

Utah State Archives & Records Service

Collections related to World War I

[Series 6307 World War I Records, 1917-1923](#)

This series is an effort to preserve a history of the World War I war record of Utah. The task originally was begun by the State Council of Defense, part of the National Council of Defense created on August 29, 1916 by act of Congress. Most of the series consists of rosters of one form or another. Many of the rosters, nearly half the series, represent listings of soldiers by Home County. There are also a number of comprehensive rosters listing soldiers by branch of service. Other listings include nurses who served, wounded soldiers, soldiers who died in the war discharges, desertions, those who failed to report, those who were prisoners of war, those who received foreign decorations, etc. Aside from data on individuals, there are War Department listings of transports which would be carrying soldiers returning to Utah. Brief histories of the Second Division, the Fortieth Division, and the Ninety-First Division are included; each involved military organizations from Utah.

[Series 6308 National Guard Adjutant General's Records, 1895-1965](#)

This series provides a comprehensive account of the duties and activities of the office of the Adjutant General, the chief administrative officer of the National Guard (see the research note for a list of each person creating this series and his term). The series contains administrative papers, personnel data, fiscal papers, and historical information on the guard, its units, and its involvement in both state and federal actions.

Correspondence with the federal War Department (later known as the Department of Defense) shows the evolution of the Guard from state to federal control, with the Guard required to meet federal rather than state standards in terms of organizational structure, equipment, and training. During the early years, the state adjutant general was actively involved, or at least regularly informed, as to the actions of various units even when in federal service. Later, the orders under which he operated even in peace time were initiated in the Defense Department, and he received little contemporary information on activated troops. By the time of the World Wars, there are regular certificates of federal recognition issued to the various units, as well as increasing numbers of memoranda and orders from the War Department.

The adjutant general also maintained World War I card files on veterans from Utah created by the federal War Department. While the cards are not part of this series, there is frequent correspondence from the War Department in the 1920s and 1930s instructing the adjutant general to correct specific entries on individual cards. There are also letters from individuals and citizens requesting lists of veterans compiled from those cards. During World War I there are numerous muster rolls, letters and oaths pertaining to enlistment in the Home Defense Organization and federal recognition of Guard units. There is also correspondence after the war pertaining to federal distribution of war trophies to the states.

Series 2229 World War I Draft Board Registers, 1917-1918

This series contains copies of basic military draft board registration data for Utah counties during the First World War. The forms include registration lists (federal form 101 PMGO) which list the individual's number, name, and address given on the registration card. An updated form allowed notation of the man's race. These lists were simply a register of cards in the possession of the local board. The lists were signed and dated by the chairman and/or secretary of the board. There are also forms documenting induction into service (federal form 1029 PMGO) showing order number, serial number, name, call number, occupation, classification, date, the camp to which the man was being sent, and a place to check if he failed to report to military authorities. Finally, there is federal form 164-A which shows order number, person's name, red ink number, date and time the person reported, date the person actually reported to the mobilization camp (or to check if failed to report), and date rejected at mobilization camp or date of final acceptance at mobilization camp. All the counties include the registration forms, and most the induction forms, but few contain the mobilization data. Finished copies were mailed to the Provost Marshal General Office in Washington D.C.

Series 2793 World War I Service Records, 1914-1925

This series consists of statements of service for military personnel serving in the marines and the army during World War I; service in the navy is not included. The forms contain some variations; however, the following information is typical: name, service number, race, residence, type of entry (ie. enlisted/inducted), place and date of entry, place and date of birth, organizations served in, assignments, transfers, grades and dates of appointment, engagements, injuries, overseas service, type of discharge, departure from service, and a section for remarks.

Series 2794 Military Separation Forms and Benefit Records, 1917-1979

In an effort to document the military service of Utah residents from settlement of the territory until the present day, the Utah State Archives collected service records from all branches of the U.S. military, selective service documents, and veterans' education and training forms. Occasionally, copies of documents that identified military service people by name were added to the series from other local government records, newspapers, and published sources. Most of the records document military service during World War II, but there are also some records from World War I and post-World War II.

Series 10324 Councils of Defense Ogden City War Activities Committees records, 1917-1919

This series contains records compiled "under the direction of the Commissioners of Ogden City by request of the chairmen of the various War Activities Committees of Ogden City" during World War I. The stated purpose of the compilation was to aid in "future campaigns in reaching more economically and affectively [sic] all those citizens who have aided thus far in the 'Great Work' as well as those who should have aided, but have thus far failed to do so."

The records include a forward, articulating the purpose of the compilation, along with background information on the war, including a copy of President Wilson's address to Congress on 2 April 1917 and a note of the President's visit to Ogden on 23 September 1919. The record outlines the Congressional decision to enter the war and the aims of the war. The bulk of the record is comprised of lists of people, businesses, organizations, and schools in Ogden who contributed to the war effort through the purchase of Liberty Loan bonds and War Saving Stamps, and contributions to the Red Cross or the War Chest. The list also include names of individuals or entities for whom no contributions are recorded. The names are listed in alphabetical order with an address, if known.

