

Chapter 1 : Franklin County Veterans' Census, White - Young

About Veterans Schedules This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the special census of Civil War Union veterans and widows of veterans available on microfilm M (rolls) from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

The mountain of paperwork that has remained makes the Civil War one of the most interesting periods of history. To know that we can count on finding the daily records of their service details means that we can begin to fill in some of the gaps in our education on the war. One of the large gaps of learning is due to the incomplete records of the census of Civil War veterans and their widows and this article is an attempt to pierce together several strains of unrelated areas of research and combine them into something that will understand the post war veteran. The case of Civil War veterans is one of interest to both sociological researchers as well as Civil War historians because the post-war period continued to offer insights into the habits of those who had enlisted for the suppression of the rebellion. The costs to the government of how many veterans might require to be taken over by the Federal institutions would be one of large financial undertaking. Immediately after the war had ended and the soldiers discharged Larry Logue in his book "To Appomattox and Beyond" reported in a chapter titled "Union Veterans in Postwar America" that the army had acted as a school of demoralization. Returning soldiers provided some evidence that they looted and brawled in New York, Washington and elsewhere in the summer of . Former soldiers, upset at being denied a promised bonus, went on an arson spree in Madison, Wisconsin, in . Prison officials across the country reported a sharp increase in inmates, asserted that most of them were ex-soldiers, and blamed army life for the crime wave. After the war, physicians gave additional morphine to already addicted veterans and introduced others to the drug in order to treat the pain and stress of the soldiers. In an army surgeon estimated that 45, veterans were addicted to morphine. The United States Government was one of the first institutions to grant a pension to those veterans who had survived the war and who now required additional funds to continue living. At first pensions were only available to those veterans who could demonstrate that they have been affected by the war or widows of Civil War veterans who had died during the war or whose deaths were found to have been caused or linked by the war. Up until recently there were still widows of Civil War veterans in the South still receiving pensions. The federal government had started the ball rolling in by passing legislation in the Continental Congress promising disabled American soldiers and sailors half-pay for life; this led by to the government having 17, veterans of the Revolutionary War on its books by . The government also distributed to veterans an amount of public land, which totaled sixty million acres in the years prior to the Civil War. By there were , Civil War pensioners on the rolls drawing million dollars in pensions. According to an article by Dr. Salling, died in which was 95 years after the beginning of the Civil War. By the time of the Civil War, the first large scale requirement of volunteers since the War of Independence and the War of , according to Patrick Kelly in his book "Creating a National Home: More than a quarter of a million Union soldiers received gunshot wounds as well as , troops who were discharged by the Union army for a variety of ailments. This would make a serious dent on the economy of any nation seriously intent on securing the rights of the veterans. In the summer of July 14th to be exact Congress established a pension system for veterans with disabilities under the General Pension Law. It was retroactive to March 1, , and established uniform pension rates for veterans disabled "from causes which can be directly traced to injuries received or disease contracted while in the military service". Nevertheless the hospital, and others like it, was not built for the purpose of long-term care but only to assist them on their return home. The average stay was only three days. Again the home was to be only of short-term remedy and almost all left voluntarily after short stays. Other cities in the north soon followed the first example and Philadelphia, Cleveland and Chicago soon had local homes for the veterans. These individual efforts soon created the need for the ever-increasing number of veterans being discharged to find a home. In March , after years of inactivity, Congress incorporated an asylum for the care of war-disabled Union veterans. An entire economy grew around the United States Pension Office, based in Washington, under the command of the Commissioner of Pensions. There were pension agents who were able to lodge claims on

