



ABUNDANT GENEALOGY

RESOURCE LIST: Remembrance Weekend 2018

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<https://abundantgenealogy.com>

FREE ACCESS Genealogy and Family History Sites

Most of these sites are offering access only to their Military records; however some sites are offering full access or other record sets.

American Ancestors

[Fall back into family history research with access to over 1.4 billion names from AmericanAncestors.org](https://www.americanancestors.org). Sign up for a guest account today for free access to everything our databases have to offer. All databases are free from November 6 at 12:00 AM EST to November 13 at 11:59 PM EST. Click [HERE](#) to access!

Ancestry (UK)

[FREE ACCESS to UK Military Records at Ancestry UK!](#) "As we commemorate 100 years since the end of WWI, discover your family's wartime story in all its detail, from the battlefield to the home front." Ancestry UK is offering FREE ACCESS to millions of records to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the armistice that ended The Great War. Click [HERE](#) to access - via Ancestry UK

**Note: Access to the records in the featured collections will be free from 08/11/18 to 12/11/18 at 23:59 GMT. To view these records you will need to register for free with Ancestry.co.uk with your name and email address. We will then send you a user name and password to access the records. After the free access period ends, you will only be able to view the records in the featured collections using an Ancestry.co.uk paid membership.*

Ancestry (US)

[FREE ACCESS to over 250 Million US Military Records at Ancestry.com](#). Through our military records, you can explore documents such as draft cards, service records and prisoner and casualty lists to find and honor those who served and potentially shed new meaning on how you think about Veterans Day this year. In fact, more than 60% of our U.S. subscribers who have a family tree have found at least one military record for an ancestor!" Free access valid through Monday, November 12th. Click [HERE](#) to access - via Ancestry.com

**Access to the records in the featured collections will be free until November 12, 2018 at 11:59 p.m. ET. After the free access period ends, you will only be able to view the records in the featured collections using an Ancestry paid membership. To see a full list of the records in the featured collections, please click here.*



Findmypast

[NEW! FREE ACCESS to over 9 BILLION Records at Findmypast!](#) Leading British & Irish family history website, Findmypast, will be making their entire collection of world military records free for three days in honour of the 100-year anniversary of the end of the First World War. Free access starts on 9 November at 12 noon (GMT) and ends on 12 November at 12 noon (GMT). After this, you can only view records with a valid subscription. Use the following links to access FREE RECORDS:

- **Findmypast US and Canada** – CLICK [HERE](#)
- **Findmypast UK** – CLICK [HERE](#)
- **Findmypast Australia** – CLICK [HERE](#)
- **Findmypast Ireland** – CLICK [HERE](#)

**Please note UK Electoral Registers & Companies House Directors 2002-2018 is excluded from this free access promotion.*

MyHeritage

[FREE ACCESS to over 47 million Military Records via MyHeritage SuperSearch!](#)

"This year marks 100 years since Armistice Day, the day when we remember those who fought and died in the war. As we remember the sacrifices made by the brave soldiers from all over the world, it's a fitting opportunity to reflect upon the personal contributions made by our ancestors. Are you curious about what your family did in WWI? To commemorate the centennial of the end of the war, we are offering free military records on MyHeritage SuperSearch starting November 8th through November 12, 2018. Click [HERE](#) to access - via MyHeritage

FREE ACCESS Weekend Strategies, Tips and Tricks

Having SO MANY free resources available can be overwhelming, especially when there is a limited window of access such as this weekend. Here's some advice on how to get the most out of these resources AND still have fun learning more about your ancestors! Remember: You can't make up with speed what you lack in direction!

- **First Thing: SAVE THAT IMAGE!:** Remember that the sites providing free access this weekend won't let you retrieve those images after the offer period has expired, even with a free account. You will need to pay for a subscription to get access. Whenever you find ANY RECORD IMAGE, whether it is positive or negative evidence, right click over the image and select "Save Image As."
- **What If I Can't Save That Image?:** For some sites, it is not as easy as right-clicking and selecting "Save Image As" to save that record image. Consider using the **Evernote Web Clipper** or even **Pinterest** to capture the image. In the worst case scenario use the **PrtScrn** button and paste the image into an email and send it to yourself.