Series 10339 145th Field Artillery Scrapbook, 1917-1918

This series contains a scrapbook of the 145th Field Artillery of Utah explaining how President Wilson tried to persuade the nation into joining the war, how Utah's National Guard was mobilized, and the names of the Utah soldiers. The scrapbook was created by the Statistical Section of the Regiment. The scrapbook has excerpts from: President Wilson's Address to Congress, 'The War Message and Facts Behind it', and the President's Flag Day Address. It also contains appointments and general orders made by President Wilson reorganizing Utah's 145th. It has the names of the soldiers who were ordered or drafted into the service, enlistments, promotions, transfers, and rosters.

Series 19959 World War Military Listings, 1917-1951

The Utah State Historical Society collected and compiled information on Utahns serving in the World Wars. The scope of information pertaining to World War I is limited to veteran service questionnaires, veteran service records, newspaper clippings, correspondence with the Utah State Historical Society, veteran award ceremony information and a single microfiche with a handwritten list of World War I Veterans. These records span from 1915-1922, along with two copies of a tribute to all Utah men who served from the Ogden area called "Lest We Forget," written in 1927. The World War I records contain a report from the Council of Defense of the State of Utah, a book of information describing councils and programs created by Governor Bamberger and Chairman Farnsworth in 1917. These councils allowed for Utah to be one of the states with the largest contributions towards the war, both at home and overseas. The Council of Defense of the State of Utah was dissolved in 1918.

Series 29641 Councils of Defense Washington County Council of Defense records, 1917-1919

This series contains various records produced by the County Council of Defense to document the work of the council and the individuals who served in World War I. These records include a list of those who served from each community, war service cards, a report of the activities of the council, along with a few newspaper clippings and some correspondence.

The Washington County U.S. Forces list provides the names of those who served, grouped by community. The list indicates where they served, if they were wounded or killed in action, and whether they served overseas or not. The war service cards list each soldier, his branch of service, and "nearest of kin." The series also includes a tribute to "Honored Dead and Wounded" published by the Washington County News, along with several newspaper clippings related to servicemen from the county. The final record in the series is a handwritten report of the activities of the County Council of Defense. The report provides a list of those involved in the Council over time, a summary of the activities of the local Red Cross Chapter, an outline of food production efforts, an outline of war loan and donation drives, a description of the contributions of women to the war effort, and information on those who were in active service in the war. The records also include a couple of letters and a newspaper clipping.

Series 29647 Councils of Defense Tooele County Council of Defense Honor Roll, 1914-1919

This series contains a list of individuals who served in the military from Tooele County. The honor roll was created by the County Council of Defense upon request of the Utah State Committee of War History and the Tooele County Commission and was intended to recognize the 17 men who died and the other 474 who served. It begins with an introduction, followed by short biographies of each of the 17 men who lost their lives during the war. The roll also includes a list of the other men who served in the military, grouped alphabetically surname. Along with the servicemen's names are their home address and name of their nearest relative.

Series 85268 Military Service Cards, 1898-1975

These cards contain basic military service data on Utah residents who served in the armed forces. Most of these cards were furnished to the state by the Adjutant General's Office of the War Department. The cards list name, serial number, race, residence, induction place and date, birthplace and birthdate or age, units served in with dates of assignments and transfers, grades with date of appointment, engagements, wounds or other injuries received in action, dates of overseas service, discharge date, percent disability, and remarks. The Brigadier General, Adjutant and Inspector of the U.S. Marine Corps furnished separate but virtually identical cards. Red cards were furnished if the individual died while in service. The information is the same, except instead of discharge date and disability, the form lists cause and date of death and name, relationship, and address of the individual notified of the death.

Series 85298 World War I Service Questionnaires, 1914-1918

This series contains military service questionnaires and photographs of Utah's World War I veterans compiled by the Utah State Historical Society shortly after the war. The forms were sent to veterans or their families to complete and return. The form included general information, induction information, oversea service data, promotions, casualties, and remarks. General information gives the veteran's name; home address; camp or oversea address; birth date and place; race; parents' names; occupation before entering service; employer and employer's address; marital status, and if married, wife's name; and the number and names of children. Induction information gives date of induction; method of induction (selective service or volunteer); branch of service; name and number of company and regiment; division; commanding officer; if in the navy, the name of ship; other organizations the individual had belonged to; name of first and later training camps with the time spent in each; and remarks. Oversea Service lists date of transport overseas, place of oversea service, and remarks. The promotions section lists rank at entrance to service; previous military training; promotions with date of each; date of discharge, if applicable; citations for bravery, etc.; and remarks. Casualties lists date and place if killed in action; date, place, and disease if died of illness; date, place, and nature of wounds if wounded in action; date, place, and details if died of accident or other causes; and remarks. At the end there was a place for the signature of the person completing the questionnaire. This was followed by a note which stated: "Send photograph. Record will be incomplete without photograph. Enclose interesting incidents, clippings, letters, and other material which should be made part of record. Don't neglect this opportunity to have your boy properly represented on the permanent records of Utah." Many of the questionnaires are accompanied by a photograph of the serviceman. A few were also accompanied by letters or newspaper clippings.