Civil War Roster

Your step-by-step guide to searching for Civil War soldiers from Ohio

Medina County District Library

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7/14

The Civil War Roster

What's on the film?

- Four reels of indexes of alphabetically-listed soldiers
- Six reels of volumes of the rosters
- Lists by military regiment, soldier's names, ages, dates of enlistment, dates of discharge
- Indicates if a soldier was killed in the line of duty
- Brief regiment and company histories

Step 1:

Use the index rolls to locate your soldier's name. You can obtain both the index and the entire roster in the top left drawer in the library's microfilm cabinets.

The index is made up of 4 rolls and has the soldiers alphabetized by last name. Choose the appropriate index roll that corresponds to your soldier's last name.

Step 2:

To read the index, find your soldier's last name, then a dash, then his first name. Then you will see two numbers. The first number indicates which volume of the roster your soldier appears on. The second number indicates which page of that volume you will need. Write down or print out the volume and page number as well as the page of the index you found your soldier's name on in case you need to refer back to it.

Last Name	First Name	Volume #	Page #
MACK–THOMAS		10–	234
		10–	677
MACK–THOMAS–H		6–	585
MACK–WM		2–	481
		3–	515

1st-time users should always ask the Information Desk for instruction on using microfilm machines!

Step 3:

Twelve volumes of books make up the roster, with two volumes on each microfilm roll. Choose the correct volume number for your soldier. If your soldier is on the second volume on your film, you will have to scroll through the first volume. The first page of each volume on the film will list the volume number. Be patient and go slowly!

Step 4:

The roster will list details such as the soldier's age, date of enlistment and date of discharge. It will also list rank and if he was killed while serving. If you come across the marking "do" in the column for rank, this means "ditto." It is used to mark the same ranking for a list of soldiers. The corresponding rank for a ditto is indicated by the last soldier to have a ranking entered above. Sometimes this is the first soldier listed at the top of the page.

Page backwards through your soldier's volume to get some history about his regiment and company. Slowly back up your film to where the beginning of your soldier's company is listed and then back it up even further to the start of the soldier's regiment. Both will give brief descriptions of campaigns as well as where or when they were formed.

Other Resources

National Archives
Contact for paper copies of Civil War military service or pension records. www.nara.gov/

Medina County History 1881 and Index
Use corresponding index of this library resource to locate names of local Medina County Soldiers that may have appeared in this written history. Available for public use in Franklin Sylvester Room.

Tombstone Inscriptions From the Tombstones in Medina County, 1983
Find names of soldiers in this index to find burial locations in Medina County and tombstone inscriptions. Available for public use in Franklin Sylvester Room.

Obituary Index
Search for soldiers through the library's online index to find if an obituary appeared in the local Medina County Gazette. Index covers obituaries, probate notices and death notices that have occurred since the 1850's. Available at www.mcdl.info. From there, select Services, then Genealogy & Local History, then Obituaries.