Introduction

A. Causes – *For the Common Defense* by Allan R. Millett, Peter Maslowski, and William B. Feis
   a. “maintained a reputation for brooking no insults”
   b. Beyond slavery, states’ rights

B. Gen. Beauregard, Fort Sumter

Did you have an ancestor who fought?

A. Military Research
   1. Determine if he served
   2. Research Sources
   3. Write your family’s story

B. Determine if he served
   1. How old was he? 18-30 average age Born 1790-1850
   2. Family Memorabilia or stories military ephemera, oral tradition

C. Cemetery Clues
   1. G.A. R. symbol on stone
   2. Example

Published Sources

A. Research Sources
   1. State Records
      a. Enlistment lists
         North Carolina [https://blogs.lib.unc.edu/ncm/index.php/2011/09/12/north-carolina-civil-war-resources-online/]  
      b. Published compilations of veterans
      c. Adjutant General Reports
d. G.A.R. membership lists

2. **Census Clues** Ancestry.com
   a. 1890 Special Census
   b. 1910 veteran questions
   c. 1930 veteran question

3. **State Censuses (Depends on the state)** Ancestry.com
   a. Three enumerated in 1865
   b. Loss or absence of fighting age men
   c. Special veteran status question

**U.S. Civil War Draft Registrations Records, 1863-1865** Ancestry.com

**Learn more about his service**

A. **Soldiers and Sailors Database – National Park Service** –

B. **Military Service Records – Both Union and Confederate - National Archives**
   [https://archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records.html](https://archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records.html)
   1. Email request: Inquire@arch2.nara.gov
   2. Visit: www.nara.gov
   3. Compiled military service file (NATF 86) by mail

C. **Pension Applications**
   Order them here:
   [https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/start.swe](https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/start.swe)
   1. Who applied?
      a. Most union soldiers or their widows or minor children
      b. A dependent father or mother sometimes applied
   2. What does Federal (Union) Pension Record Include
      a. Declaration for pension and pension application
b. Certificate of disability

c. Surgeon’s certificate with disability description (form and sketch)

d. Questionnaires (Form 3-447 used before 1902; Form 3-389 widow questionnaire

e. Affidavits (for and against petitioner)

f. Correspondence

g. Bills and receipts

3. How does one get the Pension file?

a. An index to pension file applications can be found on FamilySearch.org and Ancestry

4. Were there Confederate Pensions?

a. Yes! State funds were used

b. Given to Confederate veterans, widows and orphans

c. They applied through the state in which they were currently living

   i. Alabama

   ii. Arkansas

   iii. Florida

   iv. Georgia

   v. Kentucky

   vi. Louisiana

   vii. Mississippi

   viii. Missouri

   ix. North Carolina

   x. Oklahoma

   xi. South Carolina

   xii. Tennessee

   xiii. Texas
xiv. Virginia

**Determine if your ancestor was killed or wounded**

A. Published Sources

B. Newspapers

C. Death registers

**Research post-service records other than pension**

**Union and Confederate State Soldier Homes**

National Soldier Home Records (Union and Confederate) are found on [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) and [FamilySearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)

The National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers

1. Read this article in Prologue’s Genealogy Notes


**Published Sources**

**Apply to Hereditary Societies**

The Military Order of the Loyal Union Soldiers of the United States (MOLLUS)

[www.suvcw.org/mollus/mollus.htm](http://www.suvcw.org/mollus/mollus.htm)

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War – [www.suv cw.org](http://www.suv cw.org)

Auxiliary to the Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War – [www.asuvcw.org](http://www.asuvcw.org)

Daughters of Union Veterans – [www.duv cw.org](http://www.duv cw.org)

National Society Daughters of the Union – [www.nsdu.org](http://www.nsdu.org)

Military Order of the Stars and Bars – [www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org](http://www.militaryorderofthestarsandbars.org)

National Order of the Blue and Gray – [http://nobg.us](http://nobg.us)

United Daughters of the Confederacy [www.hqudc.org](http://www.hqudc.org)

Sons of Confederate Veterans [www.scv.org](http://www.scv.org)

**How did the fighting stop?**

A. Lincoln’s re-election   B. Sherman’s March