veterans Organizations

Did Veteran Belong to a Military, Social Society, or Fraternal Organization?

Yes No I Don't Know

If Yes Which Ones? _____

If No or Don't Know - Check These Organizations

American Legion Oddfellows (IOOF) Freemasons

Order of the Eastern Star Rebekah Jewels (IOOF) Other _____