

National Archives and Records Administration

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American Prisoners during the War of 1812

The War of 1812 was fought between the United States and the British Empire, including Great Britain, Canada, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland. The Treaty of Ghent, which became effective on February 18, 1815, ended the war. With the signing of the treaty the U.S. and Britain recognized the pre-war boundaries between the United States and Canada, and gave the United States fishing rights to the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Indexes

___M1747, *Index to Records Relating to War of 1812 Prisoners of War.* 3 rolls. The index is arranged alphabetically by soldier's surname. The index indicates the manuscript number and, within a multi-page manuscript, it also contains the page number where you can find information concerning the indexed person. If available, it also notes the soldier's rank and the regiment and company in which he served.

Records

___M2019, Records Relating to War of 1812 Prisoners of War. 1 roll. D.P. The records are arranged numerically by manuscript number. The Adjutant General's office arranged, numbered and indexed these records. The office assigned the records manuscript numbers ranging from 1 to 94. Some are oddly numbered, such as 10 1/2 and 92 1/3, apparently where records on topics similar to the whole number (e.g. 10 and 92) where later inserted into the sequence. The manuscript number usually appears on the reverse side of the document, along with a number written in a circle which refers to the number of names for which an index card was created.

Most of the manuscripts are lists of prisoners. There are also the following types of lists:

- Accounts of the types, amounts, and value of clothing provided by U.S. agents to prisoners held in Canada
- Soldiers captured at a certain place or particular battle
- Prisoners of war held at a certain place
- Prisoners who died in captivity
- Men exchanged.

For more information, see the following reference report: Volunteer Military Service during the War of 1812.

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