

Veterans Files Originals Collection

A Finding Aid

B-30 F 17 #V271

LIVINGSTON COUNTY WAR SERVICE RECORD

Use ink or typewriter in filling out this form
Give data at time of enlistment or induction

Record No.
Town or Village of.....
*Age..... 17

1. **FULL NAME** *Wesley Kenneth Carlton*
Last First Middle

Serial Number *32845208* Social Security No. *088-18-2556*
Army (X) Navy ()
Marines () Other ()

Sex *male* Race or Color *White* Weight *180* Lbs. Height *6'-0"*
Color of Hair *Brown* Color of Eyes *Brown* Complexion *ruddy*

P. O. Address at time of induction or enlistment
58 Liberty *Danville* *7-8*
Street and Number City State

Born in *Danville, New York - Livingston - U.S.A.*
City, Village, Town, County, State, Country

Date of Birth *November 25, 1925*

Citizen of *U.S.A.* by (Birth) or (Naturalization)
Country

If citizen of United States by naturalization; Date..... Place.....
If citizen of United States by father's naturalization;
Date..... Place.....

**How long a resident of New York State *all my life*; of Livingston County *all my life (1925)*

2. **FATHER:** Full name *Wesley* *Blair* *Gray*
Last First Middle

P. O. Address *1555 Baden St* *Redlands* *California*
Street and Number City State

Born in *Jersey Shore, Pa. - Lycoming County - U.S.A.* Date *August 20, 1883*
City, Village, Town, County, State, Country

Citizen of *U.S.A.* by (Birth) or (Naturalization)
Country

Father and mother were married at *Jersey Shore, Pa.* Date *October 29, 1907*

* At time of induction.
** At date of this record.
† Obtain picture in uniform and mark plainly with name and date.

NAME *Wesley Kenneth Carlton*



Livingston County Historian's Office

5 Murray Hill Dr.

Mt. Morris, NY 14510

July 2023

Prepared by Madeline B. Friedler, Deputy Livingston County Historian

I. Collection Summary

Title	Veterans Files Originals Collection
Collection No.	C219
Extent	3.9 cubic feet (3 boxes)
Date Range	1815 – 1946 (Bulk 1914-1946)
Abstract	<p>This collection comprises original materials collected and/or created by the Livingston County Historian’s Office regarding local veterans involved in military conflicts from the Revolutionary War to the Gulf War. The bulk of these originals are military service surveys that were distributed by the County Historian’s Office after World War II to collect information from veterans, particularly those veterans of World War I and II. Questions on the survey include names of family members, dates of enlistment and discharge, service details, record of injuries, and any medals received. Many of the surveys were completed by the veterans themselves or local historians. The collection also includes letters and other original documents created by or about veterans in Livingston County, New York.</p>
Languages	English.
Access and Restrictions	<p>Use of the documents in this collection is for serious research. The collection may be accessible by advance request and permission from the Livingston County Historian’s Office. Any use of the material in print or online publications must be cited as follows: “Courtesy of Livingston County Historian’s Office, New York.” Additionally, all documents should be handled with care.</p> <p>To arrange to conduct research with the documents in the collection, contact the Livingston County Historian by mail at: 5 Murray Hill Drive, Mount Morris, NY, by phone at (585) 243-7955, or by e-mail at Historian@livingstoncountyny.gov.</p> <p>All materials in the collection have been digitized, and digital copies are available by request from the Livingston County Historian’s Office.</p>
Copyright	<p>Some materials may be subject to copyright. Researchers are required to seek written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce and/or publish materials under copyright.</p>

II. Background Information

This collection began as the Veterans Files series at the Livingston County Historian’s Office, comprising any and all materials relating to individual veterans who were connected to Livingston County, New York. The basis of the series began after World War II, when the Livingston County Historian’s Office distributed military service surveys to local soldiers or their families. Questions on the survey include names of family members, dates of enlistment and discharge, service details, record of injuries, and any medals received. Many of the surveys were completed by the veterans themselves. Completed surveys were retained by the County Historian’s Office and placed in individual veteran files, arranged alphabetically. As time went on, any new original materials, such as correspondence and certificates, were added to the files, as well as photocopies of relevant news articles, photographs, and other ephemera.

In 2005, a Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) grant project was undertaken by the County Historian’s Office to digitize the Veteran’s Files series. A barcoded cover sheet was created for each individual veteran file, all documents were scanned, and the resulting TIFF files were linked to the veteran’s name in a searchable database. The physical files were housed in six large filing cabinets. Original photographs were removed to a separate storage area and individually catalogued.

In the summer of 2022, it was determined that most of the physical photocopies and extra sheets of paper generated during the LGRMIF grant project had no intrinsic historical value and were occupying a large amount of shelf space. Between summer 2022 and summer 2023, Deputy County Historian Madeline Friedler reviewed all files and set aside any original surveys, letters, or similar ephemera and ensured that all documents were scanned at a high resolution. All barcode pages were discarded, as well as already-digitized photocopies and other non-original materials. This promotes historical stewardship and professional efficiency in an increasingly digital age.

Now fully digitized, the Veterans Files series scans can be easily retrieved by Historian’s Office staff. Each individual veteran’s file is indexed in the office’s online Records Index and is assigned a file number. The file number corresponds to a digital folder containing all scanned materials.

The Veterans Files Originals Collection (C219) represents the core of the initial Veterans’ Files series, particularly the military service surveys. The materials in the collection are now highlighted for their intrinsic historical value and preserved in physical form.

III. Contents List

Each file is organized alphabetically by last name.

Box 1	Veterans Files Originals A-G
Box 2	Veterans Files Originals H-P
Box 3	Veterans Files Originals Q-Z