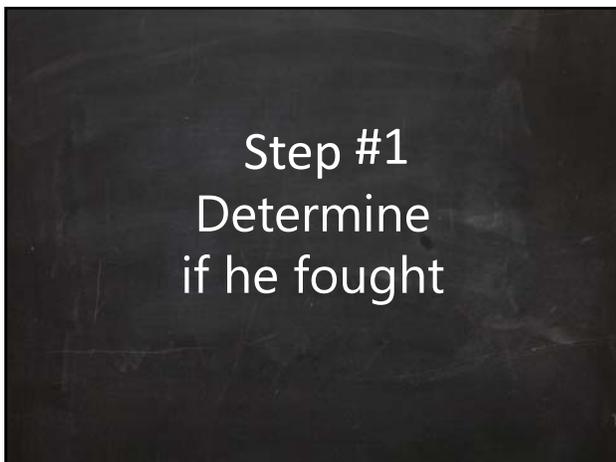




1



2



3

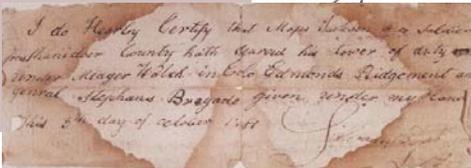
Too Young or Too Old ?

- Ages not listed, no town given
- Age range of typical soldier, 18-35
- Average birth year 1735-1760
- Extremes early 1700s & late 1760s

4

Family Relics in the Attic

- Letters
- Diaries
- Paintings
- Guns & Swords
- Discharge Papers



5

Oral Family Traditions

- 1775 to 2022
- Lost in translation
- Preserving stories
- Confirming stories with primary sources
- Hero or Deserter?
- Proving or disproving Grandma



6

Cemetery Clues and Pitfalls

- Is there a gravestone for your vet?
- Cemetery and burial records
- Transcribed gravestones
- Where is his spouse buried?
- Is there a flag marker?
- S.A.R. marker on the right grave?



7

Forgotten Images

- Do you have an image of your soldier?
- Did your veteran live into the 1830s?



8

**Step #2
Research**

9

Useful Resources

- Muster rolls
- Pension files
- Quartermaster rolls
- Journals and diaries
- Published genealogies
- 1840 Census
- Correspondence from officers
- Maps
- Town histories
- *TIP: Adopt the regiment!*



10

Going from Published Accounts to Muster Rolls

11

Mass. Soldiers & Sailors

The following is his Revolutionary War sketch from *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War* (12:559).

Poor, Jonathan, Newbury. Captain of a company of militia, Col. Samuel Gerrish's (2d Essex Co.) Regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 6 days; also, Captain; return of militia officers who joined Col. Jedediah Huntington's Regt., dated Roxbury Camp, Dec. 22, 1775; ordered in Council Feb. 3, 1776, that said officers be commissioned; also, Captain; list of officers of companies under command of Col. Huntington which reinforced the army; commissioned Feb. 3, 1776; also, copy of a return of said Poor's co. [year not given]; copy of a receipt dated Newbury, march 18, 1777, signed by men belonging to said Poor's co., for wages for 6 weeks service, appears on reverse of return; also, Captain, 1st co., Col. Daniel Spafford's (7th Essex Co.) regt. of Mass. militia; list of officers to be commissioned in said regiment; ordered in Council June 26, 1777, that said officers be commissioned; reported commissioned June 26, 1777.

12

Looking for the Sources

- Poor, Jonathan**, *Newbury. Captain of a company of militia, Col. Samuel Gerrish's (2d Essex Co.) Regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 6 days*; also, Captain; return of militia officers who joined Col. Jedediah Huntington's Regt., dated Roxbury Camp, Dec. 22, 1775; ordered in Council Feb. 3, 1776, that said officers be commissioned; also, Captain; list of officers of companies under command of Col. Huntingdon which reinforced the army; commissioned Feb. 3, 1776; also, copy of a return of said Poor's co. [year not given]; copy of a receipt dated Newbury, march 18, 1777, signed by men belonging to said Poor's co., for wages for 6 weeks service, appears on reverse of return; also, Captain, 1st co., Col. Daniel Spafford's (7th Essex Co.) regt. of Mass. militia; list of officers to be commissioned in said regiment; ordered in Council June 26, 1777, that said officers be commissioned; reported commissioned June 26, 1777.

