



TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Military Records at Ancestry.com

Military records are chock-full of answers and clues you won't find anywhere else. But before you can dive into the details, you'll want to be sure you've found the right record and the right person. Here are some tips to make the task smoother:

Start with a simple search through military records only. To get to the military collection at Ancestry.com, hover your cursor over the Search tab. Then choose Military from the drop-down menu. Enter your ancestor's name, birthplace, and birth date, if known, in the Search form and see what's returned. Too many or too few results? Use the next six tips to tackle this challenge.

Make a timeline. Determine the approximate range of years your ancestor could have been in the military. Also plot military history during his (or her!) lifetime — conflicts large and small could have influenced age at enlistment or amount of time served. This will help you pinpoint likely years of service.

Fill in with family clues found at home. Listen to family stories. Do they mention military service? Look for photos, uniforms, letters, medals, and other evidence. Brothers or cousins may have served or enlisted together, so pay close attention to anyone in the family who is said to have served. These details can help you determine if you're on the right track.

Check obituaries, cemeteries and newspapers. Headstones may include military details. Small-town publications — and some larger ones, too — often included announcements about military service. Use this information to fine-tune your search.



Military Search Page





Look for clues in nonmilitary records at Ancestry.com. Both the 1910 and the 1930 censuses list prior military service in major conflicts. (You'll find that info on the far right side of the page.) The 1840 census lists Revolutionary War pensioners. You may find similar information in state censuses, too. Apply these clues to search the specific conflict at www.ancestry.com/military.

April 9, 1930, Mrs. Zana Brassfield, Enumerator.

OCCUPATION AND INDUSTRY				EMPLOYMENT		VETERANS		Number of farm schedule
OCCUPATION <small>Trade, profession, or particular kind of work, as spinner, schoolman, riverer, teacher, etc.</small>	INDUSTRY <small>Industry or business, as cotton mill, dry-goods store, shipyard, public school, etc.</small>	CODE <small>(For office use only. Do not write in this column)</small>	Class of worker	Whether actually at work yesterday for the last regular working day?	If not, time number on Unemployment Schedule	Whether a veteran of U. S. military or naval service?	What war or expedition?	
23	24	25	27	28	29	30	31	32
None								
None								
Chief dispatcher	Steam railway	7377	W	No	1B41	Yes	Civil	
None								
None								
Salesman	Automobile	4589	W	Yes		No		

1930 Census

REGISTRATION CARD—(Men born on or after April 28, 1877 and on or before February 16, 1897)

SERIAL NUMBER 1. NAME (Print) ORDER NUMBER

U. 1480 Charles R. Vilecek

2. PLACE OF RESIDENCE (Print) 3. MAILING ADDRESS

Box 206 Fairbank Redstone Twp Fayette Pa
Fairbank, Pa

4. TELEPHONE 5. AGE IN YEARS 6. PLACE OF BIRTH

None 57 Cincinac

7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO WILL ALWAYS KNOW YOUR ADDRESS

Miss Mary Vilecek, Fairbank, Pa Box 206

8. EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS

H.C. Frick Coke Co. Fairbank, Pa.

9. PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT OR BUSINESS

Gilbert Mines Fairbank Pa.

I AFFIRM THAT I HAVE VERIFIED ABOVE ANSWERS AND THAT THEY ARE TRUE.

D. S. S. FORM 1 (Revised 4-1-42) 10-51000-8 Charles Vilecek

Military Draft Registration Card



Read carefully. Searching through draft registration cards and other documents could turn up numerous results that seem to match your ancestor, so read the record carefully. Note birth date, names of any relatives listed, location of draft board, employer, occupation, and other identifying details. Then compare these to details you know to be true about your ancestor (remember, occupations may have changed) and plot everything on your timeline. Do the facts add up? Then you may have found the right person.

Keep an open mind. Your ancestor may have contributed to a military cause without ever serving in the military. Local historical and genealogical societies or even a quick Internet search may indicate other ways your ancestor supported the war effort and where you can locate related records.

Where Next?

Military documents can hold valuable clues that can point you to even more answers about your family. See what we did with just one draft registration card.

"Folger" is an uncommon middle name. But additional family research indicates this was a middle name of Roland's cousin, too. These facts could indicate that this was a family name, possibly the mother's or grandmother's maiden name.

Montana didn't start recording births until 1907, but Roland's WWI draft registration card makes a nice stand-in, noting his date and place of birth.

Occupation information can be used to help you quickly identify a soldier in other records, too, although not every male who registered for the draft picked up the same occupation upon his return stateside.

Key details on this card make identifying Roland in other records much simpler. A search for Roland Folger Dubois born in Montana in 1894, for example, leads directly to a 1920 census, which reveals the names of his wife and children plus other details.

Surprise! That 1920 census record plus the details on this draft card make it simple to find Roland living with his parents in 1910 and 1900.

Form 4 REGISTRATION CARD No. 59

1 Name in full *Roland Folger Dubois* Age in yrs. *22*

2 Home address *1005 2nd St. Helena, Mont.*

3 Date of birth *Nov 12 1894*

4 Are you (1) a natural-born citizen, (2) a naturalized citizen, (3) an alien, (4) or have you declared your intention (specify which)? *Natural Born*

5 Where were you born? *Helena, Mont. U.S.*

6 If not a citizen, of what country are you a citizen or subject?

7 What is your present trade, occupation, or office? *R. R. Clerk*

8 By whom employed? *Omaha R.R.*

9 Where employed? *14th Ave. N. & 1st St.*

10 Have you a father, mother, wife, child under 12, or a sister or brother under 12, solely dependent on you for support (specify which)? *Wife & Child*

11 Married or single (which)? *Married* Race (specify which)? *Caucasian*

12 What military service have you had? Rank _____; branch _____; years _____; Nation or State _____

13 Do you claim exemption from draft (specify grounds)? *No*

I affirm that I have verified above answers and that they are true.

23 *Roland Folger Dubois* (Signature of Registrant)



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