

PATRACING S RESEARCHING 18TH AND 19TH CENTURY U.S. MILITARY ANCESTORS

9:30 AM - 5 PM SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024

REGISTRATION REQUIRED - SIGN UP ONLINE AT WACOLIBRARY.ORG OR SCAN HERE









WEST WACO LIBRARY AND GENEALOGY CENTER 5301 BOSQUE BLVD. 254-750-5945



Tracing Patriots: Researching 18th and 19th Century U.S. Military Ancestors

Discover the role your ancestors played in some of the most pivotal conflicts of American History. Learn how to look for clues to determine if your ancestor served in the military. Explore resources used to find pension records, bounty land documents, militia rolls, regimental histories, correspondence, burials, service records, and more. Explore the various repositories that hold this information from the National Archives, state libraries, and local research centers. Military records can provide a wealth of information revealing burial locations, wives, widows, family members, children's birth dates, affidavits, maiden names, and more! Learn how to navigate online databases and how to identify which resources have the answers you need.

9:30 - 10:00 Sign-In and Announcements

10:00 - 10:50 French and Indian War

Hannah Kubacak

Also known as The Seven Year War, this conflict is referred to as the first global war. The major colonial powers of Great Britian and France fought for control of their colonial territories from 1756 until 1763. A majority of the battles occurred in North America; however, the conflict stretched to South America and Asia as well. Many of the men who served in militias during the French and Indian War later served in the continental line during the American Revolution.

11:05 - 11:55 Revolutionary War

Bill Buckner and Hannah Kubacak

Beginning with "the shot heard 'round the world," the American Revolution forever changed North America and the world. Learn more about the role your ancestors played in this pivotal part of American history. Whether your ancestor was a patriot or a loyalist, discover the key resources to investigate the family story.

12:10 - 1:00 War of 1812

Patti Huff Smith

Explore the significance of your ancestor's War of 1812 documentation, a crucial resource for bridging the gap between the Revolutionary War and the 1850 United States Federal Census in your family history. Navigate the essential strategies and locations for researching your ancestor's military files, unlocking a wealth of information within the War of 1812 Pension files.

1:00 - 2:15 Lunch On Your Own

2:20 - 3:30 Civil War

Joe Walker

The Civil War, fought in the United States from 1861 to 1865, affected the entire population. Many individuals today trace their lineage back to ancestors who served on either the Union or Confederate side. Families were often divided along regional lines, with relatives serving on opposing sides, creating complex and poignant stories for descendants to unravel. Learn how to navigate the available records and how to research beyond information available online.

3:45 - 4:45 Spanish American War

Bill Buckner

This "splendid little war" lasted only four months in 1898 but had a major impact. Learn what records are available and how to use them to locate your ancestors. Walk through a case study following the life and service of John P. Hall, member of the Rough Riders in the 1st U.S. Cavalry.

4:45 - 5:00 Q&A