

## Genealogy Rocks!

Researching War of 1812 Records  
Most genealogists research their ancestors' military records a priority, particularly records from the Revolutionary War and the Civil War. In between those two wars, the War of 1812 sometimes gets overlooked. That's too bad since the records from that conflict can add details about a soldier that can be found nowhere else. Some of them are even readily available online.



**Carol Stetser**

For example, my ancestor, Stephen Hadlock, shows up in the record set "U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments 1798-1914," which is available online at Ancestry and at Fold3. Those records indicate that my ancestor's height was 5'9½" and he had blue eyes and brown hair and a light complexion. Since he died before photography was common, and no portraits were ever made of him, this is as close as I'll ever get to knowing what he may have looked like. Of course, the records also give details about

his service, age at time of enlistment, occupation and more.

Another set of records worth looking at on Ancestry is "General Land Office Records, 1796-1907;" this set of records may include bounty land warrants which War of 1812 soldiers were often granted in lieu of pay.

Finally, War of 1812 pension files can provide detailed information about our ancestors' post war lives. These records have never been microfilmed and are only available through the National Archives. However, genealogical societies around the country are working to raise funds to digitize these important records. Our society is participating in this effort by sponsoring an all day "Conference for a Cause" seminar featuring national speaker Josh Taylor (from Genealogy Roadshow fame) on November 14 to raise funds for this project. To register for this fee based all day seminar, visit our events calendar at [www.lcgsc.org](http://www.lcgsc.org).  
❖ *Carol Stetser is a researcher, instructor, speaker, and Old Town Library volunteer for the Larimer County Genealogical Society.*