behalf of their clients and they advertised their services. In the government published a roster of Regimental Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons with their current post office addresses. The list ran to 7, names and was used by both applicants who needed the surgeons to corroborate their afflictions during the war or by pension office workers to confirm treatment of those soldiers and sailors. A change in the pension laws in also had an effect on those veterans who claimed that they were no longer able to earn a living. Until then pension payments began when a claim was approved by the Pension Bureau and were dated from the time of the application or his death in the case of a widow. However in when a new bill was read in Congress it was voted almost unanimously. Republican votes on behalf of the powerful ex-soldier lobby group required endorsement, Democrats wanted to also show their patriotism and so the bill was passed to allow lump-sum retroactive payments to current pensioners and those filing new claims before mid As well as maintaining the graves of Civil War soldiers it also gathered the veterans into a format of the popular secret societies of the day with rituals and proceedings. Grant onwards owed a debt to the veterans for supporting their claims to office. In return the government was very generous in veterans affairs and that the veterans held the votes of political power with their support of candidates who had war records. The first president not to have served in the war was Theodore Roosevelt who came to the presidency on the death of William McKinley. Stuart McConnell in his book "Glorious Contentment: The Grand Army of the Republic, 1865-1900" mentions in his introduction that the G. The members did lobby for Civil War pensions; veteran preference in hiring, censorship of school textbooks and other non-political actions but it eventually became a fraternal lodge, a charitable society, a special-interest lobby, a patriotic group and a political club. He further states that by Union Army pensions were consuming one federal tax dollar for every three and even in one over every ten eligible voters was a Civil War veteran. Patrick Kelly noted that Federal government allowances to Union soldiers and their widows and children were the single largest expenditure in the budget, excluding service on the debt, every year between and Stuart McConnell reported that only about one-third of the surviving veterans were members of the Grand Army of the Republic , according to the membership total in the Annual Proceedings compared to 1., veterans according to the census total. Similar figures are noted in the annual report of the Board of Managers for the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers for the year ended June 30, The number of cases cared for rose from in , to 3, in ; 6, in ; 8, in ; 12, in , 19, in and 24, in By that figure had reached 28, as the age of the soldiers gradually increased to that of pensionable requirements and the exact number of Union veterans assisted by the National Home through to June 30, was 97, As the veterans got older their reliance on the benefits available from the government also increased. Although Confederate veterans had to rely on the individual states for their subsistence, the federal volunteers were more fortunate. Incidentally the Report of the Board of Managers for the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers for the year ending June 30, , shows that the nationalities for the inmates of the Northwestern home, based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, included one Australian. The only other plausible explanation might well have been an error in his nativity and changed in one year from Austrian to Australian. Due to the large amount of difficulties which the pension office was then finding as it delayed finding service information to the applicants, an act of Congress was authorised on 1 March to gather the data required for a special census of United States veterans and their widows. In the process of taking the general census as conducted every ten years , a special question was asked relating to military service. If the answer was positive the special schedule was to be completed. The information of course would be invaluable in applying the research skills for pension applications and would also give an estimate of those Civil War veterans still surviving who could be applying for pensions in the future. This became more complicated because although it was supposed to be for Civil War service, the answer also came back for Mexican War, as well as service for the Confederate states, particularly those of the Southern states which had large numbers of Confederate names. The special schedule was to list the name, rank, unit, date of entry and release. The second part of the schedule listed the address of the person as well as any other comments of injuries or illnesses from that time of service. A great deal of my suppositions has been gleaned from these excellent articles and available on the Internet through the National Archives Records Administration site. The various credit and money shortages of the post-Civil War times had created the effect where a Civil War pension could be seen as a major form of

income and the wives of Civil War pensioners also increased as they received the benefits of government support. Widows of old veterans may have been many years younger than their former husbands may but the monetary assistance was very useful in time of economic depression. Therefore the rosters of Ohio twelve volumes ; Iowa 5 volumes ; Indiana 8 volumes , Massachusetts 2 volumes , Michigan 40 volumes , Illinois eight volumes , Pennsylvania 5 volumes and New York 43 volumes as well as individual volumes for California, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Vermont, West Virginia and Kansas stand testament to the statutory requirements as well as the need to have these details readily on hand. The superintendent of the census planned to print in volumes the veterans information from the census and place copies with libraries and veterans organisations so that individuals could more easily locate their fellow veterans. Remarried widows were listed in this manner with their new surname. Dependent mothers are also sometimes listed. Sometimes the enumerator would append to the list a note of the battle or circumstances in which a death or disability had been incurred, additional information on current ailments were listed as well as recordings of the loss of limbs, eyes, ears and appendages. At the completion of the census, the special schedules were returned with a preliminary count of 1,, Union survivors and , widows. There were still a large number of veterans not recorded and areas had been overlooked so this figure is not indicative of the number of Civil War veterans still alive at least on the Union side. The schedules were arranged and stored in bundles, generally alphabetically by name of state or territory. In legal custody of the schedules passed from the Pension Office to the newly formed Veterans Administration, where they remained until accessioned by the National Archives in The census records for the veterans are only available for the states alphabetically for half of Kentucky through to Wyoming “ those for Alabama through to Kentucky have not survived and their whereabouts or why they were destroyed has not been fully documented. The regular census for was destroyed in a fire in January so that what is known from the remaining copies of the veterans schedules has been the only way to document that portion of the census. The normal census reports had been stored in an orderly manner on closely placed pine shelves in an unlocked file room in the basement of the Commerce building. On the afternoon of January 10th, , a fire broke out in the commerce building and local firemen were called. They were able to extinguish the fire and although major structural damage had been adverted, there had been a large amount of water poured into the building as well as intense smoke resulting in the records, stored outside the file room as "certain to be absolutely ruined". Thus the original census records were lost but when the remaining schedules were transferred to the National Archives in the seventy-thousand special schedules have only been recovered for half of Kentucky onwards. All of Alabama through the Kansas and the missing Kentucky counties have never been located. Confederate soldiers who are not recorded in this enumeration can still be located via their applications to the states where they had served or were residing at the time of applications. Index information for the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia are available, as of this time, I have not been able to establish whether pension application indices are available for Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina. Divided states such as Maryland and Missouri are not available as far as I am aware. Why are the census records so important to Civil War researchers? As we try to pierce together what information we can gleam from incomplete records, the census as well as the rosters of veterans organisations and pension applications will fill in the gaps. We can then cross-check the data from the National Archives Compiled Service Records to confirm that the person of this name did serve and in that particular unit. This series of books lists those Union men who died during the war and are interred in government cemeteries. That might provide a name of one of those identified troops and hopefully not one of the many "unknown" who lie buried in an anonymous grave. Others buried in private cemeteries may be listed in city or state cemetery guides. A sideline of this research could locate a name from the or census records “ providing you know what state and city the individual resided in prior to the war then the census is very handy, similarly the census will be good if the veteran returned to his pre-war location. The national organisation did not keep a detailed record of who was a member, that was kept by state officials and only a small handful of rosters for members are currently known. Most of the states or Departments as they were termed did produce an annual journal of proceedings which included rosters of members who died in the preceding year, that can be valuable if enough recordings are made. I know of several states which did

