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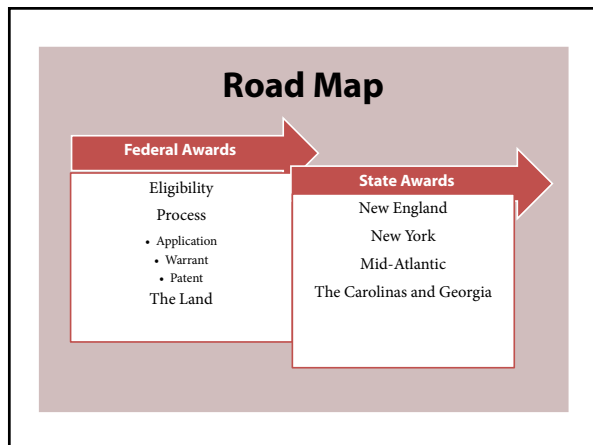
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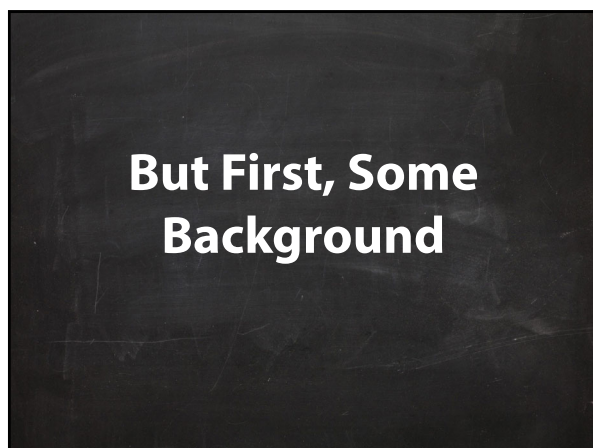
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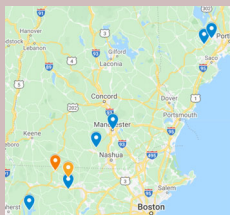
5



6

## History of Bounty Land

- European Wars
- King Philip's War
  - Buxton, Maine
  - Westminster, MA
  - Amherst, NH
  - Greenwich, MA
  - Manchester, NH
  - Templeton, MA
  - Gorham, ME
- King William's War expeditions to Quebec
  - Ashburnham
  - Winchendon



7

## Two Types of Bounty Land



8

## First the Promise

To enlistees in the Continental Army:

That Congress make provision for **granting lands**, in the following proportions: to the officers and soldiers who shall so engage in the service, and continue therein to the close of the war, or until discharged by Congress, and to the representatives of such officers and soldiers as shall be slain by the enemy

*Congressional Act of 16 September 1776*

9

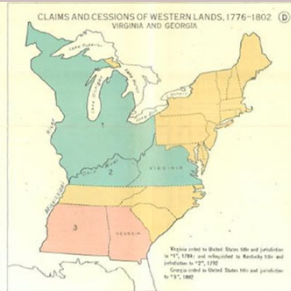
## Then the Land



- LOC, Robertson, "The thirteen original states, 1783," 1898

10

### Land Claimed by Virginia



### Land Claimed by New York



Charles O. Paulin, Atlas of Historical Geography of the United States, 1932

11

## Key to Federal Bounty Land: Northwest Territory



- 1780 – Continental Congress declares Northwest Territory is public land
- 1785 – Land Ordinance to managed ceded land; beginning of cash-entry for federal lands
- 1787 – Plan for creating states in the NW Territory
- 1797 – Formation of United States Military District - Ohio

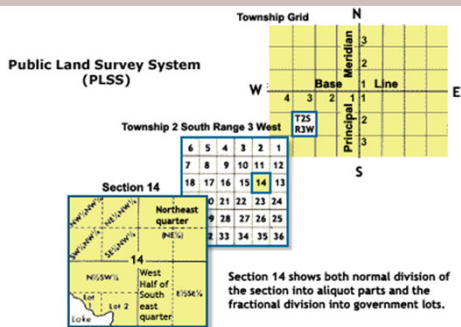
12

### Acts Authorizing Bounty Land Warrants

- Bounty Land Acts 1788, 1803, 1806, 1855
  - These acts awarded land for service
  - 1788 allowed soldiers to sell/assign their award to someone else
  - Information about land received under these acts often combined in Revolutionary War pension files

13

### New Survey System



14

### Eligibility and Process

15

### Eligibility

- **Unit:** Continental line
- **Rank:** Soldier or non-commissioned officer
- **Duration:** Minimum three years of service
- **Assignment Allowed:** No
- **State Application Allowed:** Yes

16

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### Amount by Rank

Rank	Amount
Colonel	500 acres
Lieutenant Colonel	450 acres
Major	400 acres
Captain	300 acres
Lieutenant	200 acres
Ensign	150 acres
Private	100 acres
Resolution: 16 September 1776	