13

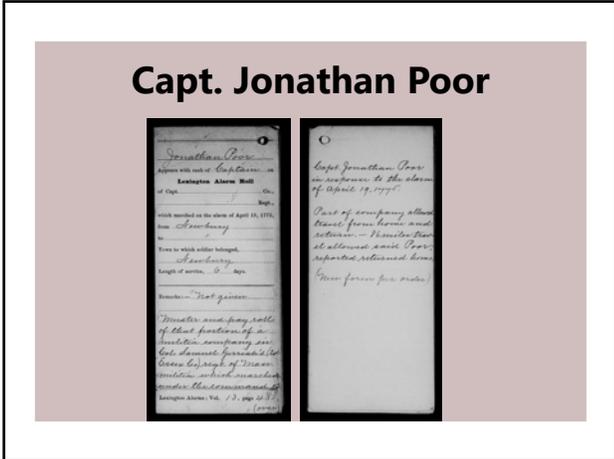
Muster Roll Index Microfilm

Massachusetts Muster Rolls
 (index file cards) of the
 Revolutionary War, 1767-1833
 259 Microfilms

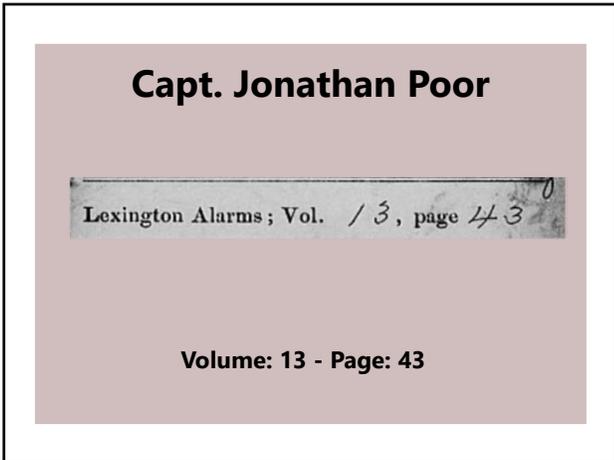
14

The screenshot shows the FamilySearch website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Records', 'Family Tree', 'Genealogies', 'Catalog', 'Books', and 'Wiki'. Below the navigation, there is a search bar and a 'Search' button. The main content area displays the search results for the query 'Muster rolls (index file cards) of the Revolutionary War, 1767-1833 [Massachusetts]'. The results include a title, authors (Massachusetts. Secretary of State (Main Author) and Massachusetts. State Archives (Repository)), format (Manuscript/Manuscript on Film), language (English), publication (Salt Lake City, Utah : Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1995-1996), physical description (259 microfilm reels : 35 mm.), and references ((Digital Collection) Massachusetts, Revolutionary War, index cards to muster rolls, 1775-1783).