provide a roster of all surviving members but again that is based on only a couple states – Massachusetts did one in and , Nebraska and Kansas have also been recorded. Rosters of members who died in Michigan, South Dakota and other states are available. Pension applications to the United States federal government fill a large number of microfilm rolls, and the names have been posted to a genealogical web site in the past year or so, however it requires a payment to search for the information so is not readily available for the average researcher. The only other option is to buy the microfilm rolls themselves and that could be a very expensive proposition. Government as an annual report of inspection by the Board of Managers though I doubt that the number of admissions is anywhere near the number of veterans still surviving. This leads me to the conclusion that the Veterans Census if indeed over 1 million names were recorded would be a very handy reference work.

Chapter 2 : Franklin County Veterans' Census, Index

in the Veterans Census. Photo courtesy of the National Archives and Records Administration. Often confused with the census, and more often overlooked or misjudged as useless, are nearly 75, special schedules enumerating Union veterans and widows of Union veterans.

New York Census, Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the U. This database includes indexes for the following counties: Since the first census in , the returns from these censuses have become an invaluable source of information for genealogists and others. This collection of census records contains a vast amount of information on millions of Americans. Although the questions asked and information provided has changed since that first census, there is some basic information provided in all indexes. The name of the head of the household is provided from the first census. In , age categorization and residence was added to the other questions regarding slaves, and number of males and females. In , categorization of occupation was added. In , categorization of deaf, dumb, and blind persons was added. In , the name, age, sex, color, place of birth, and literacy was added to the questionnaire. In , the value of real estate was an added feature of the enumeration. This was a list of names recorded on the back of the original printed census forms. Beginning in , the enumerators asked questions regarding Civil War veterans and lists were compiled from these records. In both cases, only the name of the veteran is available. Full names were rarely recorded, yet each slave was numbered. Organized by owner, each person was listed with age, sex and color. With these details, along with other facts gathered outside the schedule, it is possible to locate a specific person without actually finding their name. These include incomplete information, mis-transcribed information, mis-recorded information, and incorrect information. Reasons for these problems include persons who refused to answer the enumerators questions, persons who lied in answer to the enumerators questions, persons missed by the enumerators, and human error in writing down the information originally or transmitted incorrectly. For further, more detailed, information refer to Chapter 5 pg. Remember that an index entry is only a reference to more detailed information found in census records themselves. It is important that researchers consult the actual census records to which these indexes refer. Some state and local agencies may have census schedules only for the state or area served.

Chapter 3 : Mississippi - The USGenWeb Census Project

Although this census was intended to enumerate Union veterans and their widows, census takers often included Confederates and veterans of earlier wars. (3) Oklahoma territorial schedules have been reproduced in National Archives Microfilm Publication M, First Territorial Census for Oklahoma,