17

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### Process Generated Paper

- Steps
  1. Application
  2. Warrant
  3. Survey
  4. Patent
  5. Possession
- Federal Agencies
  - Secretary of War reviewed applications and issued warrants
  - Treasury Department supervised selection of land and issued patents
- State Agencies
  - Unique to state

18

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## Application

- Serviceman submitted affidavits from commanding officers or fellow soldiers
- Submitted discharge papers
- If soldier died during service, heirs could file with documentation that they were legal heirs of the deceased

19

## Warrant Authorizing a Survey



Virginia Warrant for William Rice  
1783, land in Kentucky

- Warrants issued – date of issuance, name and rank of veteran, state from which he enlisted
- Usually the state picked the land; Virginia allowed the soldier to choose

20

## Survey - 1793



21



# Location

[Secretary of State](#) | [Administration](#) | [Land Office Index](#) | [Gazetteer](#)

## Kentucky Cities

[Military Regiments & Land Records](#)

[Non-Military Regiments and Land Records](#)

[Online Resources \\*](#)

## Gazetteer of Early Kentucky Locations

Quick Find

Filter ☐

Abraham Irwin's Station (aka Irwin's Station on Salt River)

Adair Academy

Alexander Station

Alice Lloyd College (Pippa Passes)

Allen Seminary

Anderson Creek, Highland Creek (Military District)

Armstrong's Station (aka Col. John Armstrong's Station)

Artillery College & Artillery Theological Seminary

Boyle

Adair

Fulton

Knott

Allen

Union

Clark Co, IN; 18 mi below Louisville, Jefferson

...

Bayou de Chien aka Bayou Deshe  
aka Bayou Deshaime

Bayes Fork of Barren River (Military  
District)

Fulton; Hickman; Graves

Allen

22



23

267

William Reid James Lawrence Rogers James of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

270 Ann all to the introduction of James Reid & Sons Quality Kettles that by their said

intended date in Construction of a Building Whereas A.D. 1801 there is given by the

18572 Reid's Commencement with William Reid certain Acts in favor of said

5<sup>th</sup> of the containing Two hundred Acts by every twenty Acts the twenty second day

Ann so apt of Order and because, from James was twenty three lying and being in the

1809 did first set apart for the Affairs and Solives of the Continental date on the

327th Most full of Reg. each and James as is following, First, By James

Page 6 of 7

24



### Assignment

- If soldier with a warrant could not take up residence, he sold the warrant for cash
- Rules varied by state and over time
- Federal warrants could be assigned beginning in 1788

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### QUESTIONS?

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### Finding that Paper

27

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## Disaster – 14,000+ Records Lost



Print published 14 Oct 1814 by G. Thompson showing Washington, DC under attack

28

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## Finding Federal Applications and Warrants

- Destroyed bounty application files have been replaced by cards
  - Name of veteran, rank, unit, warrant number, numbers of acres granted, date issued, assignee
- National Archives (NARA)
  - **Applications:** M804 Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files 1800-1900
  - **Warrants:** M829 Revolutionary War Bounty Land Warrants Used in the U.S. Military District of Ohio and Related Papers

29

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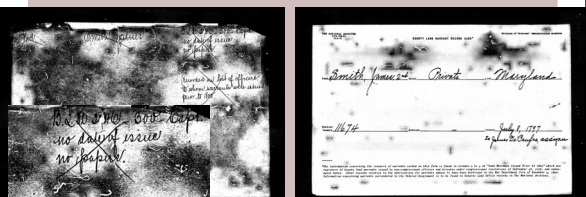
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## Example



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## The Land

31

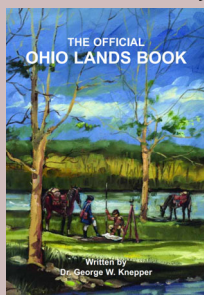
### Military Bounty Land



Charles Paulin: Atlas of the Historical Geography of the United States, Washington DC and New York: 1932.

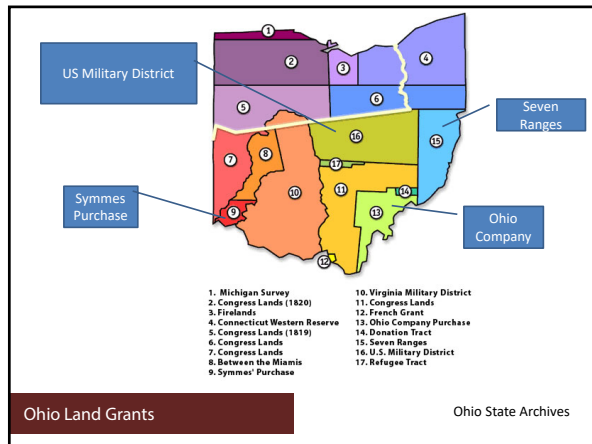
32

### Bounty Land in Ohio



- First warrant for federal bounty land issued in 1783
- But the Military District of Ohio wasn't authorized until 1796

