

FINDING YOUR CIVIL WAR ANCESTORS

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Timeline of Civil War

- ▣ 11/6/1860 Abraham Lincoln elected president
- ▣ 12/20/60 South Carolina seceded from Union
- ▣ 02/1861 Confederate States of America (CSA) formed
- ▣ 3/4/1861 Lincoln inaugurated as president of United States of America
- ▣ 4/12/1861 Confederates bombarded Ft. Sumter at Charleston, South Carolina

States That Seceded from Union

- ▣ South Carolina, Mississippi,
- ▣ Florida, Alabama, Georgia,
- ▣ Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas,
- ▣ Tennessee, North Carolina,
- ▣ Virginia

Other States

- ▣ Some states included Union and Confederate military forces

Battles of the Civil War

- ▣ 7/21/1861 Bull Run at Manassas, Virginia
- ▣ 4/6/1862 Shiloh (Tennessee)
- ▣ 9/6/1862 Antietam (Maryland)
- ▣ 7/1/1863 Gettysburg (Pennsylvania)
- ▣ 5/5/1864 Battle of the Wilderness (Virginia)
- ▣ 11/15/1864 Sherman's March to the Sea
- ▣ 5/12/1865 Last engagement of war, Palmita Beach, Texas

Other National Events

- ▣ 1/1/1863 Emancipation Proclamation
- ▣ 11/8/1864 Abraham Lincoln re-elected President of United States of America
- ▣ 4/9/1865 Lee surrendered to Grant
- ▣ 4/14/1865 Lincoln shot
- ▣ 4/15/1865 Lincoln died
- ▣ 4/26/1865 Johnston surrendered to Sherman
- ▣ 5/12/1865 Last engagement of war, Palmita Beach, Texas

Statistics of the War

- ▣ 4 million men (and women) fought both for the United States of America and for the Confederate States of America
- ▣ Over 1 million died in battle or from disease

What you need to know

- ▣ First and last names. Knowing middle initial or name helps.
- ▣ State of residence in 1860.
- ▣ Date of death, more important than date of birth.
- ▣ (May have been born between 1805 and 1850).
- ▣ Wife's first name.

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ National Park Service
- ▣ Civil War Soldiers & Sailors (CWSS) System
- ▣ <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>
- ▣ Database of 6.3 million names, both Union and Confederate
- ▣ Derived from General Index Cards
- ▣ Names copied from muster rolls

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Civil War Soldiers & Sailors (CWSS) database
- ▣ To search, enter any combination of
 - ▣ Last name
 - ▣ First name
 - ▣ Side (Union or Confederate)
 - ▣ State of enlistment
 - ▣ Unit number or function (i.e. infantry)

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ CWSS
- ▣ When you've found the name
- ▣ Click on name to see basic information from General Index card.
- ▣ Name, company, rank, NARA microfilm location.
- ▣ Use information to search compiled military service record (CMSR)

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ National Archives & Records Administration
- ▣ (NARA)
- ▣ <http://www.archives.gov/index.html>

- ▣ Go to Research Our Records > Military Records > Genealogy Research in Military Records
- ▣ Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR) can be ordered online or by mail
- ▣ Requires war, name, regiment or state, any other information available

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ NARA
- ▣ Union widows' pension files
- ▣ Widows had to supply evidence of marriage.
- ▣ Applicants on behalf of children had to prove their birth and the soldier's marriage.
- ▣ In order by place/state, then veteran's or widow's name.
- ▣ Request all documents in file.

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ NARA
- ▣ Family History Library in Salt Lake City has many NARA microfilms. Some may be at the local Family History Center, 1711 6th St. West
- ▣ Records may be digitized and available on familysearch.org catalogue

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Federal Census Records
- ▣ <http://www.billingslibrary.org/>
- ▣ Available on Billings Public Library website
- ▣ Services > Genealogy Room > Heritage Quest Online
- ▣ Enter library card number
- ▣ U. S. Census Records

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Federal Census
- ▣ 1890 Supplemental Schedule for Union Veterans or widows of Union Veterans
- ▣ Find at <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1877095>

