



## Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center

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### Genealogy Resources at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center

The Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center contains a wealth of genealogical materials pertaining to Wisconsin veterans from the Civil War to the present. Below are examples of just some of the resources available to researchers that, unless otherwise indicated, relate specifically to Wisconsin men and women. Our holdings are cataloged on WisCat ([www.wiscat.net](http://www.wiscat.net)) and WorldCat ([www.worldcat.org](http://www.worldcat.org)). These catalogs provide access to both published materials and manuscript collections. Please contact the Reference Archivist if you have questions about any materials.

#### Beginning Your Research:

All research should begin with a WisCat or WorldCat search. We suggest that you search personal names (remember to try alternate spellings, such as Meier and Meyer), locations (try both pre-war and post-war residences), and units (regiments and divisions). Even when there aren't materials relating directly to your ancestor, you can often find sources from men and women who served *with* your ancestor, thereby allowing you to find out where they served, the conditions they faced, etc.—this is called parallel research and it can be very effective and worthwhile.

#### Civil War Resources:

- Roster of Wisconsin Volunteers:** Published volumes organized by regiment and name, they provide residence, enlistment and muster out dates, as well as comments about any wounds received or time as prisoner of war.
- Muster Rolls:** Arranged by unit, they often provide personal information about soldiers such as age, birthplace, occupation, physical description, and remarks about service. (microfilm)
- Draft Records:** These census-like lists show men eligible and exempted from the draft in twenty-three Wisconsin counties. (microfilm)
- Veteran Census Reports:** Taken in 1885, 1895, and 1905, these reports show name and residence of veterans living in the state of Wisconsin.
- Rosters from other States:** Published volumes, generally organized by regiment, from other states in the Union: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, and Vermont.

## **Genealogy Resources at the Wisconsin Veterans Museum Research Center (continued)**

### **Spanish-American War Resources:**

- **Roster of Troops in the Spanish-American War:** Published volume organized by regiment, includes lists of casualties and cause of death.
- **Muster Cards:** Organized alphabetically, these cards provide birthplace, residence, age, occupation, and physical description.

### **Mexican Border War Resources:**

- ***With the Wisconsin National Guard on the Mexican Border in 1916-1917* by Moses N. Thisted:** Published account includes printed rosters of Wisconsin units and other valuable tools.
- **Muster Rolls:** Arranged by unit, contain birthplace, physical description, occupation, marital status, residence, and emergency contact.

### **World War I Resources:**

- **Roster Books:** Searchable by name, city, or county, this database provides rank, serial number, and unit.
- **Bonus Cards/Service Records:** Compiled following the war, these records often provide birthplace, age, residence, dates of enlistment and muster out, decorations, campaigns, dates served overseas, wounds received, and physical description. (microfiche)

### **World War II—Present Resources:**

**Note:** *Service records for these conflicts are held by the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and are considered confidential.*

- **Published Rosters and Lists:** Scattered lists are sometimes arranged by city, county, or unit.
- **Casualty Lists:** Provide information about Wisconsin men and women who died in service. World War II Army and Air Force are arranged by county of residence, while World War II Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard are arranged by last name. Korean War and Vietnam War are searchable by name and county.