15



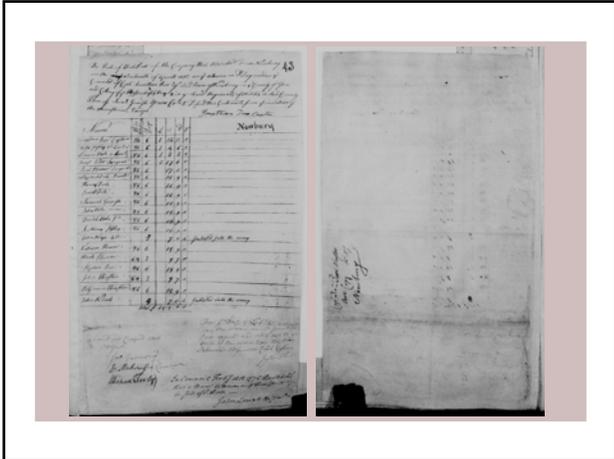
16



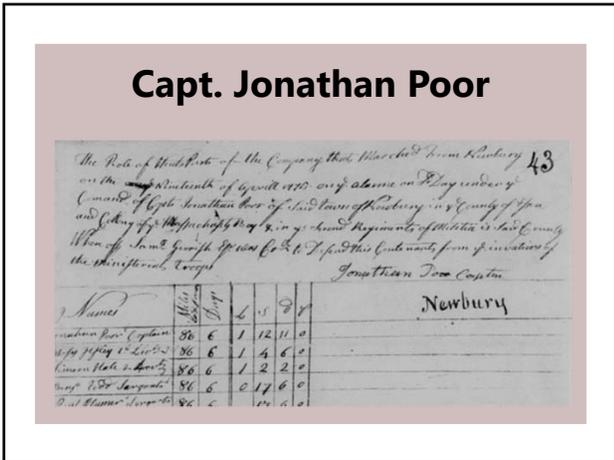
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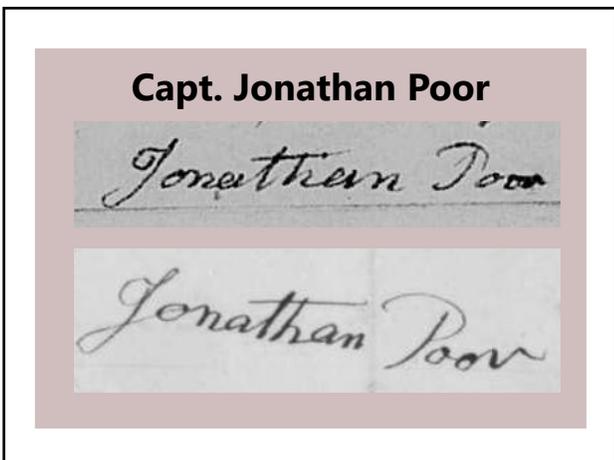
18



19



20



21

Citing the Primary Source

Jonathan Poor “Newbury. Captain of a company of militia, Col. Samuel Gerrish’s (2d Essex Co.) Regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 6 days”[1]

22

Citing the Primary Source

1. Muster/payrolls, and various papers (1763-1808) of the Revolutionary War - *Lexington Alarm rolls 1775*, 13:43. [FHL US/CAN Film # 1906243] Online: <https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSJ7-HJMC?i=416&cat=729681> (May 3, 2019) Repository: Massachusetts State Archives.