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Federal Census
- ▣ 1910, column 30, Whether a survivor of the Union or Confederate army or navy
- ▣ UA = Union Army
- ▣ 1930, columns 30 & 31, VETERANS
- ▣ Yes or No, what war or expedition

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Some post-war state censuses also identify Union veterans
- ▣ 1865 New York
- ▣ <https://familysearch.org/search/collection/1491284>
- ▣ 1885 Wisconsin
<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints/search.asp?id=1539>

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Organizations
- ▣ Grand Army of the Republic (GAR)
- ▣ <http://www.garrecords.org/>
- ▣ Library of Congress (loc.gov) also has information on GAR and other societies
- ▣ Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States ; Daughters/Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
- ▣ <http://www.suvcw.org/>

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Military Graves
- ▣ Government Cemeteries
- ▣ <http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/>
- ▣ National Cemeteries under National Park Service
- ▣ <http://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-cemeteries.htm>

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Cemeteries
- ▣ “Roll of Honor” – index of Union soldiers and burial locations
- ▣ <http://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/000832751>

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Battlefields
- ▣ Often have rosters of units or participants.
- ▣ <http://www.civilwar.org/>
- ▣ Books available at Billings Public Library
- ▣ 973.7 CIVIL “Civil War Sites”
- ▣ Descriptions of battlefields

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ The “Official Record” or “OR”
- ▣ Once you know the battle, you can search the “OR” or Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, 128 volumes located in the Genealogy Library at Billings Public Library

<http://digital.library.cornell.edu//m/moawar/waro.html>

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Family Search .org <https://familysearch.org/>
- ▣ Click Search > Records
- ▣ Name - USA - state
- ▣ life event "Any" - dates 1861-1865

- ▣ Or select collections , United State, military, 1850-1899

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Cyndi's List
- ▣ <http://www.cyndislist.com/us/civil-war/>
- ▣ Links to genealogy websites by topic

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ State Office of Adjutant General
- ▣ Or state archives or state libraries

- ▣ Tennessee
- ▣ <http://www.tn.gov/tsla/NewSite/Collections/Military/CivilWar.htm>

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ PAY SITES
- ▣ Ancestry <http://home.ancestry.com/>
- ▣ Draft registrations
- ▣ Pension index

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ PAY SITES
- ▣ Fold3 <http://www.fold3.com/>
- ▣ Service records
- ▣ Widows' pensions
- ▣ Southern claims
- ▣ Union citizens files
- ▣ Confederate amnesties
- ▣ Casualty reports

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ PAY SITES
- ▣ American Civil War Research Database
- ▣ \$25 per year
- ▣ <http://civilwardata.com/>

- ▣ It has a “genealogy” demonstration
- ▣ Can subscribe for 7 days for \$10

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Offline Resources (as of 2011)
 - ▣ Union Pension Files – request from NARA
 - ▣ Confederate Pension Files – on microfilm at Family History Library
 - ▣ Compiled Military Service Records – request from NARA
 - ▣ Union Draft Records – at NARA

Sources of Genealogy Information

- ▣ Confederate Pension Records
- ▣ Pensions were issued by the states

The Kampf/Kemph Family

- ▣ Ulrich “William” Kemph
- ▣ Son Charles H. Kemph
- ▣ Son Frederick Kemph
- ▣ All served in Company F 39th Illinois infantry
- ▣ Son John Kemph
- ▣ Served in Company M, 1st Artillery Illinois

- ▣ Wife Magdalena “Mary” supposedly served as a cook, nurse, and commissary clerk.

NAME OF
SOLDIER:

Kempth, Charles H.

NAME OF
DEPENDENT:

*Widow,
Minor,*

Kempth, Ada

SERVICE:

F 39 Ill. Inf.

DATE OF FILING.

CLASS.

APPLICATION NO.

CERTIFICATE NO.

STATE FROM
WHICH FILED.

1887 Mar 19

Invalid,

602.883

438.218

Kans.

1926 Aug 20

Widow,

1551.800

Mo.

Minor,

ATTORNEY:

REMARKS:

B. H. K.

The Kampf/Kemph Family

- ▣ Ulrich “William” Kemph

