Civil War Soldiers

Research Guide

**SCOPE**

This guide is intended to provide suggestions and ideas for finding information in our library about area soldiers who served in the Civil War. While it does not represent a comprehensive listing of available resources, it offers a number of ideas as starting points for those interested in researching Civil War history. The Local History Division also offers a special section in the public area devoted to Civil War resources. Materials on Civil War soldiers that are available for checkout from other divisions are also listed below. Ask at the reference desk if you have any questions about a particular item. For clarification of the following information, please ask at the reference desk.

See also: The *Local Civil War Regimental Histories* research guide.

**Key**

L/H = Local History Division (these materials do not circulate)

HIS = Science, History, and Travel Division – 3rd floor, Bausch & Lomb Public Library Building

(these materials circulate and may be checked out)

RPF = Local History Picture File (please ask librarian)

**BOOKS**

*Civil War Genealogy*

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Collections of Names


Also available as e-Book: http://www.libraryweb.org/rochimag/roads/gar.htm


Phisterer, Frederick. New York in the War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865 (6 vols.). Lyon, c1912.


New York State


L/H Rrq973.7 S974s Husted, Shirley C., ed. Sweet Gift of Freedom: A Civil War Anthology. Rochester, N.Y.: County of Monroe, c1986-.


L/H Rrq973.7447 S426b Scott, Grover C. Brief History of Rochester and Monroe County's Part in the Civil War from 1861 to July 4th, 1863. [1963?].

L/H-OS Rfr973.7447 S625c Sizer, August F. Civil War Experiences of a Rochester Soldier. [1863?-1864].


Official Records


CIVIL WAR SOLDIER CARD INDEX

Located in the Local History public area, the Civil War soldier card index contains the names of Rochester soldiers and units indexed alphabetically. Also, check the Civil War Master List, available from the library’s Web site. This is a compilation of names taken from various sources such as card files, the 1865 census, and the County Historian's Office. It contains over 38,000 names primarily from the Rochester and Monroe County area.

http://www.libraryweb.org/uploadedFiles/MCLS/Local_History_New/Genealogy_Resources/civil_war_master_list.pdf

GUIDES


NEWSPAPERS

L/H Rr973.7097 C582c Civil War Local Newspaper Index. Rochester, N.Y.: MP Services, 1992. Microfilm


PATHFINDERS

Many regimental histories have been digitized and are available online. Go to the Many Roads to Freedom: Abolitionism and the Civil War in Rochester pathfinder at http://www.libraryweb.org/rochimag/roads/home.htm and click on “Regimental histories and official records.”

PERIODICALS

L/H-DIV Civil War Searcher. Dayton, Ohio, James Pierce.


*Rochester History’s* index lists too many mentions of the Civil War to list here. You may either search the indexes in the Local History Division, or go to http://www.libraryweb.org/~rochhist/indexc.htm#gbC and look for “Civil War.” To access the issues online, click on the link next to the desired subject.

You may also check the indexes for *The Rochester Historical Society Publication Fund* series located in the public area of the Local History Division.
There are also many photographs on the Rochester Images Web page. From the main page at http://www3.libraryweb.org/lh.aspx?id=927, enter “Civil War” in the search box and click on “Search.”

**SCRAPBOOKS**

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<td>Harris, George H. <em>Killed &amp; Wounded of Battles of the Army of the Potomac</em>. 1864.</td>
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<td>L/H-SS</td>
<td>Rqr973.7447 S433s</td>
<td><em>Scrapbook of Clippings Relating to the Draft in the Civil War, Rochester, N.Y.</em></td>
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Check the library’s online catalog for Civil War resources. While the Local History & Genealogy Division’s original card catalog is available, searchers should keep in mind that no new cards have been filed since 1993. In addition, card catalogs or online catalogs contain information describing every cataloged item in the library.

Subject headings to try when searching:

United States – History – Civil War
New York (State) – History – Civil War
United States – History – Regimental histories – Civil War, 1861-1865
New York (State) – History – Regimental histories – Civil War, 1861-1865
Soldiers – New York (State) – Genealogy
United States – History – Civil War, 1861-1865 – Registers
New York (State) – History – Civil War – Registers
United States – History – Participation, African American – Civil War, 1861-1865
New York (State) – History – Civil War, 1861-1865 – Periodicals