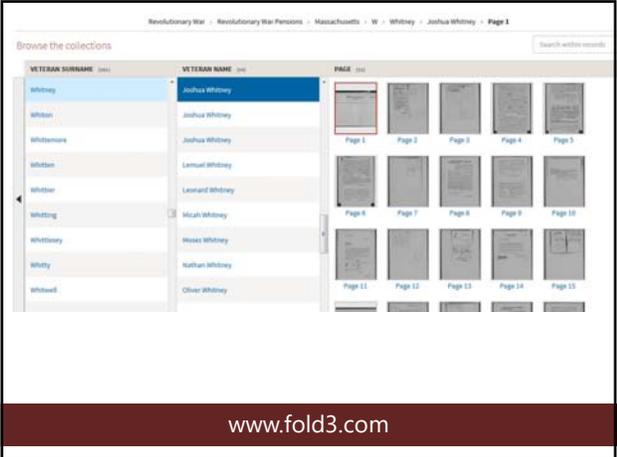
23

Going beyond Abstracts

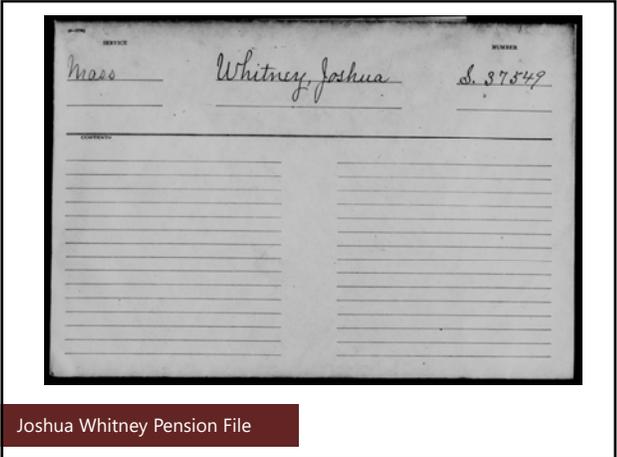
and

Dissecting Pension Files

24

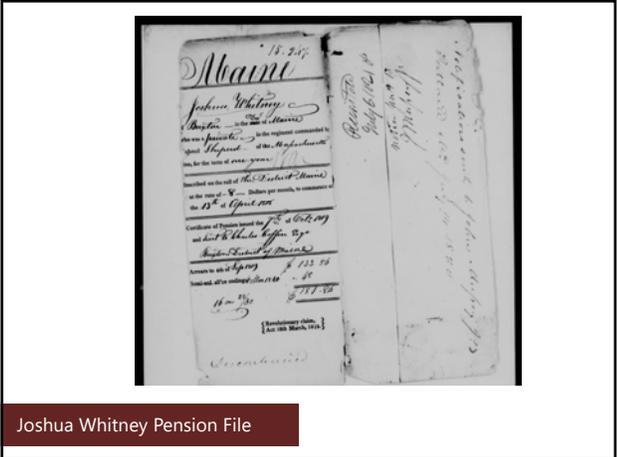


28



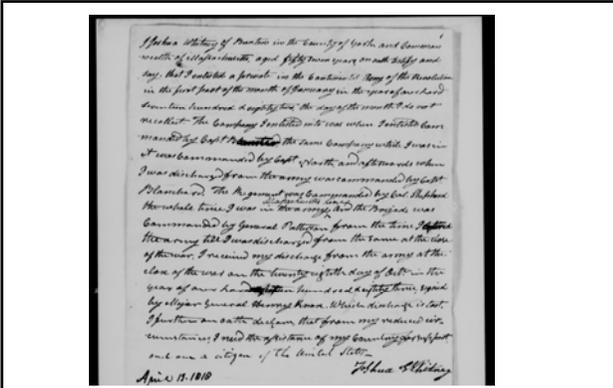
Joshua Whitney Pension File

29



Joshua Whitney Pension File

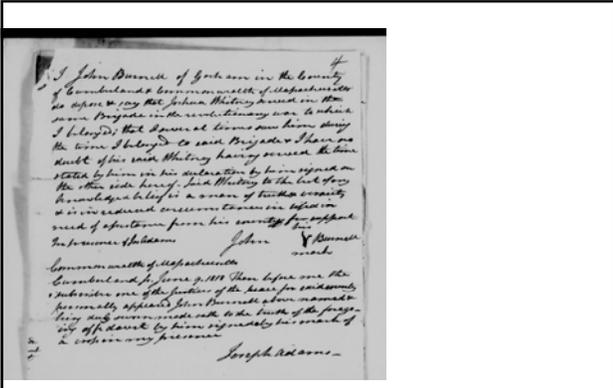
30



Joshua Whitney Pension File

31

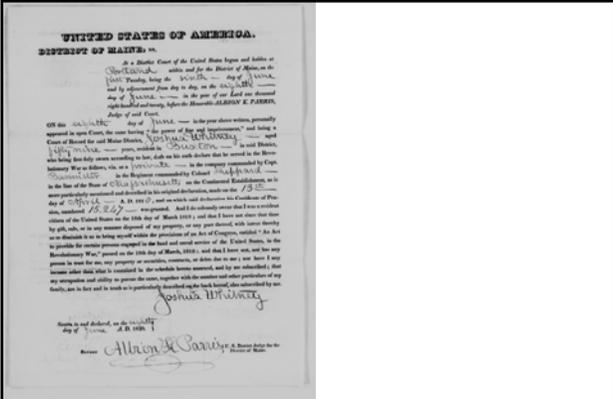
Series of horizontal lines for handwritten notes.



