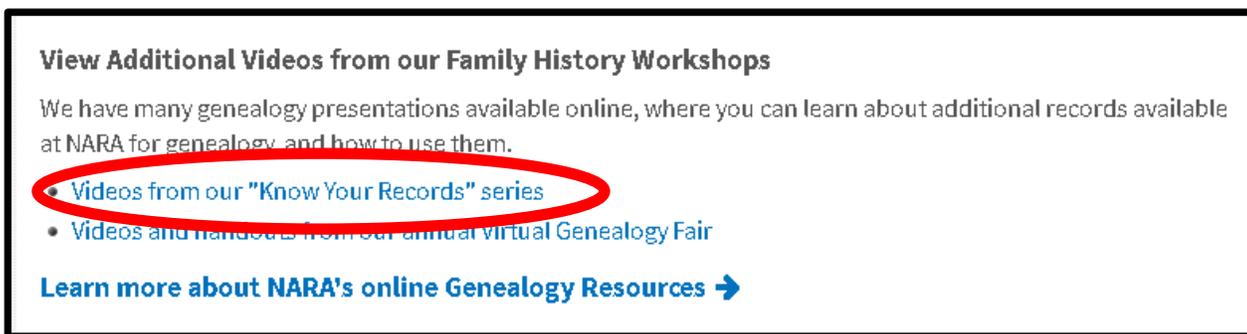


## Advance Homework for

### African American Resources Available Online at NARA

This homework is an effort to provide assistance in navigating and exploring the dense, vast, and ever-changing website of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). There is an abundance of tools and information to aid research, and much of it is hidden because of the sheer volume of what NARA offers.

1. Please read the handout for the class. On the second reading, please click on links to see what is being discussed and browse the linked pages.
2. Please read the webpage on [Using the National Archives Catalog](#). It is essential that people who are working to find information at NARA learn to use the catalog.
3. Register for a NARA account. Registered users will receive information about catalog updates and changes.
4. Browse the [Start Your Genealogy](#) Research page. After browsing this page to learn what tools are there, choose at least one video from the "[Know Your Records](#)" series to watch. The image below shows where to look on that webpage.



**View Additional Videos from our Family History Workshops**

We have many genealogy presentations available online, where you can learn about additional records available at NARA for genealogy and how to use them.

- [Videos from our "Know Your Records" series](#)
- [Videos and handouts from our annual virtual Genealogy Fair](#)

[Learn more about NARA's online Genealogy Resources →](#)

**Hint: when viewing videos, you can click on the settings icon, and change the viewing speed so the video plays faster.**

Notice that at the bottom of many of the links, such as **Know Your Records: U.S. Veterans**, is a notation View Full Playlist. When you click on that, you will see there are 15 videos in that category and will see a list on the right side of the page of all 15 sessions.

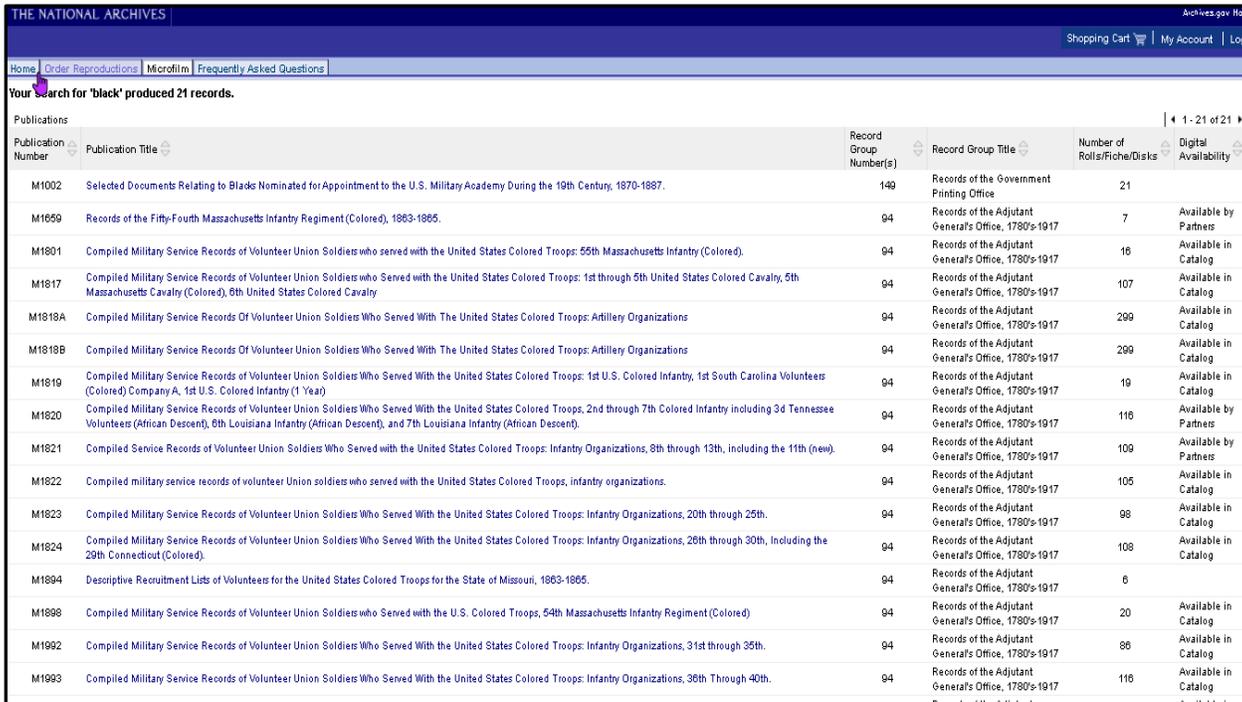
5. Browse articles in the Rediscovering Black History blog through NARA [https://rediscovering-black-history.blogs.archives.gov/?subscribe=many\\_pending\\_subs#blog\\_subscription-3](https://rediscovering-black-history.blogs.archives.gov/?subscribe=many_pending_subs#blog_subscription-3)
6. Using the webpage for [Appointment of Postmasters, 1832 - September 30, 1971, M841](#). Identify which roll of microfilm will have the list of postmasters for Mecklenburg County, North Carolina listed. Do you have an ancestor that was appointed as postmaster in their community?