33



34

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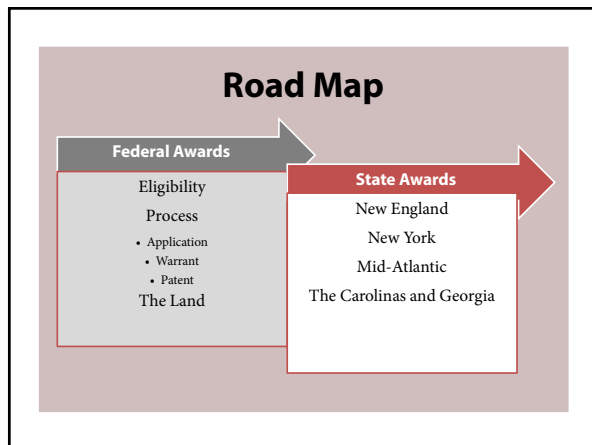
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## Massachusetts

- First authorized Bounty Land: 5 March 1801
- Eligibility
  - Same as federal
  - Additional criterion: No Double Dipping: could not take federal bounty land
- First warrant for Mars Hill in Aroostook County
- Second allotment of land in Maine enabled in 1833

37

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## Mars Hill



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## Finding Your Patriot

Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments* (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1996)

**Morse, John.** Mass. Sergeant. 10 Sep. 1832. 200 acres to heirs.

Bockstruck's book is on Ancestry as "Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants"

39

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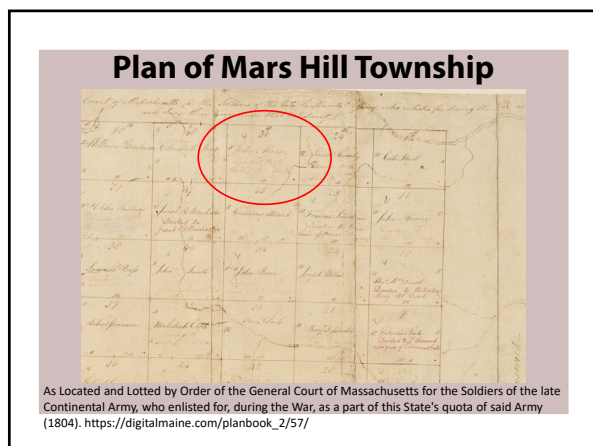
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**Maine**

- First authorized - 17 March 1835
- Eligibility
  - Same as federal
  - **Additional criteria:** Currently living in Maine and enlisted from Massachusetts or Maine
- Land assigned by lottery

44

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**Soldier**

- Finding the Name
- Finding the Warrant
  - “Maine Revolutionary War Bounty Land Applications, 1835-1838,” Family Search

Hanton, Jonathan, Me. ———, 14 Sep. 1835. 200 acres to widow Hannah Hanton, Wiscasset.

45

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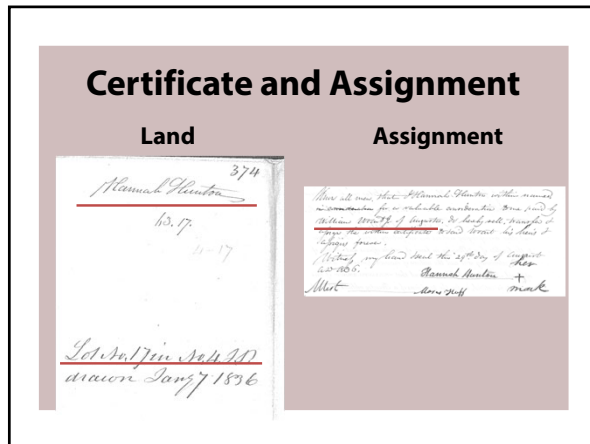
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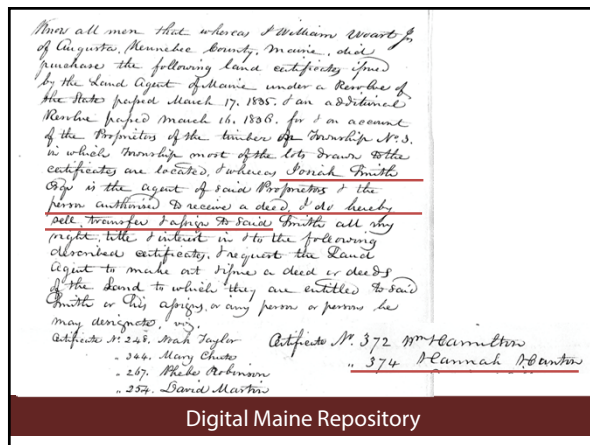
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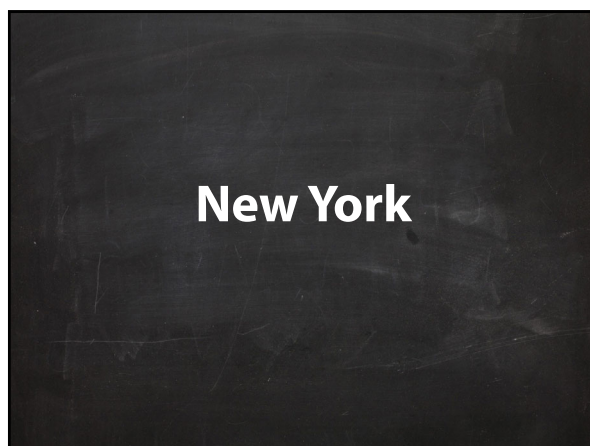




