# Finding Ancestors using Military Records in Genealogy Research

## Sources

1. National Archives UK
   1. <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/first-world-war/centenary-digitised-records/>
   2. British army medal index cards - <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/medal-index-cards-ww1.htm>
   3. The National Archives at Kew has digitised copious amounts of records. Many of the records can be purchased online. The UK National Archive is a government department and an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice. They incorporate the Office of Public Sector Information and Her Majesty's Stationery Office. The archives also perform the Historical Manuscripts Commission's functions in relation to private records. As the government's national archive for England, Wales and the United Kingdom, they hold over 1,000 years of the nation's records. Due to Ireland’s status as a colony, some of our records are housed at the archives.
   4. These records are index cards created by the Army Medal Office towards the end of the First World War. They record the medals that men and women who served in the First World War were entitled to claim. You can search the records in Discovery, the national archive catalogue, by filling in a form. You do not need to fill out every field to search these records; using only the last name and regiment number often works.
      1. There are over 5 million cards, held in series WO 372. Most of the cards are for soldiers in the British Army. The collection also includes:
      2. most British Army officers
      3. Indian Army personnel
      4. British Army nurses
      5. Royal Flying Corps personnel
      6. Royal Naval Division personnel
      7. some civilians
      8. Most of the cards contain information about campaign medals, which were generally awarded to all those who served overseas. However, some of the cards record entitlement to gallantry and long service awards.
2. Ancestry [www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com)
   1. <http://www.ancestry.com/cs/us/videos> Some videos explaining how to use this subscription based site
3. The Bureau of Military History (1913-1921)
   1. <http://www.bureauofmilitaryhistory.ie/>
   2. The Bureau of Military History 1913-1921 (BMH) Collection at Military Archives is a joint initiative of Military Archives and the National Archives and allows you to search throughout the BMH – free of charge - to help you in your research.
   3. 36,000 witness statements & Index of witnesses & Press cuttings & Audio & image files
4. Military Archives - Department of Defence
   1. “Military Archives is the place of deposit for the archives of the Defence Forces, the Department of Defence and the Army Pensions Board”,
   2. <http://www.militaryarchives.ie/>
   3. Army Census 1922 - Irish Army Census Records 1922 – sources for persons serving in the National Army in November 1922 and as such are of particular use to readers working on genealogical queries. <http://census.militaryarchives.ie/>
5. Commonwealth War Graves Commission
   1. Commonwealth War Graves Commission commemorates the 1,700,000 men and women of the Commonwealth forces who died in the two world wars.
   2. Cemeteries, burial plots and memorials are a lasting tribute to those who died in 153 countries over the world.
   3. • <http://www.cwgc.org/>
6. National Archives of Ireland <http://soldierswills.nationalarchives.ie/search/sw/home.jsp>

<http://soldierswills.nationalarchives.ie/reels/sw/DonovanM_E152680.pdf>