7. Watch at least part of *The Negro Soldier*, 1944 film (running time about 41 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dln2dQyLNVU>

8. [The microfilm catalog](#) is a key tool for finding information. You do not have to have an account or sign in to use this site. This catalog can be searched to find a NARA location that has the microfilm and learn exactly which roll the information you need is on. This exercise should demonstrate some key features.

From the link above choose microfilm. In the top search box enter black. You should get a list of 21 results.



The screenshot shows the National Archives website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Order Reproductions', 'Microfilm', and 'Frequently Asked Questions'. Below this, a search bar indicates 'Your search for 'black' produced 21 records.' The main content is a table of search results with the following columns: Publication Number, Publication Title, Record Group Number(s), Record Group Title, Number of Rolls/Fiche/Disks, and Digital Availability. The table lists 21 records, with the 16th record (M1858) being the focus of the exercise.

Publication Number	Publication Title	Record Group Number(s)	Record Group Title	Number of Rolls/Fiche/Disks	Digital Availability
M1002	Selected Documents Relating to Blacks Nominated for Appointment to the U.S. Military Academy During the 19th Century, 1870-1887.	140	Records of the Government Printing Office	21	
M1659	Records of the Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts Infantry Regiment (Colored), 1863-1865.	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	7	Available by Partners
M1801	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers who served with the United States Colored Troops: 55th Massachusetts Infantry (Colored).	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	16	Available in Catalog
M1817	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers who Served with the United States Colored Troops: 1st through 5th United States Colored Cavalry, 5th Massachusetts Cavalry (Colored), 6th United States Colored Cavalry	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	107	Available in Catalog
M1818A	Compiled Military Service Records Of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With The United States Colored Troops: Artillery Organizations	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	299	Available in Catalog
M1818B	Compiled Military Service Records Of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With The United States Colored Troops: Artillery Organizations	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	299	Available in Catalog
M1819	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With the United States Colored Troops: 1st U.S. Colored Infantry, 1st South Carolina Volunteers (Colored) Company A, 1st U.S. Colored Infantry (1 Year)	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	19	Available in Catalog
M1820	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With the United States Colored Troops: 2nd through 7th Colored Infantry including 3d Tennessee Volunteers (African Descent), 6th Louisiana Infantry (African Descent), and 7th Louisiana Infantry (African Descent).	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	116	Available by Partners
M1821	Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served with the United States Colored Troops: Infantry Organizations, 8th through 13th, including the 11th (new).	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	109	Available by Partners
M1822	Compiled military service records of volunteer Union soldiers who served with the United States Colored Troops, infantry organizations.	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	105	Available in Catalog
M1823	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With the United States Colored Troops: Infantry Organizations, 20th through 25th.	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	98	Available in Catalog
M1824	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With the United States Colored Troops: Infantry Organizations, 26th through 30th, including the 29th Connecticut (Colored).	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	108	Available in Catalog
M1894	Descriptive Recruitment Lists of Volunteers for the United States Colored Troops for the State of Missouri, 1863-1865.	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	6	
M1898	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers who Served with the U.S. Colored Troops, 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment (Colored)	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	20	Available in Catalog
M1992	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With the United States Colored Troops: Infantry Organizations, 31st through 35th.	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	86	Available in Catalog
M1993	Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served With the United States Colored Troops: Infantry Organizations, 36th Through 40th.	94	Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917	116	Available in Catalog

Scroll down to Publication Number M1858. You will notice from the information on this results list that this microfilm publication is from RG 94, Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917, and there are 5 rolls of film.

After selecting this record, look on the far right of the screen at the list of Viewing Locations to see the archives facilities that have this publication.

Under Publication Details, click on the pdf icon. The pdf will provide complete information about what is in the publication.

Which roll contains information about black cadets at West Point?