Joshua Whitney Pension File

32

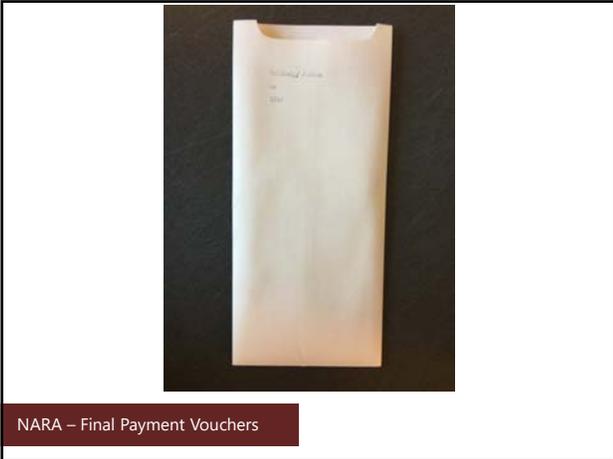
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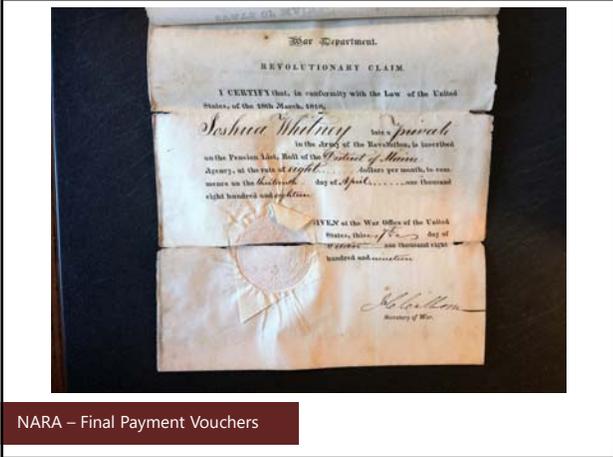
Joshua Whitney Pension File

33

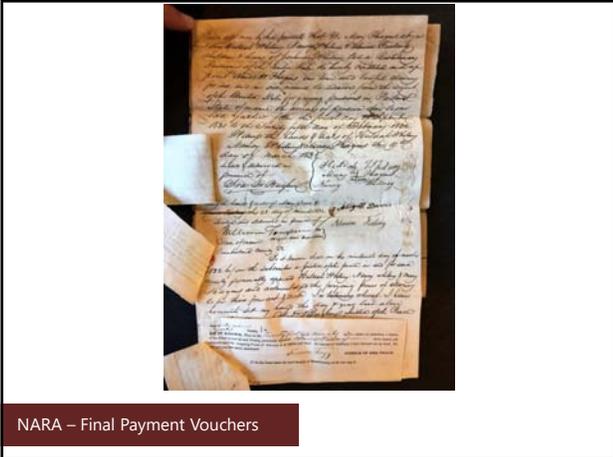
Series of horizontal lines for handwritten notes.



43



44



45

1840 Census of Pensioners

CENSUS OF PENSIONERS. KENTUCKY—Continued.		
Names of pensioners for revolutionary military services.	Age.	Names of heirs of families with whom pensioners reside June 1, 1840.
RUSSELL COUNTY.		
Thomas Green	71	Thomas Green.
John Barry	80	John Barry.
Henry Law	80	Charles Lee.
Matthew Robertson	81	Matthew Robertson.
William Perryman	81	William Perryman.
Jordan George	81	Jordan George.
John Polly	81	John Polly.

- Revolutionary War pensioners and widows
- First census to give exact age
- Lists who veteran is residing with

46

Tip
Look for diaries of fellow soldiers

47

Journals and Diaries

- Published journals
- Transcribed accounts
- Local historical societies



48



49



50



51

- National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)
- National Society Sons of the American Revolution
- National Society Children of the American Revolution
- General Society of the Sons of the Revolution
- Society of the Cincinnati
- Daughters of the Cincinnati

52



53



54



55