

## New York in the World War Two

Please note that on 12 July 1973 a [fire destroyed most of the World War Two records](#). Although many records were burned most were damaged by water. Efforts to salvage these records are ongoing. This means that there is a very good chance that you will not be able to find personnel records for the soldier you are looking for. It is always a good idea to check by submitting [Standard Form 180](#). As the efforts to restore these records continue it may be worthwhile to re-submit SF 180 again after a few years.

Link to the museum's website

<https://museum.dmna.ny.gov/unit-history/conflict/world-war-2-1939-1945>

The link to the museum's catalog is [www.catalog.nysmm.org](http://www.catalog.nysmm.org). This will allow you to search our different databases.

The New York State Archives has a collection, [New York National Guard Service Cards](#) that may be of help. Please note that these are National Guard records NOT US Army records. Both of these are available on Ancestry.com New York State residents have [free access to parts of Ancestry.com](#).

Ancestry also has some useful record sets:

U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942

New York, U.S., World War II Enlisted Men Cards, 1940-1945

New York, U.S., Guard Monthly Roster, 1940-1945

In addition to Ancestry.com is a related site, [Fold3](#). Fold3 is a genealogy website that specializes in military records. If you have an All Access membership to ancestry you also get membership to Fold3.

### **Other places that may have information:**

#### [The Army Heritage & Education Center](#)

950 Soldiers Drive, Carlisle, PA 17013

(717) 245-3971

#### [US Army Center of Military History](#)

103 Third Avenue

Ft. McNair, DC 20319-5058

Voice: 202.685.2704

Fax: 202.685.4570

#### [National Archives and Records Administration](#)

700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20408

(1-866-272-6272)

[New York State Library](#)

Cultural Education Center  
222 Madison Avenue  
Albany, NY 12230  
(518) 474-5355

[New York State Archives](#)

New York State Education Department  
Cultural Education Center  
Albany, NY 12230  
(518) 474-6926

To search for Images see [Sources of U.S. Military Images: Major Repositories](#)

**Please note that, if you cannot readily find information as to a particular soldier**, the best advice is for you to look for information related to the specific unit the soldier served in. Another possibility is searching for the unit's commanders, who may have written memoirs or books about the war.

In addition to the above places a good place to search is [WorldCat](#). WorldCat is a database of thousands of library catalogs. This is more of a discovery database since you will not be able to borrow these directly.

Other possible resources are the local (to the soldier/unit) historical societies and public libraries. Local newspapers also had many "local interest" stories about men and women when they enlisted, were promoted, died, etc.

Additionally, there are also two great newspaper databases:

[NYS Historic Newspapers](#)

[Fulton History](#) (This database also covers the whole state)

Finally, NYS residents have access to different research [databases through the NYS Library](#).