46



47

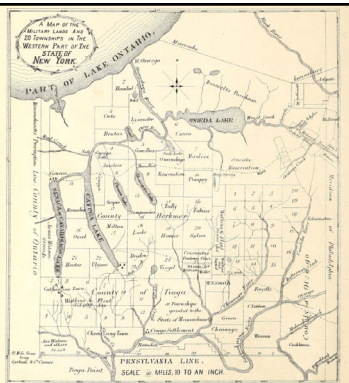


48

## New York

- Authorizing Act: 20 March 1783
- Eligibility
  - Same as federal
  - Notable deviation: Min Acres - 500
- Distributed via Balloting Box

49



History of Tioga, Chemung, Tompkins and Schuyler counties, New York, p. 18, Archive.org

50

## Military Tract Townships

- |              |                |                 |
|--------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Lysander  | 11. Rumulus    | 21. Hector      |
| 2. Hannibal  | 12. Scipio     | 22. Ulysses     |
| 3. Cato      | 13. Sempronius | 23. Dryden      |
| 4. Brutus    | 14. Tully      | 24. Virgil      |
| 5. Camillus  | 15. Fabius     | 25. Cincinnatus |
| 6. Cicero    | 16. Ovid       | 26. Junius      |
| 7. Manlius   | 17. Milton     | 27. Galen       |
| 8. Aurelius  | 18. Locke      | 28. Sterling    |
| 9. Marcellus | 19. Horace     |                 |
| 10. Pompey   | 20. Solon      |                 |

51

### Example

- Nicholas Hudgall – served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> New York Regiment
- Served 1778-1782 – name spelled Hudsel, Hudsal, Hudsler

Hudgall, Nicholas. N. Y. Private. 8 Jul. 1790. 600 acres.
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52

### Balloting Book

SECOND NEW-YORK REGIMENT.						
NAMES AND RANK.	Companies.	Com- paigns.	Lot.	Acres.		Date.
Hudgall, Nicholas, private,	Hollett	16	4	600		1790, July 8.
Havalash, Michael, do.	"	15	100	600		July 8.
Harris, Henry, do.	"	22	46	600		July 8.
Hill, Thomas, do.	Walker	3	17	500		July 8.
Holmes, Thomas, do.	"	22	56	600		July 6.
Howe, John, do.	"	13	38	500		July 8.
Haring, Jacob, do.	"	5	28	600		July 8.
H. B. G. do.	Smith	7	34	600		July 8.

53

### Patents

#### BOOK OF DELIVERY OF PATENTS FOR LANDS IN THE MILITARY TRACT.

A.		Patent to whom delivered.
PATENTERS' NAMES.		
REYNOLDS, JOHN, ensign, . . . . .	"	John Blanchard's order.
Huntley, Thomas, . . . . .	"	Eliphalet Seaman.
Haltzapple, Zachariah, . . . . .	"	William J. Vredenburg.
Horsford, Joseph, . . . . .	"	Silas Pepoon.
Hanmer, Francis, lieutenant, . . .	"	Himself.
Humphrey, Alexander, 2d regt. . .	"	Samuel B. Isaacs.
Hudgall, Nicholas, do, . . . .	"	Thomas Rosell.

54



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**Pennsylvania**

- Authorizing Act: 7 March 1780
- Eligibility
  - Same as federal
  - **Additional criterion:** Prisoners of war
- Used a lottery wheel to assign

57

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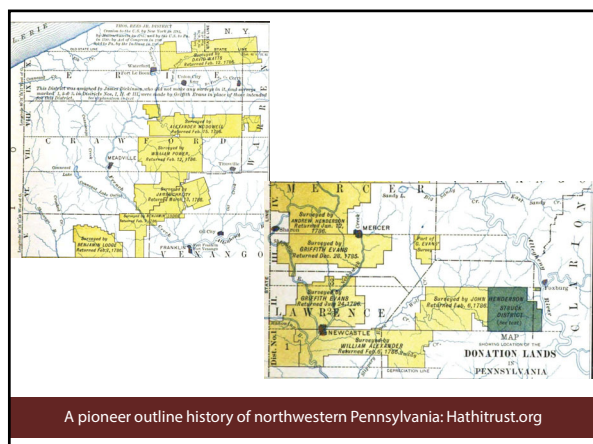
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58