New York , [database online]. New York Census, Compiled and digitized by Mr. Jackson and AIS from microfilmed schedules of the U. New York , This collection contains the following indexes: This database includes indexes for the following counties: Since the first census in , the returns from these censuses have become an invaluable source of information for genealogists and others. This collection of census records contains a vast amount of information on millions of Americans. Although the questions asked and information provided has changed since that first census, there is some basic information provided in all indexes. The name of the head of the household is provided from the first census. In , age categorization and residence was added to the other questions regarding slaves, and number of males and females. In , categorization of occupation was added. In , categorization of deaf, dumb, and blind persons was added. In , the name, age, sex, color, place of birth, and literacy was added to the questionnaire. In , the value of real estate was an added feature of the enumeration. This was a list of names recorded on the back of the original printed census forms. Beginning in , the enumerators asked questions regarding Civil War veterans and lists were compiled from these records. In both cases, only the name of the veteran is available. Full names were rarely recorded, yet each slave was numbered. Organized by owner, each person was listed with age, sex and color. With these details, along with other facts gathered outside the schedule, it is possible to locate a specific person without actually finding their name. These include incomplete information, mis-transcribed information, mis-recorded information, and incorrect information. Reasons for these problems include persons who refused to answer the enumerators questions, persons who lied in answer to the enumerators questions, persons missed by the enumerators, and human error in writing down the information originally or transmitted incorrectly. For further, more detailed, information refer to Chapter 5 pg.

Chapter 4 : calendrierdelascience.com - Informationen zum Thema censusfinder.

Census - New York NY Census Records: Index to Federal Census - Veterans Schedule Located at Cattaraugus Co., NYGenWeb [Report Broken Link] Chemung Co.

The index will help find the exact schedule on which the information about the veteran is found. The schedules are easily located through Ancestry. The following information is provided about the index: This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the special census of Civil War Union veterans and widows of veterans available on microfilm M rolls from the National Archives and Records Administration NARA. Although this schedule was to be used to enumerate Union veterans, in some areas, Confederate veterans were listed as well. The veterans schedules provided spaces for the following information: Veterans schedules are often used as a partial substitute for the federal census, which was destroyed by fire. While fragments of the census may exist in state and local repositories, they are often difficult to track down and are incomplete. Although they do not list everyone who was included in the census, the veterans schedules are a partial head of household list for those who were old enough to have served in the Union military during the Civil War. Veterans schedules can be used to verify military service and to identify the specific military unit in which a person served. A search of the state where an individual lived in may yield enough identifying information to follow up in service and pension records at the National Archives; it can often trace Civil War veterans to their places of origin. The following special schedule from Lykens Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, is shown as an example of the Veterans Schedule: Click on picture to enlarge. The next column contains the name of the veteran or the widow, but in the case of this sheet, no widows are listed. The rank, company, regiment, state, dates of service and length of service follow. Twelve veterans are listed here. We know from other information that John Gunderman was a neighbor of Harrison Riegle and they are listed next to each other on the sheet. The second table at the bottom of the sheet gives the post office address of the veteran or widow in this case, all received mail at Gratz, the disability incurred assumed to be incurred during the war and remarks. The information provided by the veteran was recorded by the census taker. Some sheets contain no information leading to the possible conclusion that the census taker did not ask, or was too lazy to record anything. This sheet appears to have comprehensive information about disabilities followed in some cases by remarks. Not all the information may be correct. One of the pieces of information from this sheet was previously questioned in the post on the Unknown Military Musician. Several of the men who were neighbors in, served in the same regiment in the Civil War. The names on this sheet are: Fowler & John W. The fire in the basement of the Commerce Building destroyed most of the Census and part of the veterans schedules. Thus, Union states such as Connecticut and Delaware are not available because they were destroyed. By, the approval had been granted and the damaged records were destroyed. Original source data is from: Some of the information on the fire that damaged and destroyed the census and the congressional order to destroy the remains was taken from Wikipedia.

Chapter 5 : Census | U.S. Federal Census Records

This database contains an index and images of the New York state census. New York, Genealogical Records, This database is a comprehensive index of more than, individuals who are found in various New York records between and in the United States.

Chapter 6 : Censimento: New York,

A fire destroyed almost the entire census for the whole country, with only a few sheets surviving. However, the veterans census was kept in another place and so survived unharmed. A statewide index of this veterans census has been published for New York, but all it gives is the name of the soldier (or his widow) and the place of residence.

Chapter 7 : Civil War Blog » U.S. Census Returns « Veterans Schedules

Index to individuals enumerated in the special census of Civil War Union veterans and widows of veterans. Although this schedule was to be used to enumerate Union veterans, in some areas, Confederate veterans were listed as well.

Chapter 8 : Franklin County NYGenWeb - Veterans Census

Most of the census records were destroyed in a fire in Three urban areas in the United States with over a million people New York City (1,,), Chicago (1,,) and Philadelphia (1,,).

Chapter 9 : Veterans Census for Rockland County New York

The census of included a schedule of veterans of the civil war. Although it was intended to count Union Military Veterans or their widows, many veterans of the Confederate Army were also listed. Although it was intended to count Union Military Veterans or their widows, many veterans of the Confederate Army were also listed.