

A Guide to the Winchester (Va.) Muster Roll in the War with Germany, 1917-1960 (bulk 1917-1918)

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A Collection in the Library of Virginia 1096858

Library of Virginia

2010

Author: Louise Jones

History

Processed by: Library of Virginia staff

Title Statement

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Subtitle: Winchester (Va.) Muster Roll in the War with Germany, 1917-1960 (bulk 1917-1918)

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Publication Statement

Date: © 2010 By The Library of Virginia. All Rights Reserved.

Publisher: Library of Virginia

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Profile Description

Creation: Machine-readable finding aid derived from MARC record, created by Louise Jones, 2 March 2010

Language Usage: Description is in English

Revision Description

2013-11-21 Converted to schema conforming EAD by dtd2schema.vh.xsl.

Descriptive Summary

Barcode number

1096858

Language

English

Collector

Winchester (Va.) Circuit Court

Physical Characteristics

1 v.

Location

State Records Center - Archives Annex, Library of Virginia

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

This item came to the Library of Virginia in shipment of court papers from city of Winchester.

Preferred Citation

Winchester (Va.) Muster Roll in the War with Germany, 1917-1960 (bulk 1917-1918). Local government records collection, Winchester (City) Court Records. The Library of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Additional Winchester Military Records can be found on microfilm at the Library of Virginia. Consult ["A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm."](#)

Historical Information

The City of Winchester, in Frederick County, was first known as Opequon, then as Frederick's Town (or Fredericktown), and, finally, upon establishment as a town in 1752, as Winchester. According to tradition, one of the town's founders, James Wood, named the town in honor of his birthplace in England. Winchester was incorporated as a town in 1779 and as a city in 1874. It was enlarged by annexation from Frederick County in 1970.

An act passed by the Virginia General Assembly on March 16, 1918 required the recordation of the names of drafted men. The chairman of each of the Local Draft Boards of the Virginia counties and cities were to furnish their clerk of court where deeds of land were recorded, with the list of residents who through the selective draft law have become members of the military forces of the United States. In cities that were separated into divisions, the chairman of the Local Draft Board of each division was to keep the records. In Richmond City, the Clerk of the Chancery Court was to keep the records. When the clerk of the court received this information, he was to copy it in a book or books provided for the purpose and also create an index for the book. The Adjutant-General of the State was to furnish a list of names of those who joined volunteer companies from the counties or cities. These lists are also to be recorded in to the book and also indexed. Persons joining the naval or military forces of the United States or its allies were allowed to have their record listed in the book. They or someone for them made an application and provide proof of service and when this was done; their record would be recorded in the book.

Scope and Content

Winchester (Va.) Muster Roll in the War with Germany, 1917-1960 (bulk 1917-1918), is a listing of men who served in one of the several branches of the armed services during World War I. Information included in the muster roll includes name, address (name of town), age, color, selective service (date drafted), volunteers for army, navy and marine corps (date accepted and which branch), National Guard and naval militia (date and where mustered), rank, branch, and remarks which include notations about date discharged, reason and date of deaths, whether someone was a chaplain, etc.

Page 1 in the book states that Winchester did not keep the records in 1918 and as a result the Robert Y. Conrad Post Number 21, of the American Legion obtained from Virginia's Adjutant General a complete list of all men in service from Winchester and Frederick County in the World War I. The first list, which appears between page 2 and page 154, includes the names of men who were drafted in 1918 and also includes the names of a few men that enlisted in 1917 and 1918. This list tells where they were enlisted, accepted or drafted. The second list is the Muster Roll of Company I, 2nd Virginia Infantry that mustered into service on

March 25, 1917. This list appears on pages 177-184. On pages toward the back of the book are copies of the Honorable Discharge Records for three men who served in the Army, one man who served in the Marine Corps and a woman who served in the Ohio Reserve Nurse, Army Nurse Corps.

Index Terms

Corporate Names:

Winchester (Va.) Circuit Court

Subjects:

Veterans. -- Virginia -- Winchester

World War, 1917-1918 -- Registers -- Virginia -- Winchester

Geographical Names:

Winchester (Va.) -- History -- 20th century

Virginia -- History -- World War, 1914-1918

Genre and Form Terms:

Local government records -- Virginia -- Winchester

Military records -- Virginia -- Winchester

Muster rolls -- Virginia -- Winchester

Arrangement

Two lists are alphabetical by surname.