## Finding Your Pennsylvania Patriot

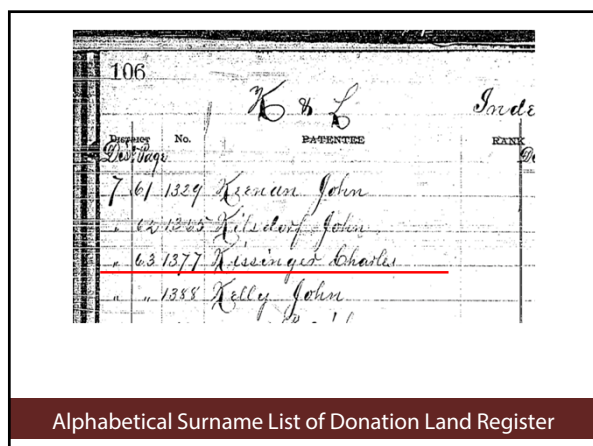
RG-17  
Records of the Land Office  
DONATION LAND REGISTER, [ca.1794], (series #17.174)

**\*Images of Each Register Page\***

The Donation Land register includes a patent index and related lists concerning the Donation Land program, bound together with information concerning the Donation Land Lottery held on December 20, 1794. This is the register currently in use for identifying records of individual land tracts. The volume contains eight distinct sections, namely:

- Numerical Listing of Donation Land Tracts
- Alphabetical Surname Index to the Donation Land Tracts Listing
- Listing of Veterans Entitled to Land
- Listing of Claimants in District 10 Whose Tracts were Found to be in New York
- Listing of Lots Found to be Partly in Pennsylvania and Partly in New York
- Listing of Lots Drawn for Widows and Children
- Listing of the Names of Individuals Entitled to Donation Lands "For Whom there was No Number in the Wheel"

59



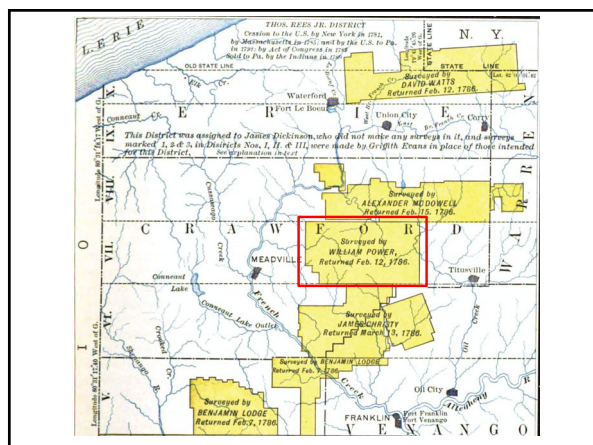
60

*District No. 7. William Power, Deputy Surveyor.*

Lot	No.	PATENTEE	RANK	Ac.	Pc.	RETURN	PLATY NUMBER	COPIES RETURNED
1	1371	John W. H. of London, N.Y.	Private	200		15 December 1776	D 24 95	
	1372	Baltimore, Maryland	"	"	"	"	C 24 95	
	1373	Brother, Kentucky	"	"	"	24 April 1787	C 24 95	
	1374	Quincy, Kentucky	"	"	"	15 March	C 189 47	
	1375	Payee, Kentucky	"	"	"	13 February	D 24 95	
	1376	Shuler, Kentucky	"	"	"	18 October 1786	D 24 95	
	1377	Kinsinger, Charles	"	"	"	6 May 1787	D 29 277	
	1378	Oliver, James (Washington, D.C.)	"	"	"	9 March 1790	C 181 32	
	1379	Chambers, Andrew	"	"	"	21 July 1789	C 189 47	
	1380							
	1381	Boelmer, Henry	Dragoon	"	"	5 March 1787	C 24 95	
	1382	Hollings, John (Hawkey)	"	"	"	1509, 16, 22	D 24 95	
	1383	Hollings, J. Smith	Sergeant	220, 6, 8	"	1841 - 185, 100	C 97 1890	

Listing by Lot Number

61



62

**Maryland**

- Authorized: 31 October 1777
- Eligibility
  - Same as federal
  - Difference of note: Minimum award was 50 acres