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- **File Names Matter – Do It Right the First Time!:** While you may want to work quickly this weekend, there is no sense in spending hours to clean up file names etc. once the free access period is over. Instead of saving that record image as IMG001, create a clear and concise name – one that you can look at in a file directory and know right away what is in the file! Create a file naming convention and stick to it! One example: for a World War I US Draft Card for John Ralph Austin dated June 5, 1917: **AUSTIN John Ralph WWI US Draft Card 19170605**.
- **Also capture text, notes and URLs!:** Don't forget to capture as much info as possible! Options include: 1) highlight, copy and paste into a TXT file, a Word document or an email and send it to yourself; or 2) right click the web page and select Print then select Microsoft PDF (for Windows 10 computers). Also bookmark the URL for a specific site or document and save it in a document or with your web browser favorites.
- **Create to-do lists AHEAD OF TIME!:** When I am working with records during a free access period and I have some advance notice, I try to formulate what I am looking for. Example: I know my great-grandfather John Ralph AUSTIN was born in 1894 and that would make him eligible for the draft in 1917 for World War I. So I know I want his US draft card PLUS if he did service during the War, info on his enlistment and perhaps pension. In addition, don't forget that in the US many were part of the National Guard so look there too!
- **Pay no attention to that BSO (Bright and Shiny Object)!"** I always have a "To Do List" document open and available – a text file, a Word document, a spreadsheet or even a pen and paper – for writing down those nagging "I have to remember to do THIS" thoughts. Example: As I research my great-grandfather John Ralph Austin, I find his World War I US Draft Card and there is NEW INFORMATION such as a home address, the name and address of an employer etc. Try to quickly note these items to follow up at a later date but NOT DURING THE FREE ACCESS PERIOD! Example: on the World War II US Draft Registration for John Ralph AUSTIN, the reverse of the card notes that he is missing "half of index finger on left hand." Well this wasn't on the World War I Draft Registration and even if I am dying to know the story about how it went missing, I resist the temptation to research it right away! SAVE IT FOR LATER!
- **Do you already have access to the records?:** If the site with free access is part of a subscription I already pay for, I shouldn't be using that site at all. In fact, if I am a regular user, a free access period means the website could be slow and crawl during that period. So I make a note to come back AFTER the free access period.
- **Can I get the records elsewhere?:** Can I access them for free on **FamilySearch** or even **Internet Archive**? A BSO can become dull with just a little research as to available access points for those records.



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- **Is it more cost and time-effective to hold off?** Let's face it, those records aren't going anywhere. It is just a free access period that will expire. It might be a better use of my time to sign up for a special one-month subscription at the site when I have more time to fully dedicate my attention to the records. Also, by then, I might have many items to search in my To-Do List using those records.

Researchers and Record Retrieval Services

The list below is a partial list of professional genealogists who provide research services and record retrieval for a fee.

- **Genealogy Brickwall** – Craig R. Scott, CG®
<https://www.genealogybrickwall.com/>
- **Military & Family Research** – Ann Swabey (UK)
<https://www.militaryandfamilyresearch.co.uk/>
- **Soldier Source** – Jonathan Webb Deiss
<http://www.soldiersource.com/>
- **Twisted Twigs Genealogy** – Deidre Denton
<https://twistedtwigsgenealogy.com/research-services/>
- **World War II Research and Writing Center** – Jennifer Holik
<http://wwiiresearchandwritingcenter.com/>

Tools and Apps

These tools, apps, and websites – most of them free – can assist you in snagging images, storing data, and more during free access periods.

- **Evernote**
<https://evernote.com>
- **Evernote Web Clipper**
<https://evernote.com/products/webclipper>
- **Dropbox**
<https://dropbox.com>
- **FamilySearch**
<https://familysearch.com>
- **Internet Archive**
<https://archive.org>
- **Pinterest**
<https://pinterest.com>
- **Pinterest Browser Button**
<https://about.pinterest.com/en/browser-button>



Videos and Webinars

- **A Soldier of the Great War: A Research Case Study** – Ken McKinlay, British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa
https://youtu.be/A3RVZo_qxic
- **Genealogy and The Great War : Information Resources on Canadian Soldiers of WWI** – Tyler Leach
<https://youtu.be/R6V-Bj-QoJU>
- **Researching Genealogy - Easy to Create a World War I Draft Card Checklist** – Kenneth R Marks
<https://youtu.be/Mi28aCqsL9k>
- **WWI Centenary | How to Find Your Family in WWI** – Ancestry
<https://youtu.be/xO1pVhelzh8>
- **WWI Centenary | Voices from the WWI War Diaries** – Ancestry
<https://youtu.be/ZfWJp9yQ5QA>
- **World War I and World War II Draft Registration Cards** – Crista Cowan, Ancestry
https://youtu.be/Boi_y6MMMB8

Reading List and Resources

The resources below include blog posts, articles, videos, webinars and more. Most are free or priced reasonably.

