

Civil War Documents Confederate Sources

If you have a male ancestor who was born between 1820 and 1845 and who lived in a southern or border state (like Maryland, Kentucky, or Missouri), you will probably find information about him in Confederate records for the War Between the States. You will want to search the service records, pension records (if available), and published rosters.

★ **Service Records**--Military service records may give rank, dates of service, place of residence prior to enlistment, age, physical description, place of birth, and date of discharge or death. There is a general index to the names of Confederate soldiers plus indexes of soldiers in each state. For additional information and library microfilm numbers, consult *Register of United States Federal Military Records: Civil War* (vol. 2, pp. 145-61 and vol. 4 supplemental) (Religion/Family Ref CS 68 .R44.) The Family History Library has the microfilmed Confederate indexes and the service records.

★ **Pension Records**--The Federal government did not issue pensions to soldiers who fought in the Confederate Army. In an effort to compensate disabled veterans or widows, most of the southern states began paying pensions to Confederate veterans from state funds. Pension files may include information on a soldier's military service, family members, places of residence, or other genealogical data.

You must know the state of residence of a veteran after the War in order to locate his pension record. The microfilm numbers and additional information on the records from most states are listed in *Register of United States Federal Military Records: Civil War* (vol. 2 and vol. 4 supplemental) (Religion/Family Ref CS 68 .R44.) See also the blue binder titled, *Military Pension Records and Indexes*, (Table 4B) for a confederate index.

★ **Published Records**--Many rosters of soldiers, lists of veteran burials, and compilations of biographical data have been published. See the state research outline for the state from which the soldier served. You may also look in the Family History Library Catalog under [STATE] - MILITARY RECORDS - CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865. Check the *Confederate Veteran* magazine and its index (E 482.C65x).