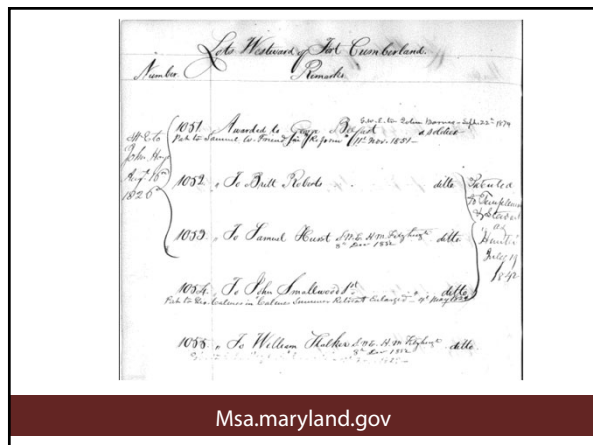
63

## Maryland – They Went Where?

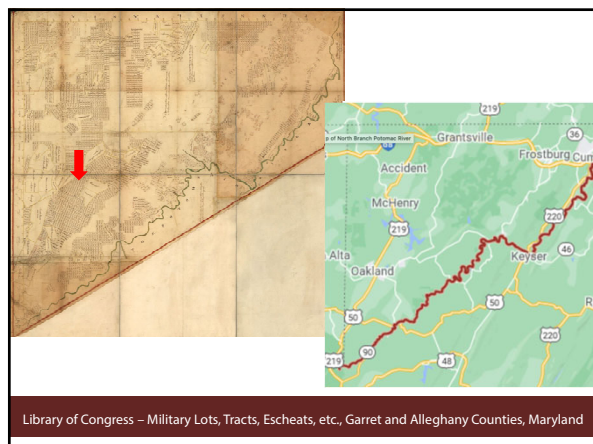
Hurst, Samuel. Md. Private. ———, 50  
acres.

- Maryland State Archives – Land Office Lots Westward of Fort Cumberland
- Digital Images online

64



65



66



## Virginia

- Authorized: 22 June 1779
- First award: first warrant was issued in 1782
- Eligibility
  - Same a federal
  - Additional criterion: State line soldiers eligible
- Process
  - Soldier applied for a certificate which verified his eligibility
  - Certificate exchanged for a warrant

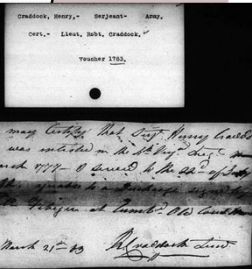
67

## Application and Certificate

Craddock, Henry. Va. Sergeant. 19 Mar.  
1783. 200 acres.

Craddock, John. N.C. Captain. 29 Mar.  
1784. 3840 acres.

Craddock, Robert. Va. Lieutenant.  
1783. 2666 2/3 acres.



68

## Land in Ohio and Kentucky

- Soldier could take his certificate and apply for a survey warrant in either Kentucky or later, Ohio.
- Ohio Land not available until 1796

175	Coverman, Francis	4000	Captain	1783	11	'83
187	Craddock, Robert	2666 2/3	Lieutenant	1783	20	'83
188	Craddock, John	3840	Lieutenant	1784	20	'83
189	Craddock, Henry	200	Sergeant	1783	20	'83
193	Craddock, John	100	Private	1783	24	'83

- From Samuel Wilson's Catalogue based on Kentucky State Land Office Records
- If a person appears in Bockstruck's book, but not in Wilson's book, then the land is in Ohio

69

Kentucky.gov Agencies Services

**Michael G. Adams**

Business • Elections • Civics • OpenBoardKY • **Administration** • Secretary's Desk •

Secretary of State / Administration / Land Office / Military Registers & Land Records /

**Revolutionary War Warrants** •  
West of Tennessee River  
Military Patents  
FAQs

**Enter Veteran Name:**  
Search by complete name or surname. Format the complete name by first keying the veteran's surname then his given (first) name. Example: Marshall, Thomas. By keying Marshall, you will see a complete listing of all veterans with the Marshall surname. A minimum of four characters must be entered. Use % as the fourth character, if necessary.

**Enter Warrant Number:**  
Our database indexes 4,748 Virginia Revolutionary Warrants. There are 121 duplicate numbers, therefore our warrants range in number from one to 4,627. Contact the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus for Virginia warrants with higher numbers than 4,627. To search by warrant number, key the entire four-digit number. Example: Warrant #1 must be keyed as 0001. Information for two military warrants may appear if the number was duplicated by the land office. Simply select the number that corresponds to the veteran's name you are searching.

Sos.KY.Gov

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Secretary of State / Administration / Land Office / Military Registers & Land Records /

**Revolutionary War Warrants** •  
West of Tennessee River  
Military Patents  
FAQs

**Page 1**

<b>Warrant</b>	<b>Veteran</b>
0189.0	Craddock, Henry
0187.0	Craddock, Robert

Sos.KY.gov

71

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**Revolutionary War Warrants** •  
West of Tennessee River  
Military Patents  
FAQs

**Detailed Information About**  
**Craddock, Henry**

<b>Warrant ID</b>	0189.0	<b>Veteran Name</b>	Craddock, Henry	<b>Years</b>	3
<b>Assignee</b>		<b>Acres</b>	200		
<b>Rank</b>	Sergeant	<b>Unit</b>	Virginia Continental Line		
<b>Branch</b>	Unknown	<b>Date</b>	3/20/1783		
<b>Authorized</b>	VA 7823				
<b>Note</b>					

Note: These images are converted from a different format to an internet-ready format on the fly. Occasionally, the image is not displayed because it was not converted quickly enough. If the image is not displayed, please click here to view it separately.