- **10 WWI Ancestry Websites That Will Make Your Life Easier** – Family Tree Magazine
<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/premium/ww1-genealogy-websites/>
- **12 best websites for tracing British First World War soldiers – Who Do You Think You Are? Magazine** (UK)
<http://www.whodoyouthinkyouaremagazine.com/12-best-websites-tracing-british-first-world-war-soldiers>
- **Accessing US Soldiers' Records for World War I** – Ken Nelson, AG®
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/us-soldiers-records-world-war-i/>
- **Army – World War I: 1914–18** – National Archives of Australia (AU)
<http://www.naa.gov.au/collection/explore/defence/service-records/army-wwi.aspx>
- **British Army soldiers after 1913** – National Archives (UK)
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/british-army-soldiers-after-1913/>
- **Cyndi's List – World War I: The Great War**
<https://www.cyndislist.com/ww1/>



- ***Discover Your Ancestors in World War I Records*** – Leslie Albrecht Huber
<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/discover-your-ancestors-in-world-war-i-records/>
- **First World War** – National Archives (UK)
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/help-with-your-research/research-guides/first-world-war/>
- **Forces War Records** (UK)
<https://www.forces-war-records.co.uk/>
- ***How to Find Soldiers that Died in WW1*** – The Genealogist (UK)
<https://www.thegenealogist.com/featuredarticles/2018/how-to-find-soldiers-that-died-in-ww1-983/>
- ***How to Find Your World War I Ancestor*** – Amy Johnson Crow
<https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/how-to-find-your-world-war-i-ancestor/>
- ***Learning About Your WWI Relative*** – The Great War Society (US)
http://www.worldwar1.com/dbc/gen_faq.htm
- **Lives of the First World War**
<https://livesofthefirstworldwar.org/ww1-records>
- **National World War I Museum and Memorial** (US)
<https://www.theworldwar.org/>
- **Pritzker Military Library and Museum** (US)
<http://www.pritzkermilitary.org/>
- ***Researching Australian military service: First World War, 1914-1918*** – Australian War Memorial (AU)
<https://www.awm.gov.au/research/guide/ww1>
- **Researching Individuals in WW1 Records** – National Archives and Records Administration (US)
<https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/wwi>
- ***Researching New Zealand soldiers*** – NZ History (NZ)
<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/war/researching-first-world-war-soldiers>
- ***Selective Service Records: World War I - Record Group 163*** – Linda Geiger, CG®, CGL®
[http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/FHD/Community/en/Community/Linda_Woodward_Geiger/Selective_Service_Records_\(WWI\)_Draft_Cards_and_Mo/RG163%20Syllabus%20lwg%20110512.pdf](http://broadcast.lds.org/elearning/FHD/Community/en/Community/Linda_Woodward_Geiger/Selective_Service_Records_(WWI)_Draft_Cards_and_Mo/RG163%20Syllabus%20lwg%20110512.pdf)
- **The Great War 1914-1918** (UK)
<http://www.greatwar.co.uk/index.htm>



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- **Three Ways to Find Your Ancestors' World War I Medals (UK)**
<https://www.thehistorypress.co.uk/articles/three-ways-to-find-your-ancestors-world-war-i-medals/>
- **United Kingdom, World War I Service Records, 1914-1920** – FamilySearch
<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2125045>
- **World War I & World War II U.S. Veteran Research** – David Allen Lambert
<https://www.americanancestors.org/education/learning-resources/read/world-war-research>
- **World War I Centennial** – National Archives and Records Administration (US)
<https://www.archives.gov/topics/wwi>
- **World War I Draft Records** – Massachusetts Society of Genealogists, Inc.
<https://www.msoginc.org/msogwp/projects/tips-tricks/world-war-i-draft-records/>
- **World War I Genealogy Research Guide: Tracing American Military and Non-Combatant Ancestors Includes a Guide to Canadian Military Research**
– Debra M. Dudek
<https://amzn.to/2z3rE7B>
- **World War I United States Military Records, 1917 to 1918** – FamilySearch
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/World_War_I_United_States_Military_Records,_1917_to_1918