[Click to show image at its true size.](#)



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## Carolinas and Georgia

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### North Carolina

- First Act: 16 April 1780 for 200 acres, soon increased to 640 acres
- First Warrant: 1783
- Eligibility
  - Same as federal
  - **Additional criterion:** non-assignable

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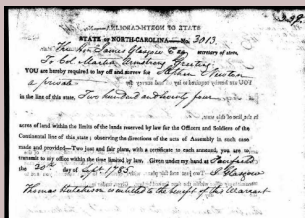
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### NC Survey Order

Newton, Stephen. N.C. Private. 30 Sep.  
1785. 274 acres.



78

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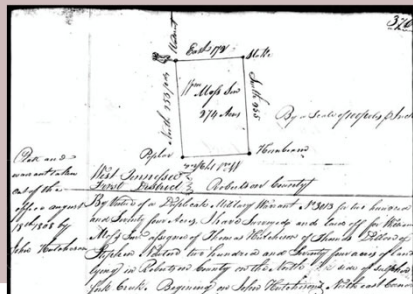
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## Location of the Land - Tennessee Land Registers



79

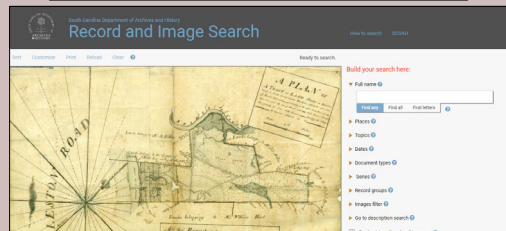
## South Carolina

- Authorized: 1778
- Eligibility
  - Same as federal

80

## Finding the SC Records


Gunter, Henry. S.C. Soldier. 2 May 1785.  
200 acres.



<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov>

81

▼ Gunter, Henry, Plat For 200 Acres On Branch Of Rocky River, Ninety Six District, Surveyed By John Martin. Date: 1/13/1785



**People in this record:**  
**Gunter, Henry**  
 Also: Anderson, Mary, Martin, John

**Places in this record:**  
 Ninety Six District, Rocky River

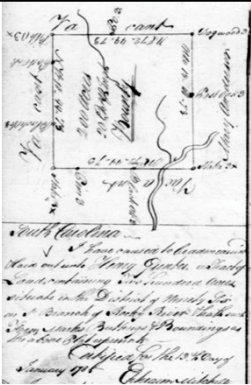
**Topics in this record:**

**Record details:**  
 Date: 1/13/1785  
 Series: State Plat Books (Charleston Series) (S213190)  
 Document Type: Plat  
 Images: Available at SCDAH building or by order. See [How to search menu](#).

**Identifiers:**  
 Hives ID: Series: S213190 Volume: 0013 Page: 00214 Item: 001

[www.archivesindex.sc.gov](http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov)

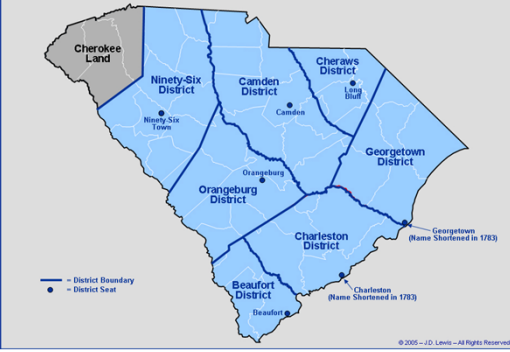
82



200 Acres On Branch Of Rocky River, Ninety Six District, Surveyed By John Martin.

83

South Carolina Districts – 1775 to 1784



Cherokee Land

Ninety-Six District

Camden District

Cheraws District

Georgetown District

Orangeburg District

Charleston District

Beaufort District

Georgetown (Name Shortened in 1783)

Charleston (Name Shortened in 1783)

Beaufort

Legend: — District Boundary, • District Seat

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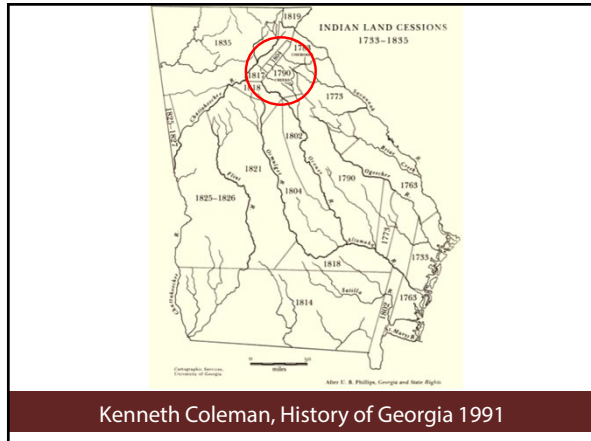
Carolina.com

84

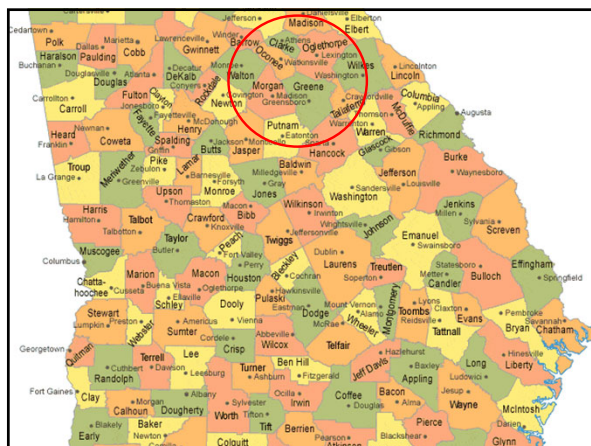
## Georgia

- Authorized: Act of 25 February 1784
- Warrants: All issued before 22 February 1786
- Eligibility
  - Unit:
    1. Continental Line
    2. Service as Minute Battalion and non-resident of Georgia at time of enlistment
    3. Short term militia
    4. Georgia residents who fled the state and served in North or South Carolina
    5. Georgia citizen who remained loyal to the cause for the entire conflict
    6. British deserters

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vault.georgiaarchives.org

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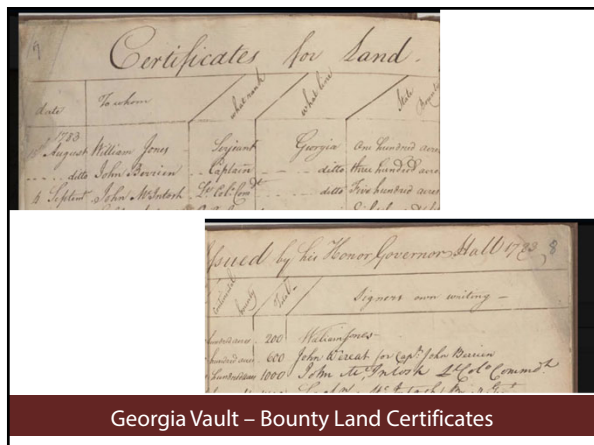
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Georgia Vault – Bounty Land Certificates

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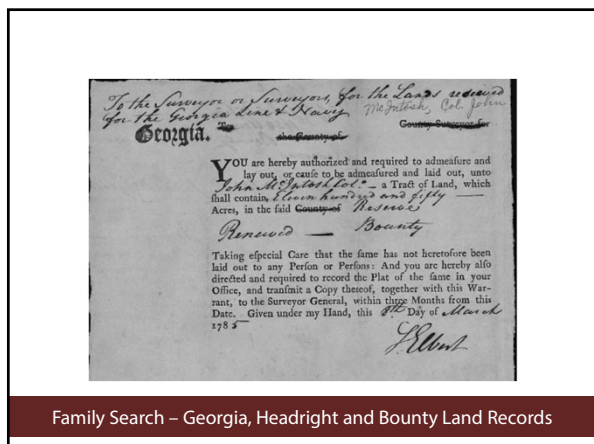
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Family Search – Georgia, Headright and Bounty Land Records

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### Key Points

- Your Revolutionary War Ancestor may have been awarded land from the new Federal Government or from the state where his regiment was raised.
- Federal land was located in central Ohio
  - Find your soldier in NARA microfilm
- Each state had their own rules for bounty land
  - Find your soldier in Lloyd Bockstruck's book first, then go looking for the paperwork and the land

91

## QUESTIONS?

**Schedule a consultation**  
[consultations@nehgs.org](mailto:consultations@nehgs.org)

**Hire Research Services**  
[research@nehgs.org](mailto:research@nehgs.org)

92

The screenshot shows the AmericanAncestors.org website. The header includes the logo and navigation links: Search, Events, Membership, Give 10 Million Names, Publications, Expert Help, Tools, Signature Projects, and Centers & Initiatives. The main heading is 'Researching American Revolutionary War Patriots 2024'. Below this, a thank-you message for registration is followed by a paragraph about the seminar's focus on the 250th anniversary of American independence. It mentions that the course includes five 90-minute classes and exclusive access to handouts and recordings. A Zoom link for live sessions is provided: <https://zoom.us/j/98918958971>. At the bottom, a footer link is shown: [AmericanAncestors.org/researching-american-revolutionary-war-patriots-2024](https://AmericanAncestors.org/researching-american-revolutionary-war-patriots-2024).

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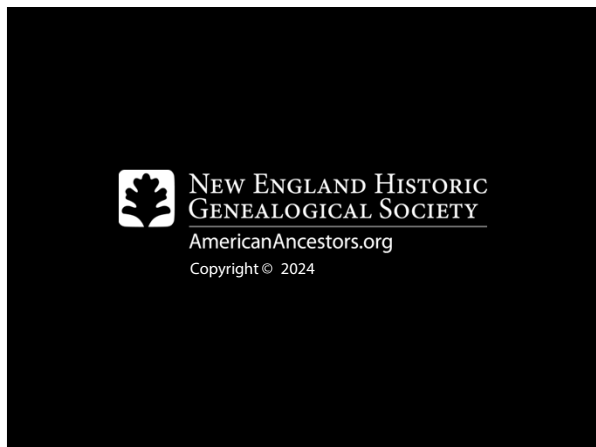
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